

Company Structures

Reading

1 Read the first paragraph of the text about MTS Systems Corporation and complete the following 'fact file'.



MTS Systems Corporation

Headquarters in ¹ _____

Specialises in ² _____

Factories located in ³ _____, _____ and _____

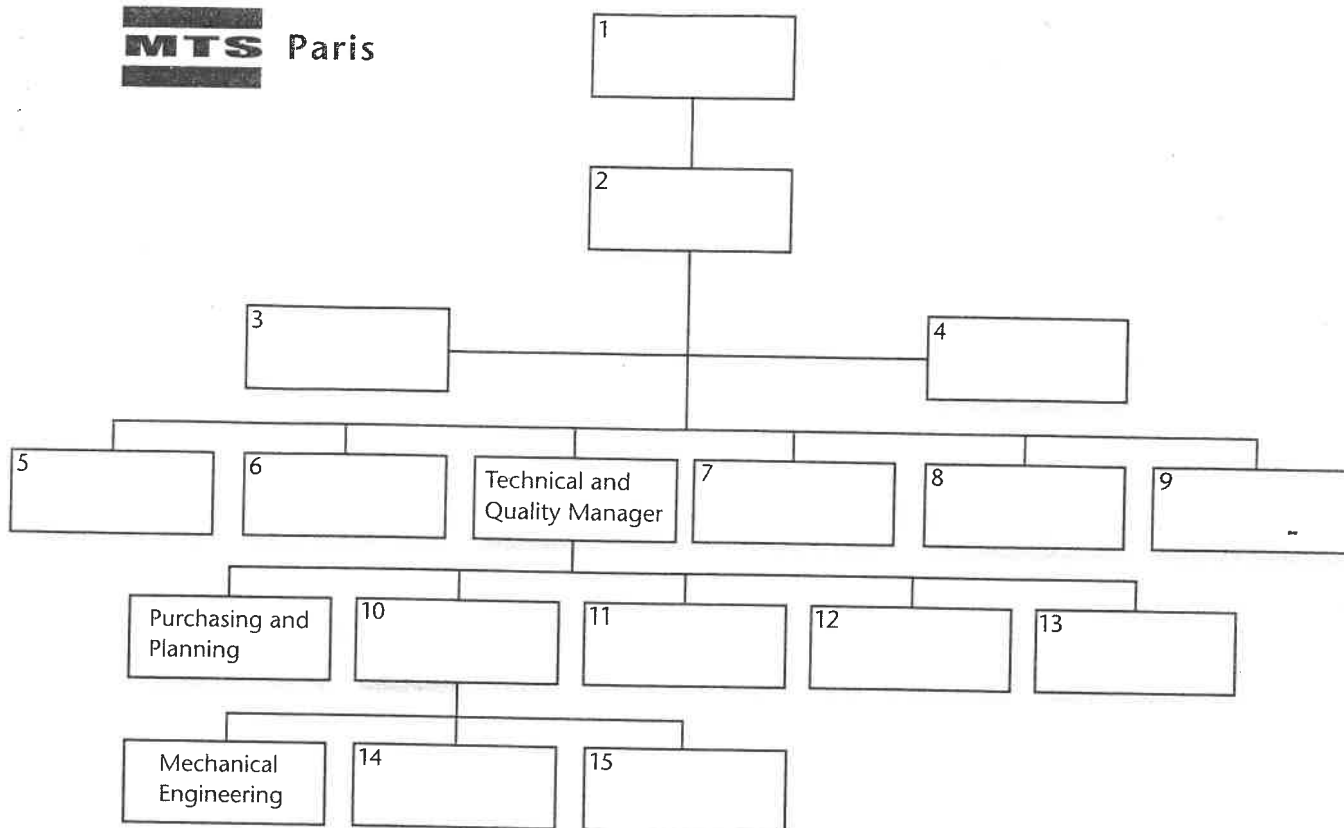
No. of employees ⁴ _____

2 Now read the rest of the text, in which Bernard Levesque describes the organisation of MTS Paris, and complete the organisation chart opposite.

'My name's Bernard Levesque and I'm the Technical and Quality Manager at MTS in Paris and work within the MTD – the Materials Testing Division, which makes equipment used by industrial firms to test the strength and durability of materials like plastics, metals and so forth. We're a subsidiary of MTS Systems Corporation, an American firm based in Minneapolis. MTS employs roughly 2,200 people worldwide and is a leading supplier of mechanical testing and simulation equipment. Our major development and manufacturing operations are located in the US, France and Germany, and we have sales and service offices around the world.

Before I describe the organisation of my department, I'll outline the structure from the top, starting with Werner Ongyert, our CEO, who oversees all aspects of our activities here. Just below him is the General Manager, Jacques Mordelet, who is my immediate superior. Then there's Sylviane Villaret, the Human Resources Director, and Genevieve Cornetti, the GM's Secretary, who also report directly to him. We have a management team that includes myself, Dominique Faurieux, the Sales Manager, Jean-Francois Reinauld, the Finance Manager, and of course, Jacques Mordelet, who is also the Marketing Manager. There are also two new departments – Customer Service and NVD, the Noise and Vibration Division – headed by Louis Regnier and Patrick Dhommee respectively.

Now, getting back to the way my department is organised, I'm responsible for operations, so I'm in charge of Purchasing and Planning, R&D and Quality. The Purchasing and Planning Department schedules production based on orders provided by the sales team and forecasts from the Marketing Department. In R&D, there are three sub-departments – Mechanical Engineering, Electronics, and Software Engineering – which are involved in developing new products and modifying existing products to meet customer demands. They receive technical specifications from the Marketing Department and provide drawings, a parts list and assembly instructions. Nathalie Launay works closely with me on Quality – an area that takes up nearly a third of my time. And finally there's the head of Shipping, as well as the person in charge of Assembly, who also report to me.'



Vocabulary

3 Circle the word that does not belong in each horizontal group.

- | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|----------|------------|
| 1 | firm | company | society | subsidiary |
| 2 | salary | manager | engineer | employee |
| 3 | finance | product | planning | marketing |
| 4 | ship | assemble | customer | purchase |
| 5 | plant | facility | patent | factory |

4 Match the following definitions to the groups of three words that you identified above.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------|
| a | manufacturing sites | _____ |
| b | stages in the manufacturing process | _____ |
| c | people who work in a company | _____ |
| d | types of business organisation | _____ |
| e | different departments in a company | _____ |

5 Match each of the words that you circled with the following definitions.

- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| 1 | _____ | payment for work, usually monthly |
| 2 | _____ | an item that has been made |
| 3 | _____ | an organisation or club with members who share similar interests |
| 4 | _____ | a document that gives the exclusive right to make or sell a new product |
| 5 | _____ | a person who buys goods or services |