

06/10/15.

## STRATEGIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

### PRODUCT DESIGN - MODIFY or ADAPT?

- Redundant field in database, modify or adapt?
- Example - exam - different ways of posing  $\Rightarrow$  SITS doesn't allow all the options
- remove option or modify software
  - $\rightarrow$  Modify - less disruption, no change in rules, more flexibility, fewer knock on effects
  - reduced risk of user rejection
  - Total time (Specs etc), Front end cost (1000 per day), maintenance cost, performance risks
  - Legal and other risks (no warranty etc)

Adapt - less expensive, lower implementation risks, standard testing and documentation

- User resistance (people will sabotage it), loss of functionality, require input on who/when
- change management problem!

### Rigidity - Ryan air Example

#### Problems of a Single Instance

- Definition
- Designing a coding system - difficult
- numbering system - normally an intelligent numbering system behind the scenes  $\Rightarrow$  ISBN
- level of granularity - level of detail, how low do you go on information
- Ownership
- Security - personal information
- Flexibility - agreement required from everyone who uses it
- Control - who?
- Practicality
- Response time / latency - time to send/receive info
- Localisation

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SIS

(1)

### IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS

- Starts getting worse on implementation
- Huge failure costs
- Not much improvement in cost over-run etc.
- Lots of implementation problems
- Seems unlikely that each component in the package is the best you can get
  - could get better from Specialist firm (buying best of breed)
- Change resistance, biggest problem - change to internal process
  - Lack of top management commitment.
- Ad hoc solutions appear - i.e. pre-processing goods before entering CRM.

### BEST PRACTICE?

- Numerous complaints on ERP software
- Something like 22000 parameters you can set → too many
- Hard to measure improvement - most companies don't have "base point" to compare to
- Satisfaction level low - neutral is most common reaction

### PLAYERS AND MARKET

- Two types of manufacturing: Assembly - ERP started - cars, turbines... Finished on
  - Process - Something that flows - food, pharma etc (Recipe) not MRP problem.
- First extension - push MRP to process industry
- Second - non manufacturing - banking, education etc
- Third - Smaller companies - large company market saturated
- Government
- Small number of big players

### SAP

- Core of it divided into 3

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## STRATEGIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TUTORIAL - GENOVA PHARMACEUTICAL

### 1. Industry and competitive environment

Challenges - Large number of old firms in exact same market

- No room for expansion to international markets - few regulations over them
- Low margins because of competition
- Losing customer loyalty and not getting new ones - customer distrust

Customer behaviour - Always looking for cheapest generic drug

- will switch to cheaper and more available drug - no loyalty
- Branding - they don't like branding change - hard to convince
- Growth in health A.M.O's etc - to bulk purchases

Competitive adv - Established firm - reputation, economies of scale

- One of the largest players in the market - efficiency v. inflexibility
- long history - experience

IT - More operations more efficient - save money

- Real time orders → retain customers

- less staff - less cost

Change - System could fail, employees lost, competitors could follow

- More efficient, market leader, better for brand - reliability

→ faster the information the better

efficiency - expiry date, no re-weighing data

Integration of system → reduced maintenance

Error reduction

Customer - order info

Forecasting customer demand

Inventory reduction - Storage cost, temperature etc, expiry date, stealing, ties up money

orders

- Buy off someone else
- Back order
- Part fill



2. Architecture - complicated, un-integrated, slow, manual, inefficient, costly and possibly not fit for purpose - did not work  
waste scheduling delivery of raw materials - No planned orders - could not simulate production

Problems - loss in sales, loss in stock, stock not arriving on time  
Sales not being shipped on time, loss of production.

Several mentioned → Disjoint, too many systems

Agreed - Not further.

### 3. SAP R/3 IMPLEMENTATION

MRP - An IS that is a sales forecast-based system used to schedule raw material deliveries and quantities, given assumptions of machine and labour units required to fulfill a sales forecast.

MRP II - Evolved from MRP I by including the integration of additional data, such as employee and financial needs. System is designed to centralize, integrate and process information for effective decision making in scheduling, design engineering, inventory management and cost controlling in manufacturing.

## SIS - GENEVA CASE

- Limitations - Wide array of software programs - Not integrated  
 - Running on different platforms - ad hoc  
 - Can't handle small orders  
 - Functional silos - No one view of everything

~~Benefits~~ <sup>Benefits</sup> - Best practice, opp efficiency, reduce errors, reduce system maintenance, flexibility for new system, support growth, 42%

Concerns - complicated to install, may need to customize, cost, Getting future of system, etc

- 3 phases - avoid failure - taking off more than you can chew  
 - Gradual implementation, easier to manage → more controlled

Problems -

Differently - More steps? More thorough

Metals - Two customer service roles - First/kill and second try

5. Problems - System requirements not defined correctly or in adequate detail
- little comm/coord among consultant
  - PM unable to identify R/3 expenses
  - "spinning out of control"
  - Consultants with no business knowledge
  - Not flexible enough
- change management → BIG PROBLEM  
 → leads to non-compliance  
 Accenture - Aderson Bodo consulting

Causes ↑ - lack of experience  
 - implemented too quick

Action - Hired Randy Welden as new CIO - leadership and direction

Benefits - Expenses - brought together stakeholders

- brought in experienced R/3 people
- Got project up and running

Objectives met? Performance was improved, jobs more efficient.  
 best practice - Can't say

Lesson - Need more time to customize and integrate properly  
 - need the right expertise/experienced workers

Diagnosis - Done too quick - didn't modify software, no report done  
 - problems with consultants

or change processes

needed to change of  
 "putting the cart before the horse" - no improvement



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## SIS GENEVA CASE

G Method - Redesign demand-side processes  $\rightarrow$  marketing, order fulfilment, customer sales and services, accounts payable,

- Limitations arose - customer based forecasting process for key cu accounts  
- customer-by customer basis forecasting  
- Demand side processes suffered from lack of data integration and real time access to demand supply side processes  
- Shipping order limitation

More challenging  $\rightarrow$  Non-standard and inherently complex nature of Geneva's sales and services processes  
e.g. - revenue - different %

Project team - New consulting firm

Core team of 20 is permanent, users and consultants  
30 users part time - for discussion.

- Actions - Found 13 important areas  
- Talked to users  
- Training rooms - trainers brought in  
- Signs put up in company colour etc  
- Telephone hotline setup  
- HR conducted survey  
- Company newsletter  
- Full time training for 3 weeks

6  
Training - there is change in technology AND work presented is  
the problem - process are difficult to change - changing beliefs  
ingrained for decades  
- On the job training as opposed to systems training

Revelation - What their exact job responsibilities were  
- Department very much functionally oriented and wanted highest  
level of difficulty - sticky cultural problem  
- Change needed to be initiated on customer side

Improvement - long run get - they will eventually adapt  
and accept.

Short run - no - cultural stickiness

7. Metric - Available to promise - fulfill a customer order by the  
promised time

Mandal - They had no previous SOP program - unfamiliar with it  
- Previously integration did not occur across sites

Purple - Just in time production scheduling - linked upstream and  
downstream operations - responded to customer demand

Pink - unexpected order - unit was unable to adjust production plan  
accordingly → lack of flexibility → unfilled order  
- manual work - possible errors from human



## 15 SIS GENEVA CASE

2

SCM - Oversight of materials, info, and financial flow in a process from supplier to manufacturer to retailer to customer  
Coordinating and integrating the flow

ATP - Able to fulfill a customer order by the promised time  
- Give's date of delivery

2. 60% well - problems in first phase fairly serious  
- Improved in phase 2 & 3, org culture and customer still seem to be a slight problem.

VMI - Inventory replenishment arrangement whereby supplier or monitor customer inventory with own employees or receive stock info from customer. Vendor then refill stock automatically without customer initiating purchase order.

Good idea - Yes - will make process more efficient, save money and will ensure raw materials arrive on time  
- Increased reliability

Risk - lack of trust with vendors, may switch vendor; may want to buy ahead at cheaper price  
- Vendor might not have relevant technology  
- be bargain power.

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## SIS TUTORIAL

### STRONG POINTS OF MOOCs

- Cost (efficient) universities - education inflation cost FE time 3700 in 100 → now 1700 students in TCW
- Helpful for people with learning disabilities - Shyness
- Accessibility - makes it available to larger population
- Flexibility - learn at your own pace, Repeat content
- "Best of the Best" - "The Great Courses" company - for learning not a degree
- Open - no points requirement / pre-qualification
- Scope of course - can look and discover some content you can't do in Ireland "No limit"
- Diversity / Reach

### Weakness of MOOCs

- Scalability "one size fits all" - people learn differently - no feedback
- Questions?
- Business Model? revenue etc not all are free very expensive front end cost.
- Accreditation exam centers?
- Access may be a problem
- Loss of soft skills, etc group work open university 1965 during daytime
- Lots - materials etc. tools can be done but expensive
- Networking - making friends  
can't get case studies or material from books or videos
- No student feedback

"Blended learning" half and half online offline  
MOOCs good at learning technical skills

"Gartner Hype Curve"

23/03/16

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## SIS TUTORIAL: DISRUPTING EDUCATION?

### ARTICLE 1 - FOR

8/7

- Bringing people out of poverty
- Still middle-upper class people using it.
- If people have limited potential, is it useful?
- Arthur's story - just one person out of how many?
- Discussion with diverse audience
- Ability to explore other countries
- Can pause and replay lectures and watch when you want
- Online community?
- Credentials on issue - have a competency test before job

### ARTICLE 2 AGAINST

- Rely on student feedback to progress learning - but class is so big you can't have interaction
- Courses should be developed in extreme detail or such a way that any lagging student will understand - lecturer need not read
- Community aspect of college
- Up to students to learn - not so much lecturer to teach

23/03/16

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## ARTICLE 3 FOR

- Potential to go global if good
- More concerned with what you can do  $\rightarrow$  correct.
- Copelony build
- Learning by doing - suggest build make
- Forming lecturers to pull up their socks

## ARTICLE 4

- Money important
- Questions credibility of online courses v. traditional courses
- Rich people still in a strong position college a luxury investment?
- Two tier system.
- Cheaper for the state?
- "Campus experience a luxury"

## ARTICLE 5.

- Credibility?
- Certificate costs \$5000 - poor can't afford it?
- Correlation between car and dropout rate
- MNC's help decide career path

Do lectures really teach anyway?

10/2/16

## SIS LECTURE NOTES

23/03/16

### Outsourcing

- Give it to somebody else to do it
- First proposed 1987 → what differentials are org from outside?
- Competition has changed as a result of outsourced
- Easy jobs to identify from start to finish usually outsourced - clear input/output
- Not as straightforward in other areas but it is where more expensive people and processes are.
- TATA Steel turned to IT outsourcing → bigger than HP and IBM outsourcing
- British Airways - Outsources nearly everything - basically manages → lots of outsourcing
- So, what are the actual core activities of a business?
- Is outsourcing undermining a company? losing knowledge / competitive edge?
- Could contract out smaller aspects of a business process instead of whole process.

Core competencies? Branding, marketing

"Never outsource a problem" fix problem then outsource process