AIST 3410- Database Management System

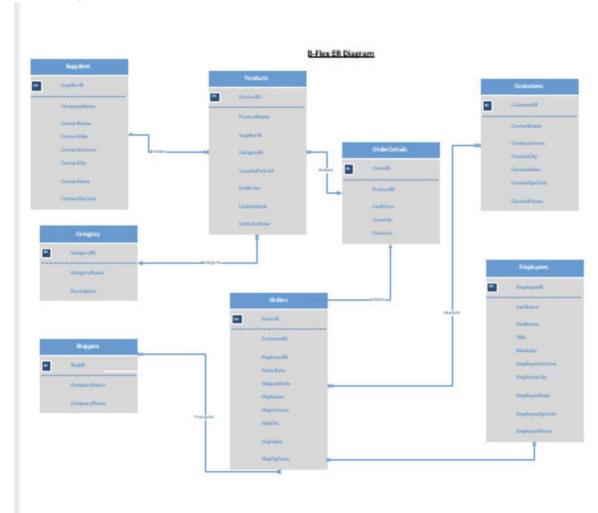
Description:

For our project, we selected a locally owned company known as B-Flex. The company was born in Italy more than a decade ago, and has continued to grow exponentially over the past few years. So much, that they decide to globalize and bring their products to the United States. The company is known for the sale of 'wholesale heat vinyl transfer' and swear by their products.

Although B-Flex Italia has been established for quite some time, B-Flex United States has only been active in our market for a little over a year. The company is still starting and lacks a strong connection between its data. Information is hard to access, therefore making it difficult to retrieve, manipulate, and produce information. The company's current file system lacks the ability to manage large amounts of data, accuracy, security, and easy to reach/update data.

The purpose of our newly designed database is to enhance the company's ability to not only store their large amounts of data, but also help to efficiently handle that data in a faster manner while performing multiple tasks with ease. The database will also help to reduce or even avoid altogether data redundancy. Our goal for this project is to provide this semi 'start-up' company with a more reliable way to share and communicate their data among themselves while ensuring accuracy and consistency in the database.

The database will include: Customers requesting orders, products in stock, and employees handling orders. There will also be tables categorizing products as well as tables organizing shipping companies. Our goal for this project is to provide this semi 'start-up' company with a more reliable way to share and communicate their data among themselves while ensuring accuracy and consistency in the database.



E-R Diagram (Conceptual Data Model)

The image from the screenshot made the picture very blurry. The ER model can be found saved on Devin's virtual machine on the Desktop

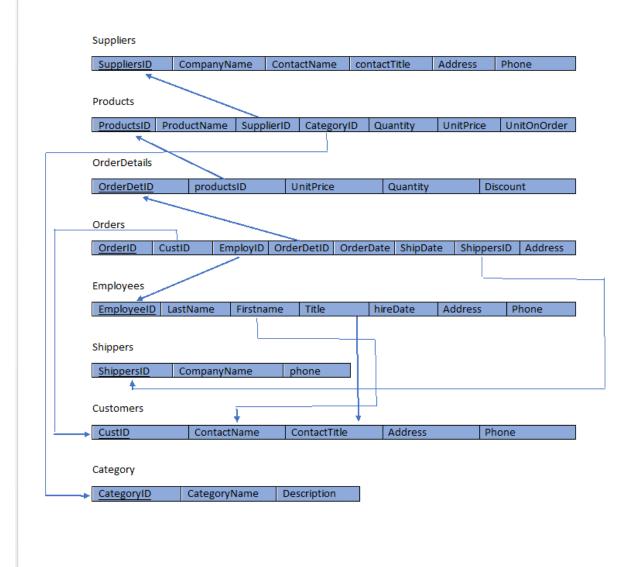
ER Diagram Explanation:

The ER model is designed to show the relationship between the entities within the company, B-Flex. The entities we chose to use for our design include; Customers, Employees, Orders, OrderDetails, Products, Categories, Suppliers and Shippers. There is a total of 8 tables. The primary key for all entities consists of a unique ID. For example, the entity Customers has a primary key of CustomerID, the entity Products has the primary key ProductsID, and so on and so forth. The attributes for each table are the properties which are used to define the entity type. Each entity has a minimum of 3 attributes.

As mentioned previously, the entity Customers has a primary key, CustomerID, along with the attributes: CompanyName, ContactName, ContactAddress, ContactCity, and ContactPhone. The entity Employees has a primary key, EmployeeID, along with the attributes: LastName, FirstName, Title, HireDate, EmployeeAddress, EmployeeCity, EmployeeState, EmployeeZipCode and EmployeePhone. The entity Orders has the primary key, OrderID, along with the foreign keys CustomerID and EmployeeID. The other attributes in the Order table aside from the primary and foreign keys include; OrderDate, ShippedDate, ShipName, ShipAddress, ShipCity, ShipState and ShipZipCode. The entity OrderDetails uses the OrderID from the Orders table and the ProductID from the Products table as foreign keys. Because the table uses only foreign keys for identification, the table is considered a weak entity.

Lastly, are the remaining entities, Products, Category, Suppliers and Shippers. The entity Products has a primary key, ProductID, and two foreign keys, SupplierID and CategoryID. The remaining attributes in Products are ProductName, QuanityPerUnit, UnitPrice and UnitsOnOrder. The entity Suppliers has a primary key, SupplierID, along with attributes; CompanyName, ContactName, ContactTitle, ContactAddress, ContactCity, ContactState, ContactZipCode, ContactPhone. The entitities Category and Shippers have the least number of attributes. Products has a primary key, CategoryID, and the attributes CompanyName and description. Shippers has a primary key, ShipperID, and the attributes CompanyName and CompanyPhone.

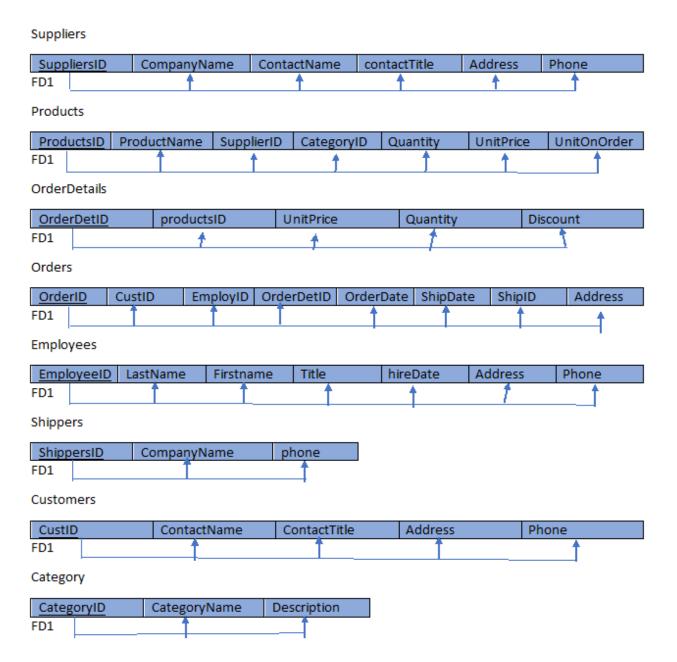
Relational Model (Logical Data Model)



Relational Model Explanation:

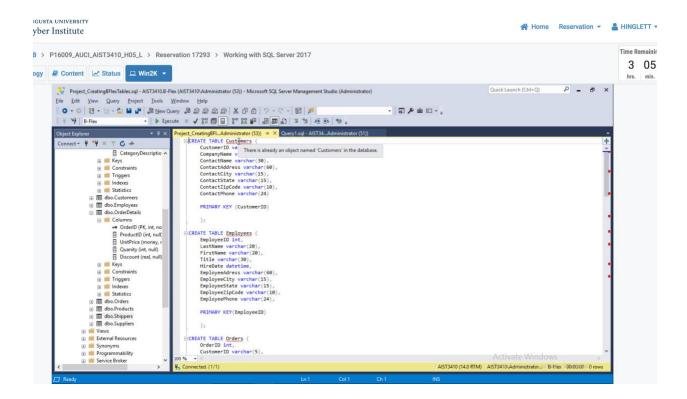
The relational model represents to database as a collection of relations (tables). It is just the table with the associated values. Each row represents a collection of related data values. Each relation has a header, our headers are the same columns used in the ER model and in our database. The body is the set of data that populates the relation, organized into rows. We followed the rules of primary and foreign keys.

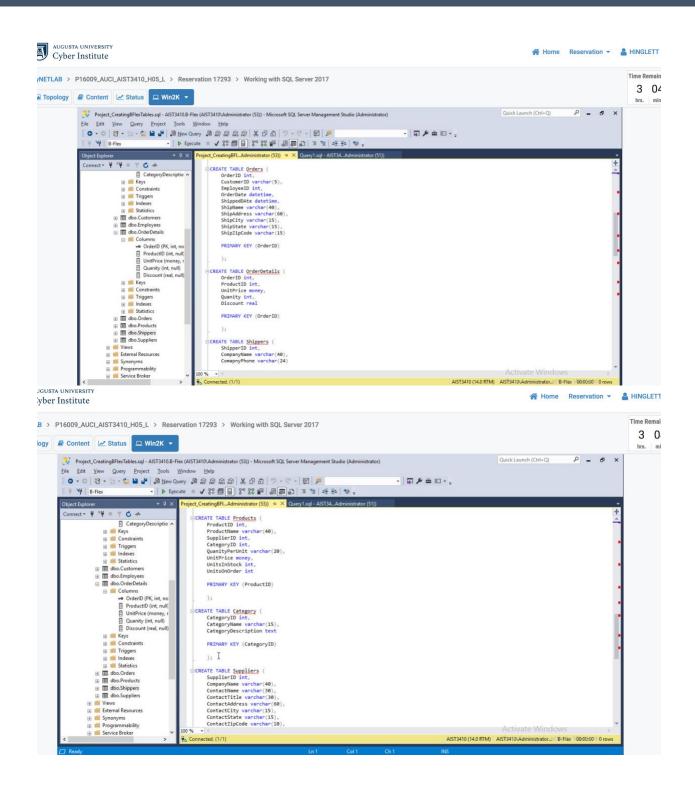
Normalization



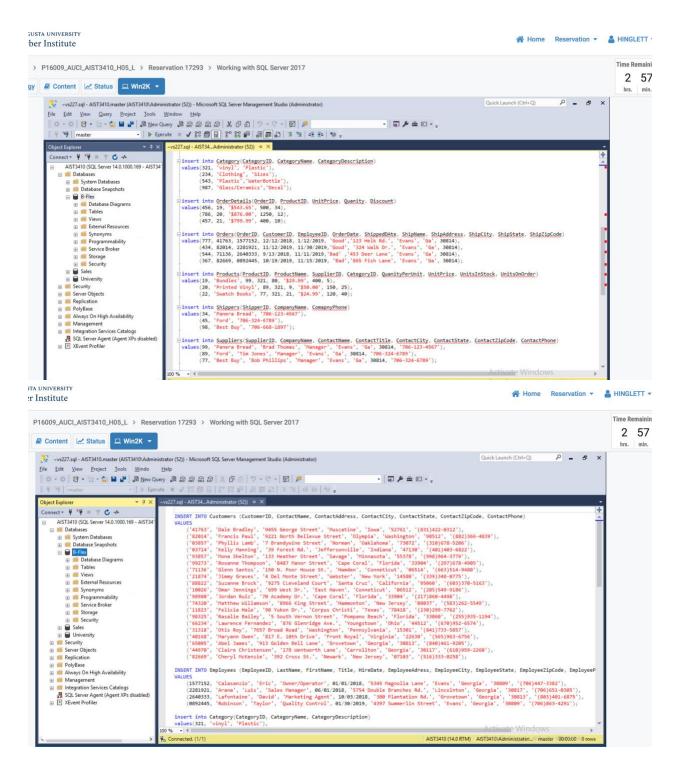
Database in SQL Server

Step 1.) To create the database inside the SQL server, we left clicked on 'Databases' inside of the Object Explorer. Here, we named our new database 'B-Flex'. Inside of a new query is where we began by creating each table from the relational model. These saved queries can be found in Haley's virtual machine saved inside the folder 'Final'.





Step 2.) After creating each table in the B-Flex database, we had to insert data into each table. As you can see in the Customers table, we started to insert a lot of data (20 rows). We decided having this much data was unnecessary and not needed to prove the point or functionality of the database. Therefore, the remaining tables only have roughly 4 rows of data.



Step 3.) Once all the data was inserted into the tables inside of the database, we created 12 SQL queries to ensure that data could be extracted correctly. Below are screenshots of each query executed.

