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Week 2

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Welcome to Week 2! Thank you for all your discussions posts during week 1. It was a pleasure to (virtually) meet all of you and learn a bit about your background and interests.

This week we will continue on the topic of requirements by identifying functional and non-functional requirements.

Functional requirements are those that specify what the system must do, particularly from the user's perspective. How should the system respond to user input? What information is presented to the user? What information is to be included on reports? Is the system to send email or text responses related to system events (such as an order being placed)? What are the business rules with which the system must comply? These issues are functional, again things the system "must do".



Non-functional requirements, on the other hand, largely relate to system operations. These include system response time, availability, backup procedures, security issues, fault tolerance, platform compatibility, scalability, disaster recovery, and more. These are sometimes dismissed as an afterthought in gathering requirements, but they are important considerations as well. It is just as important to define and document these types of requirements.

Different stakeholders may bring a variety of functional and non-functional requirements to the table. IT operations staff may be concerned with system response time (non-functional) while the sales staff may be concerned with capturing all aspects of a sale (functional). All are important considerations.

This module includes a quiz as well as an assignment related to identifying functional and non-functional assignments. Be sure to review the assignment guidelines and rubric and use the provided template. There is no discussion for this week, and is the only week of the course without a discussion.

I'll be reviewing the discussion and assignment from module 1 through this week. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out.