The essential software requirements

Alternate definitions of requirements

Chapter 1

Requirement

"A statement of a customer need or objective, or of a condition or capability that a product must possess to satisfy such a need or objective. A property that a product must have to provide value to a stakeholder."

Glossary, page 601

Requirement

Anything that drives design choices.

Consultant, 1997

Requirements

Requirements are:

- A condition or capability needed by a user to solve a problem or achieve an objective.
- A condition or capability that must be met or possessed by a system or system component to satisfy a contract, standard, specification, or other formally imposed document.
- A documented representation of a condition or capability as in 1 or 2.

IEEE Standard Glossary of Software Engineering Terminology

Requirements

A specification of what should be implemented. They are descriptions of how the system should behave, or of a system property or attribute. They may be a constraint on the development process of the system.

Somerville and Sawyer, 1997

(previous text)

Requirements

Requirements:

- What the system is to do / how the system should behave
- Circumstances under which it is required to operate / application domain information / constraints / specification of a system property

Konya

(previous text)

Functional versus Non-Functional

Functional:

"A statement of a piece of required functionality or a behavior that a system will exhibit under specific conditions."

Non-Functional:

"A description of a property or characteristic that a software system must exhibit or a constraint that it must respect, other than an observable system behavior."

Glossary of text