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Aim: To study licensing & legal information about software.

Theory:

Software Licensing :-

A software license is a legal instrument allowing consumers to use or redistribute software. Without the license agreement, using the software would constitute a breach of copyright law. All software must be legally licensed before it can be installed.

i) Why software Licensing is Important :-

i) Business must be savvy in the licenses they purchases to ensure firstly, they are using software legally & secondly, they aren't paying for licenses that aren't being used.

ii) By acquiring too many software licenses you're wasting company resources, without enough you leave yourself liable to potential lawsuit (which is quite costly)

ii) How does licensing work with Working Mouse client:-

A software licensing framework is a bit like renting a car. In order to run a rental car, you need permission from the owner and a key. The same is true for proprietary software.

Software is locked & will not run without a key or the correct permission being in place first.

Licenses are typically expressed as an end-user license agreement or an enterprise license agreement. The license is a contract between the user or user organization and the developer. It defines the terms of the license. A user must agree to terms of the license when acquiring the software.

* Benefits of software licensing:-

As a software developer, software license agreements protect the investment of time, energy & resources, ensuring that you will be able to make a profit from your hard work. Some of the other motivations for obtaining a software licensing agreement are because it:

- Prevents customers from abusing your software.
- Allows you to license the software w/o selling it.
- Gives you the chance to disclaim warranties.
- Limits your liability.
- Allows you to freely revoke licenses.

* What is a software license agreement?

A software license agreement is a legal contract b/w supplier and user, specifying the rights and obligations of both parties & provisions related to support, liability, and license duration.

The agreement typically covers key aspects of expected performance, such as availability & reliability, while also outlining the supplier's right to maintain Ip.

* What is a software license key?

A software license key is a combination of numbers and/or letters that authorizes the use of software. This unique code is used to verify a purchaser's right to install software & makes it available for use, so long as the license key, has not already been used.

* Types of software licenses Software licensing & deployment methods :-

Various forms of software licensing exist; each creating a different relationship b/w the software supplier and buyer.

2 general types :-

- 1) Free and Open Source software (FOSS) licences :- available to open customer along with software product.
- 2) Proprietary licenses :- closed source.
- 3) Public domain
- 4) Lesser general public licenses.
- 5) Permissive.
- 6) Copyleft. \Rightarrow Proprietary

Conclusion :- In this way, we have studied licensing & legal information about software.