

Specification Report

According to the Software and System Engineering Vocabulary (SE VOCAB) says that a specification is “ a document that specifies, in a complete, precise, verifiable manner, the requirements, design, behavior, or other characteristics of a system, component, product, result, or service and, often, the procedures for determining whether these provisions have been satisfied.”

Knowing this definition, the Business Requirement Specification (BRS) describes the organization’s motive for changing or implementing a new system. It also defines processes and rules and documents top-level requirements from stakeholders based on their needs. The content is split into two levels, the organizational level and the business operation level. The organizational level includes the organizational environment, goals and objectives, the business model, and the information environment. The business operational level includes the business operation model, business operation modes, business operation quality, organizational formation, and concept of the proposed system. Requirements in the BRS are organizational requirements and business requirements. The typical audience for the BRS includes a business analyst, business management, a system analyst, and software/system engineers.

The Stakeholder Requirement Specification (StRS) has a similar purpose to the BRS except that the StRS describes how the organization will utilize the system as a means to contribute to the business. Included with stakeholder requirements are organizational requirements, business requirements, and user requirements. The typical audience are stakeholders and software/systems engineers. The stakeholders need to come to a consensus with requirements.

The System Requirements Specification (SyRS) identifies the technical requirements for the selected system and usability for human interaction. It provides a description of what the system should do in terms of the interaction with the external environment. The SyRS contains conceptual models to illustrate system context, usage scenarios, data, information, and workflows. These diagrams show how input and output travels throughout the system. The

audience for the SyRS are stakeholders, dev team, team managers, quality assurance/testers, operations, maintenance, and project consultants.

The Software Requirements Specification (SRS) describes a particular software product, program, or set of programs that performs certain functions in a specific environment. This contains the required capabilities of the specified software, documented constraints, and the verification approaches for the requirements. The audience is basically the same as the SyRS.

When I made my BRS and SRS for my project, I saw how much work really goes into making these documents. While my project was small and still came out as a lot of work, I can only imagine how much more work it is for bigger projects with more people. Making my BRS for my sponsor was really important. It gave me a good understanding of why the business I was working with needed to make this system. It allowed me to listen to their problems while also taking note of rules and processes that they had at the business. Learning about the business in general was also really exciting! The SRS was also a bit of work to make but made sure that the software performed what the stakeholders wanted it to perform. Being able to show the SRS to stakeholders felt really good as they validated and reviewed that every was good. I felt really accomplished writing the requirements as well as the verification approaches for them.