

Computer Architecture & Systems
Split Department – Computer Installation
Research Assignment – Further Details 1
Assignment Brief
Assignment Weighting: 30%

It has been confirmed that you are to take responsibility for all of:

- Hardware Selection
- Software Selection
- Networking Infrastructure
- Office Furniture & Layout

On the matter of installation of all of the above the department has access to staff that will reliably install and assemble all items as above. Because of this, labour need not be included in your cost of office creation. However, because of the way Government Departments work, all items will have VAT charged on them and must come from your budget.

You have been informed the budget is €30,000.

Your line manager and senior boss are unhappy with this amount and are lobbying for more; there is no accurate prediction as to whether they will get anything extra, or if so how much. They are not hopeful.

The number of staff is also uncertain. It has been recommended that you allow for an extra computer or two, or laptop docking stations.

Hardware

Under the hardware you will not only have to provide individual computers, but also centralised storage (a file server) as all staff need access to the same file. Other shared features are required as well, such as email etc.

Software

Luckily, due to the, “clever 'database' of spreadsheets that allows them to function very efficiently without specialist software” the staff will not need specialist software. However, some thought as to how these files will come from the redundant Dublin system to the new office will have to allowed for.

Networking Infrastructure

The office needs to have all computers networked, as well as internet access for all, access in a central point to the 'database' of spreadsheets *etc.* The network may be wired or wireless but you are expected to take full consideration of all security issues.

Office Furniture & Layout

The office negotiations are completed and a spacious corner office (2 sides windowed, floor to ceiling) has been rented. The office is 20m by 30m with no barriers or furniture of any sort. You are free to place any item in any place where you wish. You may consider there are power outlets in all places you will require them.

The broad headings thus far given:

1. Computer types and allocations
2. Networking requirements
3. Connection back to head office (should follow from first assignment)
4. Local server and security requirements.

Remain, and are added to by the items presented in this document.

More to follow...