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**CS 255**

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**Process Model Evaluation**

**Interpret the provided data flow diagram. What does it show? What does the current purchase and supply process entail?**

The Data Flow Diagram shows a simple purchase and supply process for Hamp Crafts brick-and-mortar storefront. The diagram starts with a node for the customer, a shows the flow of the customer ordering product. Step one is the first system process shows receiving the customer order, followed by the check out process. This second process splits off to the third process of Fulfilling order and the shipping plan data moving to the carrier, followed by the carrier planning moving to the shipper. From the fulfill order process, the data moves the delivery plan to the choose supplier process, followed by contract negotiations to the supplier, and the shipment schedule moves to the supplier as well, and then data all moves to the shipper.

**What are the data sources involved in the current process?**

The customer places the order which creates the order data. The checkout process creates the shipping plan. The fulfill order process creates the delivery plan and sends it to the choose supplier process, and the shipment schedule sending it to the supplier.

**What additional processes are necessary to integrate an online storefront?**

Additional processes that I would include would be an account log in system, A system for selecting an item and moving to the shopping cart, the shopping cart itself, and payment information process. Otherwise I feel the diagram looks like it will support communication with order fulfillment and shipments after the customer has placed the order.

**What additional data sources would the system need to access the products and inventory?**

The system would need to receive date from the inventory management database, and the customer account database, in order to access information about customer orders, and to display products and inventory information to customers. The system would also need to gain information about inventory levels, in order to prevent a customer from placing an order for a product that is not currently available.

**What additional databases, if any, are needed to support the online storefront?**

An inventory management database will be necessary, as well as a database for storing information about current orders and customer account information.

**Would you recommend creating a separate new system for the online storefront or incorporating elements of the online storefront into the current process model? Explain your reasoning.**

I do not think an entirely new system would be necessary, and it may even cause issues with consistency, as it would create the need to manage two different inventory and shipment processes, when the storefront and online system can both integrate into a single inventory and shipment process. This would also keep the cost of maintaining the system down, as you can have a team working on a single system rather than splitting their attention into two different products.