1st assignment

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KBTU, 2023

Assignment details

1.2. WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENERIC SOFTWARE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND CUSTOM SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT? WHAT MIGHT THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE FOR USERS OF GENERIC SOFTWARE PRODUCTS?

Content

Software Products

SOFTWARE PRODUCTS ARE NOTHING BUT SOFTWARE SYSTEMS DELIVERED TO THE CUSTOMER WITH THE DOCUMENTATION THAT DESCRIBES HOW TO INSTALL AND USE THE SYSTEM. IN CERTAIN CASES, SOFTWARE PRODUCTS MAY BE PART OF SYSTEM PRODUCTS WHERE HARDWARE, AS WELL AS SOFTWARE, IS DELIVERED TO A CUSTOMER. SOFTWARE PRODUCTS ARE PRODUCED WITH THE HELP OF THE SOFTWARE PROCESS. THE SOFTWARE PROCESS IS A WAY IN WHICH WE PRODUCE SOFTWARE.

TYPES OF SOFTWARE PRODUCTS:
Software products fall into two broad categories:

1. GENERIC PRODUCTS:
Generic products are stand-alone systems that are developed by a production unit and sold on the open market to any customer who is able to buy them.

2. CUSTOMIZED PRODUCTS:
Customized products are the systems that are commissioned by a particular customer. Some contractor develops the software for that customer.
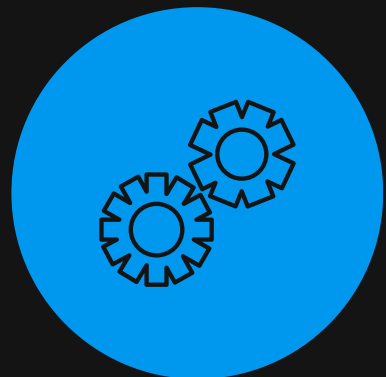
Generic products

Designed in general for public use

Content-free applications

A spreadsheet application

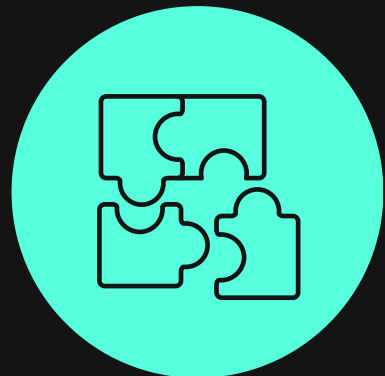Performs various tasks without requiring any modifications

These are stand-alone systems that are produced by a development organization and sold on the open market to any customer who is able to buy them. Examples of this type of product include apps for mobile devices, software for PCs such as databases, word processors, drawing packages, and project management tools. This kind of software also includes "vertical" applications designed for a specific market such as library information systems, accounting systems, or systems for maintaining dental records.

Custom products

Designed for specific users or organizations

Caters to only the needs of the company

Based on the budget and requirements predefined by clients

Automated invoicing software

These are systems that are commissioned by and developed for a particular customer. A software contractor designs and implements the software especially for that customer. Examples of this type of software include control systems for electronic devices, systems written to support a particular business process, and air traffic control systems.

GSD vs. CSD

The critical distinction between these types of software is that, in generic products, the organization that develops the software controls the software specification. This means that if they run into development problems, they can rethink what is to be developed. For custom products, the specification is developed and controlled by the organization that is buying the software. The software developers must work to that specification. However, the distinction between these system product types is becoming increasingly blurred. More and more systems are now being built with a generic product as a base, which is then adapted to suit the requirements of a customer.

Various features, characteristics, and requirements that differ for custom software and generic software:

- Exclusiveness
- Needs and updates
- Control
- Development cost
- Number of functions
- Functionality
- Architecture
- Quality

What might differences mean in practice for users of generic software products?

The key benefits of generic software are its accessibility and affordability. Due to the fact that they are designed for a wide market, these products are typically accessible and affordable. Generic software might not entirely satisfy the unique demands and tastes of different users, though. It might not have some elements or capabilities that are necessary for the application in question.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!