What are function points?

**Answer**FPA is a process to break system into discrete pieces and analyze them. Software application is a combination of elementary process. FPA is the way to identify elementary processes and analyze them.

There are two types of elementary process – dynamic and static elementary process.

***Project Management - What are function points? - May 05, 2009 at 15:10 pm by Vidya Sagar***

What are function points?

In order to express the amount of business functionality of an information system, a function point is used as a unit of measurement.

There is International Function Point Users Group in US based organization of users of the software metric Function Point Analysis

Every function point is a unit of measure used by IFPUG functional size measurement method.

The IFPUG FSM is one of the currently recognized standards of ISO for functionally sizing software.

What are the different elements in Functions points?

The elements in functions points are:

* External Inputs: It is an elementary process which allows the data to cross the boundary from outside to inside.
* External Outputs: A elementary process which allows the data passes across the boundary from inside to outside
* External Inquiry: It is an elementary process which has both input and output components which results data retrieval from one or more internal logical files and external interface files.
* Internal Logical Files: An identifiable group of logically related data that resides entirely within the applications boundary and is maintained through external inputs.
* External Interface Files: An identifiable group of logically related data that is used only for reference purpose. The data is completely persisted outside the application and is maintained by another application.