

Evaluation of the Unit 6 Database Proposal Assignment vs Unit 11 Executive Summary Assignment

Original Proposal

The original database proposal for ElectroSpares, a B2B organisation supplying office equipment and furniture to other offices, presented a potential solution which matched their requirements to have a secure and consistent relational database which could contain supplier, customer, product, and order information.

An entity-relationship diagram (ERD) designed in the proposal displayed the relationships which existed between ElectroSpares' data entities as well as its attributes and relevant keys, and the final database was built based on this.

Comparison and Evaluation

The final database included in the executive summary incorporated the knowledge and skills I had developed during the final module, but particularly in the handful of weeks in between the two assignments. My knowledge and confidence using MySQL to not only build databases and tables, but to retrieve data which complies with certain conditions, made the build and testing a significant experience. I also became comfortable constructing tables with the relevant primary and foreign keys, using the appropriate commands to do so.

In the interim, I also developed an understanding of non-relational database management systems (NDBMS) which I discussed in the final executive summary. Systems such as MongoDB were considered, evaluating its strengths, weaknesses, and potential future use cases in relation to ElectroSpares' native requirements.

Completing the summary was trickier than the initial proposal, likely due to not having the luxury of working with my original group mates. As I couldn't exchange ideas with them, it is likely that some key areas for exploration, including how the database integrates with other business intelligence tools (e.g., Power BI), were omitted in my summary.