

# **Report on Industrial Visit**

**20th September 2024**

**Brain Station 23 Plc.**

**Bir Uttam AK Khandakar Road, Dhaka, Bangladesh**

**Group: 03**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Purpose.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Question and Answer Session.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Summary of Learnings.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Career Advice.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Conclusion.....</b>	<b>7</b>

## 1. Introduction

On the 20th of September 2024, our group had the opportunity to visit Brain Station 23 Plc as part of an educational initiative on behalf of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) at American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB). This visit was aimed at providing us with a hands-on understanding of the internal workings of a leading software company. Brain Station 23 Plc. is well known in Bangladesh's IT industry, specializing in various aspects of software development, including requirement engineering, project management, and the role of Business Analysts (BA) in the success of software projects.

Our visit focused on learning how real-world software development companies operate, specifically from the perspective of business analysis and software requirements engineering (SRE). We interacted with various professionals at Brain Station 23, who shared their insights and experience in handling client requirements, preparing Software Requirements Specifications (SRS), and managing cross-departmental communication. The visit aimed to bridge the gap between the theoretical knowledge we gain in our coursework and the practical challenges faced by professionals in the industry.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this industrial visit was to offer students from AIUB's CSE department an opportunity to observe the day-to-day operations of a professional software company. By interacting with Business Analysts and other professionals at Brain Station 23 Plc., we aimed to gain a clearer understanding of:

- **Software Requirements Engineering (SRE):** How software requirements are gathered, documented, and maintained throughout the lifecycle of a project.
- **Business Analysts' Role:** How Business Analysts contribute to a project's success by communicating with clients and internal teams.
- **Project Management:** What different departments such as IT, marketing, and operations collaborate effectively to ensure project success.
- **Tools and Methodologies:** The tools and processes used by Brain Station 23 to manage projects and ensure efficient workflow.

This visit was also intended to provide us with career guidance and motivation from industry professionals, helping us understand the skills and qualifications necessary to succeed in the field of business analysis and software engineering.

### 3. Question and Answer Session

One of the highlights of the visit was a detailed question-and-answer session with the Business Analysts and team members of Brain Station 23. The professionals were generous with their time and provided comprehensive answers to our queries, giving us valuable insights into their work practices. Below is a summary of the key questions asked during the session and the answers we received:

**1. How do you prepare and structure a Software Requirements Specification (SRS) document?**

Ans: The team follows a company-standard SRS template, which provides a structured way to document all software requirements. This template is refined based on best practices in requirement engineering, ensuring consistency and comprehensiveness.

**2. How do you manage communication between different departments like IT, marketing, and operations during the requirements gathering phase?**

Ans: Brain Station 23 works in tightly knit units, where each unit is responsible for a specific project. This structure ensures that communication flows smoothly and that each department is aligned with the project's goals.

**3. Can you share a project where your role as a Business Analyst made a significant difference in the project's success?**

Ans: Due to confidentiality and security agreements with clients, they were unable to share specific project details. However, they emphasized the critical role Business Analysts play in ensuring that client requirements are understood and translated into actionable development tasks.

**4. Which Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) do you commonly follow (e.g., Agile, Waterfall, Scrum)?**

Ans: The company predominantly follows Agile methodologies. Agile allows them to adapt quickly to changes in client requirements and ensures flexibility throughout the development process.

**5. Do you use any specific templates or standards for creating requirement documents?**

Ans: Yes, they follow standardized templates developed by the company to ensure consistency and alignment with internal quality standards.

6. **How do you estimate the time and cost required for a project based on gathered requirements?**

Ans: The company has a standardized pricing model, which helps in providing accurate time and cost estimates based on the scope and complexity of the project.

7. **What is your approach to communicating and managing expectations with stakeholders?**

Ans: Communication with stakeholders is primarily done through online meetings, which allow for real-time updates and discussions on project progress and any potential changes.

8. **How do you address ambiguous or incomplete requirements provided by stakeholders?**

Ans: Their approach is to rely on the experience of the team. Whenever ambiguous requirements are identified, they work closely with the stakeholders to clarify and refine them.

9. **Which business analysis tools (e.g., JIRA, Confluence, Microsoft Visio) do you find indispensable in your daily work?**

Ans: JIRA is their go-to tool for tracking and managing requirements and project tasks. It's used extensively in managing sprints, backlog items, and communication between teams.

10. **Which prototype tools do you use for visual design?**

Ans: Figma is the primary tool used for designing and creating prototypes for user interfaces.

11. **How do you handle changes in requirements during the project lifecycle?**

Ans: Since Brain Station 23 follows Agile, changes in requirements can be accommodated at any stage of the project. They prioritize flexibility and iterative development to ensure that evolving client needs are met.

12. **What role does documentation play in the requirement engineering process, and how do you keep it up to date?**

Ans: Documentation is critical, and they maintain version control to ensure that all documents reflect the most recent updates. This is especially important when managing ongoing changes in an Agile environment.

13. **What certifications or additional qualifications would you recommend for someone looking to advance in the field of business analysis?**

Ans: The team suggested that aspiring Business Analysts should develop a strong understanding of Software Requirements Engineering (SRE), learn business analysis tools such as JIRA and Figma, and have a basic understanding of programming languages. Familiarity with standard SRS templates is also crucial.

## 4. Summary of Learnings

The visit to Brain Station 23 Plc. provided us with a wealth of knowledge about the practical aspects of business analysis and requirement engineering. Some of the key takeaways include:

- **Structured Approach to SRS:** The importance of having a standardized format for documenting software requirements to ensure clarity and consistency.
- **Cross-Departmental Communication:** The critical role of clear communication between different departments (IT, marketing, and operations) in ensuring project success.
- **Tools and Methodologies:** The extensive use of tools like JIRA for project management and Figma for visual design, which are indispensable in managing complex projects efficiently.
- **Agile Methodology:** The flexibility of Agile in accommodating changes and the iterative approach that ensures continuous client feedback and project adaptability.

This visit helped us see how business analysis tools and practices are applied in a professional environment and how essential they are in managing software projects effectively.

## 5. Career Advice

The professionals at Brain Station 23 provided us with valuable career advice, particularly for those interested in becoming Business Analysts. They emphasized the importance of practical experience, certifications, and continuous learning. Some of their recommendations included:

- **Gain knowledge in Requirement Engineering and Business Analysis:** This includes being proficient in tools like JIRA and Figma and having a solid understanding of how to gather and document software requirements.
- **Develop Programming Knowledge:** While not mandatory, having a basic understanding of programming languages can help Business Analysts better understand the technical aspects of the projects they manage.
- **Certifications:** They recommended pursuing certifications in Business Analysis (BA) and Requirement Engineering (RE) to enhance employability and career advancement prospects.

## **6. Conclusion**

The industrial visit to Brain Station 23 Plc. was an eye-opening experience that allowed us to understand how theory translates into practice in a professional software company. The insights we gained, particularly in the areas of Software Requirements Engineering and Business Analysis, will be invaluable as we progress in our academic and professional careers. The visit not only broadened our understanding of how software projects are managed but also motivated us to pursue further learning and professional certifications. We are grateful to Brain Station 23 Plc. for hosting us and providing us with such an enriching experience.