Advantages and Disadvantages SRS

## IEEE Format

According to IEEE, SRS should have following properties

* **Correct** – It should accurately reflect product functionality and specification at any point of time.
* **Unambiguous** – There should not any confusion regarding interpretation of the requirements.
* **Complete** – It should contain all features requested by a client.
* **Consistent** – Same abbreviation and conventions must be followed throughout the document.
* **Ranked for importance and/or stability** – Every requirement has its own importance. Some are urgent and could be on the critical path and must be fulfilled prior to other, some could be delayed. It is better to rank every requirement according to its importance and stability.
* **Verifiable** – How you are going to verify any requirement? Present requirements with numbers, facts and some measuring parameters.
* **Modifiable** – Every SRS is subjected to be changed later. Clearly state every requirement so it can be easily identified later, avoid redundancy, use change control to manage modifications.
* **Traceable** – Trace of any requirement up to its origin. Add reference to high level document from where any particular requirement started.

## Advantages of SRS

* It provides client a satisfaction as this is the first response to the client.
* It defines functional and non-functional requirement.
* It eliminates any confusion or misunderstanding on initial stage.
* It reduces development effort.
* It reduces the chances of requirement creep.
* It makes testing easier.
* It defines project scope.
* It provides the basis for plan charter, work load, dependencies, etc.
* A SRS provides a reference for validation of the final product.
* A high-quality SRS is a prerequisite to high-quality software.
* A high-quality SRS reduces the development cost.

IEEE Format is a better SRS format. Each organization will have their own SRS Format suitable for company’s requirements and understanding. The merits and demerits of the IEEE Format is described below:

1. IEEE Format is an universal format. The SRS format does not change for different organization while organizational SRS Format[TCS etc] changes as per company’s or organization’s requirements.
2. IEEE Format has complete information about the how to read SRS document which enables any reader to read the document effectively while individual organizational SRS Format does not have information describing how to read the document as it is common for all employees under an organization.
3. IEEE follows generic format making it understandable to any reader inside and outside an organization. While company’s SRS Format follows certain rules set up by that company while writing SRS to prevent full disclosure of project under construction.
4. All SRS Format must contain the features mentioned in page 1 while method of representation is different for different organization.
5. For normal users IEEE Format is the best but we cannot conclude saying that IEEE is the best format.
6. Each SRS format has its own unique elements written for reaching specific readers.
7. IEEE is comparatively best format as its reachability is more and it divides each sections of the SRS precisely for better description of requirements.
8. In IEEE mentioning of specific software requirements is not necessary while for other SRS [ Ex: TCS] mentioning specific software requirements present within the company is necessary.
9. IEEE is not as detailed as other SRS Format [Ex: TCS]. Other SRS Formats concentrates on specific requirements specification. They aim at describing exact and detailed requirements of individual software required to carry out the project. While IEEE is generic.
10. We can conclude that there is no best SRS Format but it is upto the understanding of the readers.

The SRS aims at providing complete description of software requirements written to provide better understanding for its readers. Each company has its own format which makes it easy for readers under that company to read SRS. Different formats of SRS has been developed in different companies depending upon their[Company’s] requirements and understanding.

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