**Comparison between various SRS formats**

Vijayvargiya Sagar R.

15IT251

Different companies use different SRS formats according to their need.

This document provides a comparative analysis between SRS IEEE standard and SRS formats used by various companies.

**IBM vs IEEE**

1. IEEE provides a separate section for system features whereas IBM format doesn’t give much emphasis on the system features.
2. IEEE format allots a major space to functional and non-functional requirements whereas IBM allots a small portion under the heading ‘Supplementary Requirements’ to include the requirements, this makes the SRS concise and allows the user to give importance on only certain necessary requirements, the developer need not worry about unnecessary requirements like business rules in the requirement stage.
3. IBM SRS lays emphasis on including the database design diagram and architecture design diagram whereas no such emphasis is given in the IEEE SRS specification.
4. IBM SRS has a more detailed header comprising of the version, date and document identifier.
5. Definitions, Acronyms and Abbreviations are provided in the starting in the case of IBM Standard format whereas they are listed towards the end in the Appendix in IEEE format.
6. IBM SRS is much more concise in comparison to the IEEE format.

**Infosys vs IEEE**

1. In the first section ‘Overview’ a brief description of the current system and limitations of the current system are specified followed by an overview of the proposed system and objectives of the proposed system. The IEEE format lacks the information about the current system.
2. A separate section called ‘Prototype’ is provided in the Infosys SRS format. IEEE Std format lacks such a section.
3. Infosys’ SRS is quite detailed in comparison to IEEE’s format.
4. Certain events like business events, external events and temporal events are to be specified in Infosys’ SRS.

**TCS vs IEEE**

1. TCS SRS has a more detailed revision history section.
2. The TCS SRS has a separate section for prioritizing the requirements and those that may be delayed until the next version of the system.
3. IEEE SRS lays more emphasis on the non functional requirements of the system. It is included in the Specific Requirements section in TCS SRS, whereas a separate section is provided for this in IEEE SRS.
4. User documentation and Business rules are not included in the TCS SRS.

**Tech Mahindra vs IEEE**

1. The Tech Mahindra SRS doesn’t provide a separate section for non-functional requirements. It mainly gives emphasis on the product and doesn’t describe the users of the product and use class characteristics.

**Drawbacks of IEEE SRS**

IEEE format is a standard format followed at a large number of institutions across the globe. However, it has a few drawbacks when compared to the SRS of other IT companies such as TCS and IBM. They are:

* The IEEE SRS contains a lot of specifications which are overlapping. For example, scope and purpose more or less talk about similar things.
* The IEEE SRS contains unnecessary details that may not be used by the development team at all. For example, things like intended audience, references and reading suggestions may seldom be used by the developers.
* The IEEE SRS does not contain a database design which is major component in the SRS’s prepared by TCS and IBM.
* Specifications like intended audience can be covered in purpose itself.
* IEEE SRS lacks information about the current system.
* Keep references to other related documents with their version numbers and generation dates.