



MILESTONE 8 – THE SYSTEM PROPOSAL

Synopsis

he purpose of the Decision Analysis Phase is to identify candidate solutions, analyze those candidate solutions, and recommend a target system that will be designed and implemented. Alternative solutions to be considered should be those that address the business requirements of the information system.

In this milestone you will complete a *Candidate Matrix*. This matrix will include three alternative candidate solutions that you have determined will meet the business requirements for the Customer Response System. Some of the solutions you will consider may have been posed from the design ideas and opinions from the system owners and users. Others may come from various sources including: systems analysts, system designers, technical consultants, and other IS professionals. Some technical choices may be limited by a predefined, approved technology architecture provided by system managers. When completing the matrix, it is not your intent to evaluate the candidates at this point, only to identify and define them.

Objectives

After completing this milestone, you should be able to:

⇒ Identify candidate solutions that meet the requirements of the information system and document those solutions in a candidate matrix.

Prerequisites

Before starting this milestone the following topics should be covered:

- 1. Systems Analysis Chapter 5
- 2. The System Proposal Chapter 11

Assignment

Given the business requirements established in the Requirements Analysis Phase of systems analysis, you can now identify alternative candidate solutions.

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Activities

- 1. Complete a *Candidate Matrix* based on the standard workstation and server configuration defined in the Case Study Introduction. Identify and document at least three solutions that could meet the business requirements. Try to consider at least one "buy" candidate solution. Search the Internet for key words related to the system. You should be able to find a prepackaged system that supports some functions of the proposed system. Assume that Coastline Systems Consulting has the hardware listed in the Case Study Introduction. Make other assumptions where necessary.
- 2. The ESSS a special requirement mentioned back in Milestone 1. Jack Mills wanted the system to have "state-of-the-art for security maybe some biometric device that can be used in the office and at home easily and cheaply." In addition (or as an alternate assignment) research hardware and software to meet this requirement. Search the Internet and find at least two competing solutions. Write a *Technical Memo* describing the advantages of each option and recommending a solution. Include web references to each of the solution alternatives.

Deliverable format and software to be used are according to your instructor's specifications. Deliverables should be neatly packaged in a binder, separated with a tab divider labeled "Milestone 8" and accompanied with a Milestone Evaluation Sheet.

References:

All previous Milestones and Solutions

Provided by your instructor.

Templates

See on-line learning center website for the textbook.

Deliverables:	
Candidate Matrix:	Due: //
	Time:

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For the advanced option, perform a feasibility analysis and complete a feasibility matrix for the three candidates identified above. This option will require research on the cost of the development software tools needed for each candidate solution. Assume Anna Kelly will develop the system by herself. Make the necessary assumptions to estimate development time, costs, and benefits.

Feasibility Matrix:	Due: /_/_ Time:
Milestone's Point Value:	