1 Introduction

Learning outcomes

The material and exercises in this chapter will enable you to:

- Describe the concept of a system life cycle and the main features of traditional and object-oriented approaches

- Describe the principal characteristics of the Rational Unified Process

- Explain how models are used in system development

- Recognize features of the Unified Modelling Language

- Get to know the Wheels case study, which is the source of examples and exercises in the book.

Key words that you will find in the glossary:

- analysis
- component
- deliverable
- design
- development method
- framework
- implementation
- incremental development
- iteration
- milestone

- object
- Object Management Group (OMG)
- prototyping
- Rational Unified Process (RUP)
- requirements
- reuse
- system life cycle
- traceability
- Unified Modelling Language (UML)

How to get the best from this book

The aim of this book is to describe what happens when a computer system is developed for a small business, in this case the Wheels bike hire company. The approach used is object-orientation, which