



Figure 3.8 Expanded description of the 'Issue bike' use case with preconditions

Actors and actor descriptions

Actors are external to the system – they represent people or things that interact with the system and receive some benefit from it. Normally an actor is a user, but sometimes it is another system such as a banking or accounting system; an actor can also represent a hardware device such as a printer. Typically an actor is someone who inputs information to the system or receives information from it (or both).