

Explanation of the expanded use case

Use case: Name of the use case as it appears in the use case diagram

Actors: List of actors associated with the use case

Goal: The goal or purpose of the use case

Overview: Copy of the high-level description

Cross-reference: Relate this use case to the system requirement it covers

Typical course of events

Describes the most usual course of events in terms of the actor input and the system response

Alternative courses

This section describes the main alternative courses of action

Figure 3.7 Template for an expanded use case

Expanded use case description. This description is more detailed and structured than the high-level use case description. It should document:

- What happens to initiate the use case
- Which actors are involved
- What data has to be input
- The use case output
- What stored data is needed by the use case
- What happens to signal the completion of the use case
- Minor variations in the sequences of events (see Figure 3.7).

Preconditions. Some practitioners include a section for preconditions in the expanded use case descriptions. We might specify, for example, that the bike list needs to be up to date before the use case 'Issue bike' is performed, i.e. the use case 'Maintain bike list' must have been executed. The expanded use case description would then be presented as in Figure 3.8.