Foundations of Databases A.Y. 2021-2022
Homework 1 – Requirements Analysis

Master Degree in Computer Engineering
Master Degree in Cybersecurity
Master Degree in ICT for Internet and Multimedia

Deadline: October 22, 2021

Group	Project	
TAGMS	**Inventory Management System**	
Last Name Arslan	First Name Tunahan	Student Number 2023640
Last Name Basso	First Name Marco	Student Number 2005796
Last Name Cimarosto	First Name Pietro	Student Number 1234567
Last Name Collado	First Name Martin	Student Number 1234567
Last Name Esposito	First Name Vittorio	Student Number 2005795
Last Name Giuliani	First Name Amedeo	Student Number 2005797
Last Name Heydari	First Name Mona	Student Number 2005929
Last Name Quiroz	First Name Giannina Faye	Student Number 2041427
Last Name Zanini	First Name Samuele	Student Number 2019038

Objectives of the System

Inventory Management plays a vital role in a company. Companies need to have an Inventory Management System (IMS) in order to accurately identify which and how much stock to order at what time. In other words, each factory should manage its production in an efficient way in order not to waste resources and to avoid overstocking, as well as outages. To do so, an IMS shall be implemented. An IMS should assist all the different phases involving production, that are: orders issued by customers, manufacturing of the final good, and shipment. In particular, the company that makes use of such system can always keep track of item quantities – in order to hold in stock only the minimum amount, hence optimizing investments –, invoices, and deliveries. Putting all these benefits together, the production is optimized, thus increasing the company revenues.
With this system, both the customers will be able to get the product easily and the risk of the seller will be reduced.

Users and Stakeholders of the System

The users and stakeholders of the system are divided into:

- Costumers: They must enter their information in the system and They can search products and order some products. they can see, modify or cancel their orders.

- Menager: They determines the salaries of the workers in the company, takes an active role in the pricing of the products, and negotiates with the supporters.

- Salesman: They are responsible to deal with the feedback from the customers and also plays a role in areas such as checking and resolving possible problems in orders.

- Analyst: Analyzes and interprets how much income the company generating on a monthly and daily basis, both in general and per product, and in cooperation with the manager regarding the analysis, the manager determines the prices of the products according to the data interpreted by the analyst and can speed up or slow down the production of some products.

- Inventory: It keeps the products and the quantity of these products up-to-date. As new products are added or the number of products changes with orders, it updates this list, so that how much of each product is left can be displayed.

Interviews

Natural Language Sentences

A major international food and beverage company is investing in a new set of technologies to increase profits. The company produces and distributes an average of X products every year, including drinks, juices, beers and snacks of various kinds.
   The company's goal is to develop a new information management system that will help reduce excess and shortages of inventory. Furthermore, it is required to keep in memory as much information as possible about the commercial activity so that it is also possible to make analytics to monitor sales and expenses. In this system:

- technical employees manage products in the inventory, invoices, and employees;

- sellers, on the other hand, have to deal with customers, orders, shipments, and payments;

- managers are in charge of managing suppliers and contracts;

- data analysts have access to the acquired data for inventory, cost and profit analysis;

- a system administrator will be responsible for managing the access privileges for each user on the system.

The figure of the Manager is important for the management of relationships (and therefore of contracts) with suppliers. The latter are intended to supply raw materials to the company. For example, if the company produces sugary drinks, suppliers will provide ingredients such as sugars, additives, artificial colors, water and natural flavors. In addition to these elements, there will be suppliers who will provide different types of packaging, such as glass, aluminum latins, or double corrugated cardboard boxes. Suppliers must be registered in the system, along with their name and contact details. Managers stipulate and maintain contracts with suppliers. These contracts are characterized by the following parameters: type of contract, duration of the contract, monetary agreement, quantity requested, and an identification for both the supplier and the raw material the first provides. It will therefore be possible for managers to inspect, for example through a list, all the contracts stipulated with the different suppliers. Furthermore, through the identification of the raw materials, managers have the possibility to filter contracts based on the type of product. Therefore, it is possible that the company can purchase the same type of product from different suppliers. Contracts stipulated between managers and suppliers are of different types:

- Joint venture;

- Partnership;

- Collaboration-type network agreement;

- Network contract for joint operation.

Managers therefore work closely with suppliers and also with sellers. In fact, these two relationships allow the data analyst to optimize profits and limit losses. The data analyst has the task of carrying out some analyses on the internal data of the company to allow the latter to reduce the products that will be in excess (for example because they have expired) and to keep under control the minimum quantities for each single product in the warehouse. By periodically carrying out checks on the expiration date of the products in the database, the data analyst is able to find how many expired products are left in stock. The frequency on which this type of control is carried out will be in line with company policies. It is therefore possible that the company decides to carry out this check every quarter. In this case, at the end of the 3 months, the data analyst will carry out his analyzes, communicating the results to the managers through reports. In this way, in the event that the number of products discarded because expired is high, it will be the responsibility of the manager to reduce the quantities of raw materials purchased from the different suppliers. Furthermore, each product is characterized by a minimum quantity of stock in the warehouse. In the event that the number of products discarded is high, the manager will proceed with the decrease of this minimum quantity in stock, in such a way as to minimize losses. In the opposite case in which the number of orders is very high, it is possible that the quantities of some products are zeroed. In this scenario, the figure of the seller will be responsible for communicating this deficiency through a report to the managers. **The latter will modify the contract with the suppliers linked to the production of these products, increasing the quantity to be purchased.** Furthermore, the seller will

be responsible for managing the relationship with the customer, proposing either to wait for new products to be made and then make a single order or to buy what remains in the warehouse and later make a second order. **However, it is important to underline that the stock inside the warehouse will be periodically checked by the data analyst, in order to make up for any quantity shortages of some products.** In both cases, therefore, the figure of the manager is of primary importance. In fact, it is he who, by decreasing or increasing (according to company policies) the quantities of raw materials purchased by suppliers, positively affects the total profit of the company. Furthermore, the data analyst, by inspecting the database, is able to provide order trends based, for example, on the status of the order. He will then be able to provide managers with sales trends within a certain period of interest, so that they can carry out market analyses.

The figure of the seller is important as well as it is the one who relates to the customer. In fact, he is in charge of interfacing with the customer **and receiving the different orders. Before placing the order in the system (database), the seller will have the task of checking the actual stock of the products concerned.** As explained above, he is in close contact with the manager to make up for any shortcomings. Assuming that the quantity of stock in question is sufficient, the seller will create a new order within the database. **Each order will be identified by a status**, with which it is monitored throughout the production and shipping cycle. Once the order is confirmed, the customer has a limited period (established following the company policies) to make the payment through an external payment system. **If the customer proceeds with the payment within the set period, the external system will notify the manager, the order will progress and the customer will receive a notification from the company containing the invoice.** In the event that the payment has not been made within this period, the order will be canceled. The company also offers the possibility to cancel the order only if the customer has not made the payment yet. If this happens, the order is marked as canceled. **If everything is successful, the manager takes care of creating (also in this case through an external shipping system) a new shipment, advancing the order status once again. By creating the shipment, the manager will receive a unique code, which will be communicated to the customer so that he can check in detail the status of the order.** In the event that the shipment is successful, the order will be considered successful. If, on the other hand, the package is lost or damaged, it will be the responsibility of the manager to manage the practice for the restoration to the company responsible for the transport, and then finally create a new order to be sent back to the customer.

A customer should be able to register to a website in order to search for products to buy, view and manage its orders, and to write reviews – made of a rating and some comments – about products. Upon registering, it must specify its name, contact details, and delivery address. The customer receives an invoice with all the details when it places an order and can track it with a dedicated tracking number provided when the shipment is assigned to the courier. The factory shall keep track of all the payments made by customers, along with information about what payment method has been used. To ensure small orders to be evaded in an efficient manner, some products can be produced in advance, which means that the inventory should have a little stock of them, acting as a "buffer". If instead an order requires more products than how many are already in stock, the first is held pending until the requested goods are manufactured and packaged for the shipping.

In the inventory, items are stored with name, relative quantity, and expiration date. In particular, when there is a shortage of one or more items, the supplier providing it will be immediately notified with an automatic e-mail. Also, when a product is manufactured but has not been purchased yet, it should be stored in the inventory as well, with name, quantity, and expiration date. When a shipment that contains a specific product leaves the factory, the latter must be deleted from the inventory. Of course, products – as well as items – that are expired, must be removed from the inventory as soon as possible

and disposed of, as they cannot be sold anymore.

Filtered Sentences

A manufacturing company needs a database to manage the overall inventories of the organization from the delivery of supplies to the production of goods and up to shipment of items. The objective of the company is to develop an Inventory Management System. There are four types of employee:

- manager, which handles suppliers and contracts stipulated with them

- salesman, that deals with customers and orders made by them, and payments

- data analyst, which performs analyses and predictions based on the collected system data

- worker, that is responsible for managing the inventory, shipments, generating invoices, and manufacturing products

Each employee is defined as: name, surname, e-mail address, phone number, department, and role.
Suppliers are registered in the system with name and contact details, along with the relative contract. The latter is described by:

- type of contract (joint venture, partnership, collaboration-type network agreement, and network contract for joint operation)

- monetary agreement

- the items the supplier is committed to provide

- quantity of items expected to be provided by the supplier

Also customers are registered in the platform with name and contact details. They can make orders, which are characterized by:

- a timestamp, stating in which day, month, year, and at which time the order was issued

- products requested and their quantity

Term Glossary

Term	Description	Synonyms	Connection
Inventory	An ordered collection of items, with relative quantities, present in the warehouse	Stock	Item, Order, Product
Item	The ingredients needed for the manufacturing of final products	Ingredient	Inventory, Product

Order	Set of products that a customer wants to buy		Invoice, Inventory
Product	The final good to sell to customers	Merchandise	Item, Inventory
Invoice	Commercial document issued to customers	Bill	Order, Customer
Customer	A customer who buys the products	Company, Client, Buyer	Invoice, Employee
Employee	A generic employee of the factory	Worker, Staff member	Customer, Role, Department, Manager, Salesman, Data Analyst, System Administrator, Worker
Role	The role that an employee can have		Employee
Manager	Company worker that manages suppliers and contracts		Supplier, Product, Item, Inventory, Contract
Salesman	Worker of the company that deal with customers and orders		Customer, Order, Inventory
Data Analyst	Business operator who accesses the data to be analyzed and performs the analysis		Customer, Order, Item, Product, Inventory, Manager
System Administrator	Administrator of the system who manages the roles of different users		Employee
Worker	Generic company worker who performs other tasks		Employee
Department	The sector of the company in which one or more employees work	Division, Branch, Sector	Employee
Supplier	A company that supplies the items		Product, Item, Manager, Contract
Contract	Agreement made between the factory and a supplier	Deal, Arrangement, Agreement	Manager, Item, Product

Table 2: The terms of the system

Functional Requirements

An organization must have an Inventory Management System to properly track inventory levels, orders, sales and deliveries. In order to achieve this the system should be able to execute the following,

- The system will be able to store all the details of the employees, customers and suppliers in the organization

- The system allows the employees to update their personal information

- The system must store the details of all on-hand products in the warehouse such as item code, item description, quantity and expiration date

- It will allow the employees to log into the system and enter the inbound items they received with information item code, item description, quantity, expiration date and supplier.

- The system must allow the employees to view the list of inbound transactions

- It allows the employees to log into the system and enter the outbound transaction needed for the issuance of the products in the production and shipment to the customers

- The system allows the employees to view the list of outbound transactions

- Inventory stocks will be automatically updated whenever there is an inbound or outbound transactions

- It allows the employees to generate the list of inbound and outbound transactions

- The system must allow employees to view current inventory balance

- The database receives and processes the Customers' order, specifying which products they want and respective quantity

- Modification or cancellation of an order will also be allowed in the database

- The system allows users to view order and shipment status of finished products

- It generates invoice whenever payment has been made

Non Functional Requirements

Constraints

The Database Management System application should satisfy the following additional constraints:

- Be implemented to run on Windows operating system;

- Be implemented with PostgreSQL;

- Client side implemented as a Web application, to guarantee easy management through different devices (Html, css and javascript will be used);

- Server side implemented using Tomcat, java servlet, and REST web service.