

SECP1013-08
TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION
SYSTEM





## SYSTEM ANALYSTS & DESIGNER

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### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Describe the six phases of the systems life cycle.
- Identify information needs and formulate possible solutions.
- Analyze existing information systems and evaluate the feasibility of alternative systems.
- Identify, acquire, and test new system software and hardware.
- Switch from an existing information system to a new one with minimal risk.
- Perform system audits and periodic evaluations.
- Describe prototyping and rapid applications development.

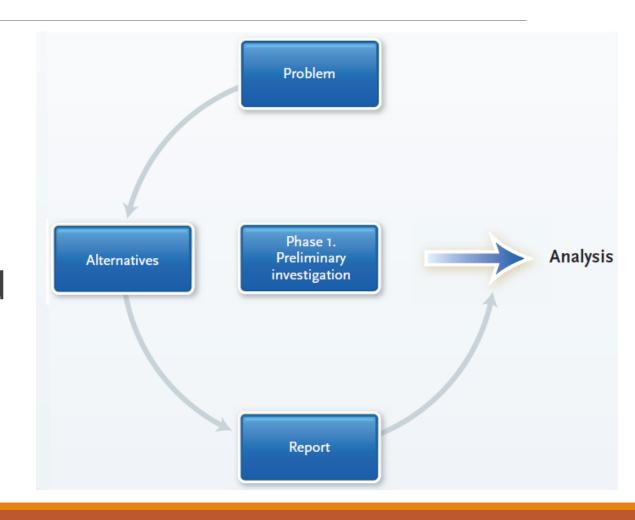
## SYSTEM ANALYSIS AND DESIGN

A system is a <u>collection of</u> <u>activities</u> and elements organized to accomplish a goal. Systems analysis and design is a <u>six-phase problem-solving procedure</u> that makes up the systems life cycle.



## PHASE 1: PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

The preliminary investigation determines the need for a new information system. It is typically requested by an end user or a manager. Three tasks are performed during this phase.



## PHASE 1: PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

#### **Defining the Problem**

The current information system is examined to determine who needs what information, when the information is needed, and why it is needed.

### **Suggesting Alternative Systems**

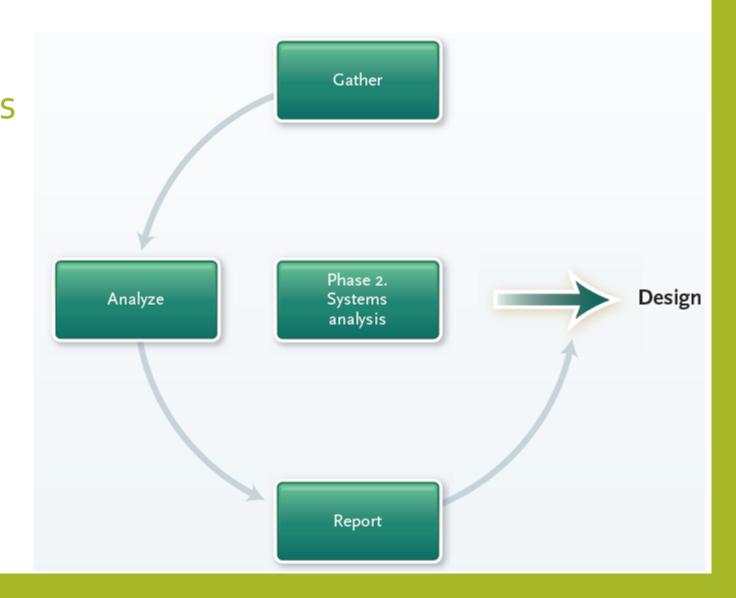
Some possible alternative systems are suggested. Based on interviews and observations made in defining the problem, alternative information systems are identified.

### **Preparing a Short Report**

To document and communicate the findings of Phase 1, preliminary investigation, a short report is prepared and presented to management.

## PHASE 2: SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

Data is collected about the present system. The focus is on determining the requirements for a new system. Three tasks of this phase are gathering data, analyzing the data, and documenting the analysis.



## PHASE 2: SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

### **Analyzing Data**

### **Gathering Data**

Via observation, interviews, questionnaires, and looking at documents. One helpful document is the organization chart, which shows a company's levels of management.

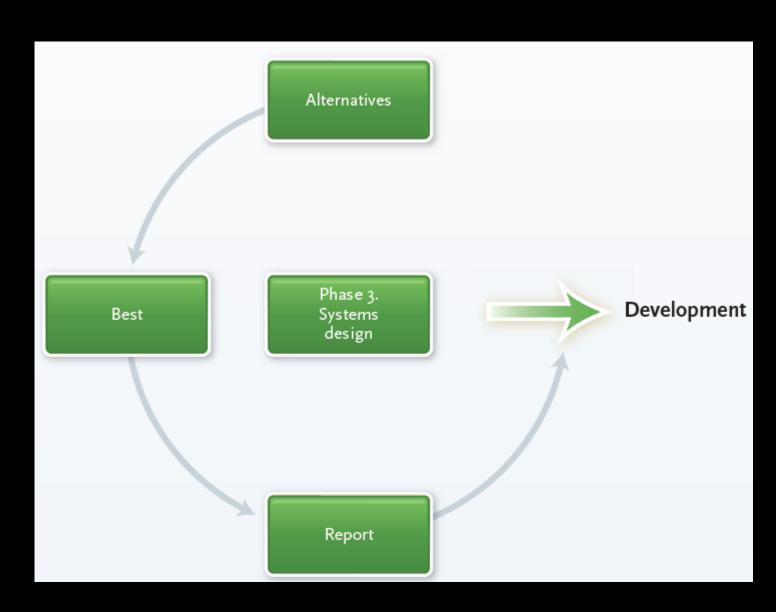
Top-down analysis, grid charts, and system flowcharts.

### Documenting System Analysis

To document and communicate the findings of Phase 2, a systems analysis report is prepared for higher management.

## PHASE 3: SYSTEMS DESIGN

• In the systems design phase, a new or alternative information system is designed. This phase consists of three tasks.



## PHASE 3: SYSTEMS DESIGN



- Economic feasibility
   cost versus benefits
- Technical feasibility hardware and software reliability
- Operational feasibility—will the system work within the organization?



Best System

Selecting

# Will the system fit into an overall information system? Will the system be

- Will the system be flexible enough to be modified as needed in the future?
- Will it be secure against unauthorized use?
- Will the system's benefits exceed its costs?

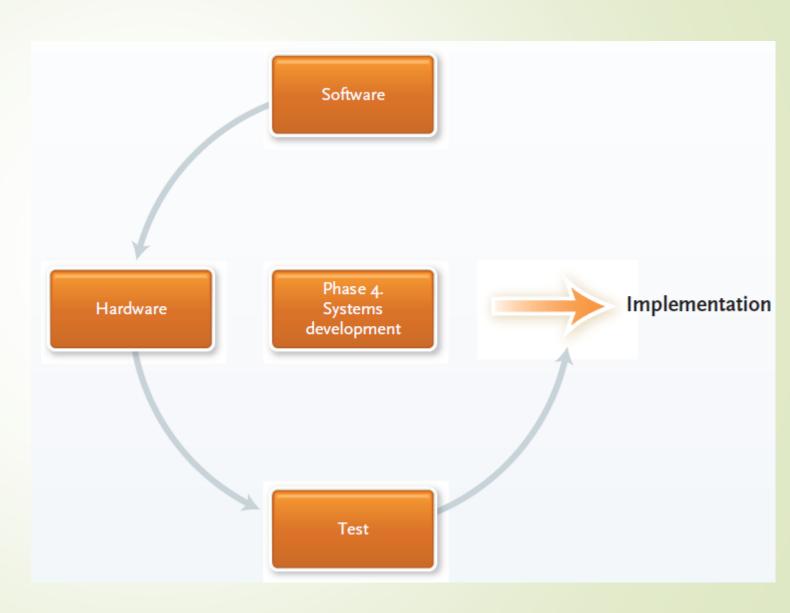


Report

• To document and communicate the findings of Phase 3, a systems design report is prepared for higher management.

## PHASE 4: SYSTEMS DEVELOPEMENT

In the systems development phase, software and hardware are acquired and tested.



## PHASE 4: SYSTEMS DEVELOPEMENT

### **Acquiring Software**

Purchasing off-the-shelf packaged software and designing custom programs.

### **Acquiring Hardware**

Consideration for future company growth, existing networks, communication capabilities, and training.

### Testing the New System

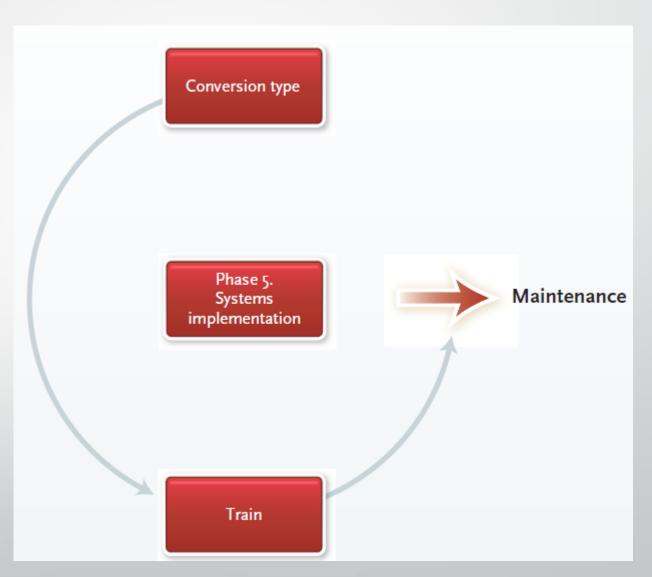
Using sample data, the new system is tested. This step can take several months for a complex system.



## PHASE 5: SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTATION

### Also known as conversion

- Converting from the old system to the new one
- Training people to use the new system
- Types of conversion approaches include:
- Direct
- Parallel
- Pilot
- Phased



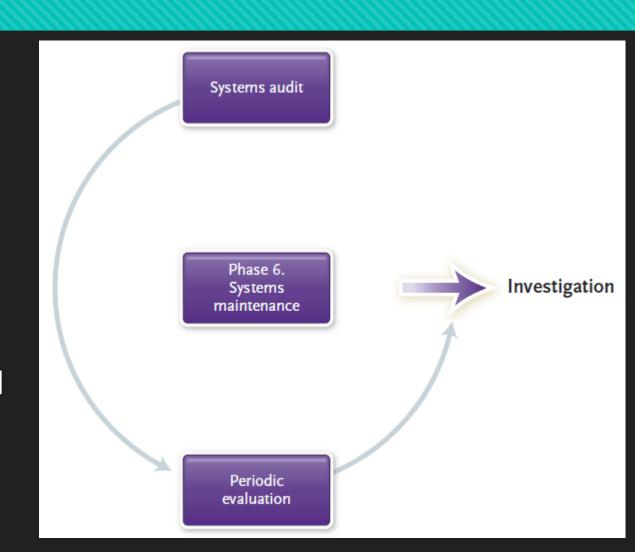
## PHASE 6: SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE

### Systems Audit

Once the system is operational, the systems analyst performs a systems audit by comparing the new system to its original design specifications.

### Periodic Evaluation

The new system is periodically evaluated to ensure that it is operating efficiently.



## Prototyping and Rapid Applications Development

### Prototyping

Build a model or prototype that can be modified before the actual system is installed. Typically, the development time for prototyping is shorter; however, it can be more difficult to manage the project and to control costs.

### Rapid Applications Development

Powerful development software, small specialized teams, and highly trained personnel. Typically, the development costs more. However, the time is much less and the quality is often better.

