

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

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Older credit cards are magnetic-strip cards. A magnetic-strip card has a strip of magnetically encoded data on its back. The encoded data might include name, account number, and PIN (personal identification number).

3.4. Choosing a secondary storage device

To choose a secondary storage device, we may consider the following:

- Manner of access supported by the device - is it direct or sequential and what does the operation need?
- Secondary storage medium storage capacity - how large is it and what does the application need?
- Durability: medium and data retention - if data were to be stored for long time, would it still retain it?
- Speed of access - data transfer rate. How fast can data be accessed and transferred to RAM?
- Availability of technical, hardware and software support - from suppliers
- Cost of the device acquisition and maintenance
- Data stored amenability to edit - can the data be edited, and is it necessary for the kind of data stored or the data are ready for archival storage?



3.5. Summary

In this lecture: We have looked at meaning of peripheral devices, and different classes of input and output devices, a clear distinction between soft copy and hardcopy outputs have been provided in this lecture. Looked at different devices features and their respective functions. Lastly we have discussed some of the devices used in secondary storage and reasons for choosing such secondary devices.



3.6. Learning Activity

1. Discuss the historical developments of printers.
2. Explain the current developments and applications of secondary storage devices.



3.7 References

1. O' Brien, J. A.: Management Information systems: Managing Information Technology in the E-Business Enterprise (Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Company Limited, New Delhi, 2002).
2. Laudon, K.C. and Laudon, J. P.: Management Information Systems: Managing the Digital Firm (Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited, New Delhi, 2006).
3. Williams. B. K. and Sawyer, S. C: Using Information Technology: A Practical Introduction to Computer and Communications (Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. Ltd. New Delhi, 2003).



8.6. Learning Activity

1. Distinguish between information systems and information technology
2. Role of information technology in different departmental needs
3. Discuss barriers to use of information technology.



8.7. References

1. Laudon, K.C. and Laudon, J. P.: Management Information Systems: Managing the Digital Firm (Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited, New Delhi, 2006).
2. O'Brien, J. A.: Management Information systems: Managing Information Technology in the E-Business Enterprise (Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Company Limited, New Delhi, 2002).
3. O'Leary, T. J., Williams, B. K. and O'Leary, L. I.: Micro computing (Mitchell McGraw-Hill, New York, 1993).
4. Turban, E. and Mclean, E. and Withered: Information Technology for Management: Transforming Organizations in the Digital Economy, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Singapore, 2004).
5. Williams, B. K. and Sawyer, S. C: Using Information Technology: A Practical Introduction to Computer and Communications (Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. Ltd., New Delhi, 2003).

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auditoriums in different locations (teleconferencing). Videoconferencing can also include white boarding and document sharing.

- **Discussion Forums.** Provide a computer network discussion platform to encourage and manage online text discussions over a period of time among members of special interest groups or project teams. *
- **Chat Systems.** Enable two or more users at networked PCs to carry on online, real-time text conversations.
- **Electronic Meeting Systems.** Using a meeting room with networked PCs, a large-screen projector, and EMS software to facilitate communication, collaboration, and group decision making in business meetings.

10.4.2. Collaborative Work Management Tools

Collaborative work management tools help people accomplish or manage joint work activities.

- *Calendaring and Scheduling.* Using electronic calendars and other groupware features to automatically schedule, notify, and remind the computer networked members of teams and workgroups of meetings, appointments, and other events.
- *Task and Project Management.* Managing team and workgroup projects by scheduling, tracking, and charting the completion status of tasks within a project.
- *Workflow Systems.* Help networked knowledge workers collaborate to accomplish and manage the flow of structured work tasks and electronic document processing within a business process.
- *Knowledge Management.* Organizing and sharing the diverse forms of business information created within an organization includes managing and providing personalized access to project and enterprise document libraries, discussion databases, hypermedia website databases, and other types of knowledge bases.

10.5. The internet and quality of service

The Internet services may be slow due to a number of reasons: the web server may be underpowered, supporting software may be poorly programmed, there may be too much traffic, and the connection may be too slow (e.g. slow modems and low capacity of communications channels used). As the Internet grows, a host of new demands arise. To cope with these demands, the Internet capacity needs to be increased. In addition, sensible and effective methods for traffic and controlling congestion are needed. An example of such a method is where packets may be dropped more or less at random to ease congestion though the Internet treats all packets equally.

10.5.1. Searching for information on the web

Locating information on the Web is a critical function given the hundreds of millions of Web sites in existence. The Internet is a voluntary, decentralized effort with no central hosting of participants or sites, let alone a hosting of the data located at those sites. So, a major problem is finding what you need from among the storehouses of data found in databases and libraries.