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BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Business information systems are sets of inter-related procedures using IT infrastructure in a business enterprise to generate and disseminate desired information.

Such systems are designed to support decision making by the people associated with the enterprise in the process of attainment of its objectives.

The business information system gets data and other resources of IT infrastructure as input from the environment and process them to satisfy the information needs of different entities associated with the business enterprise.

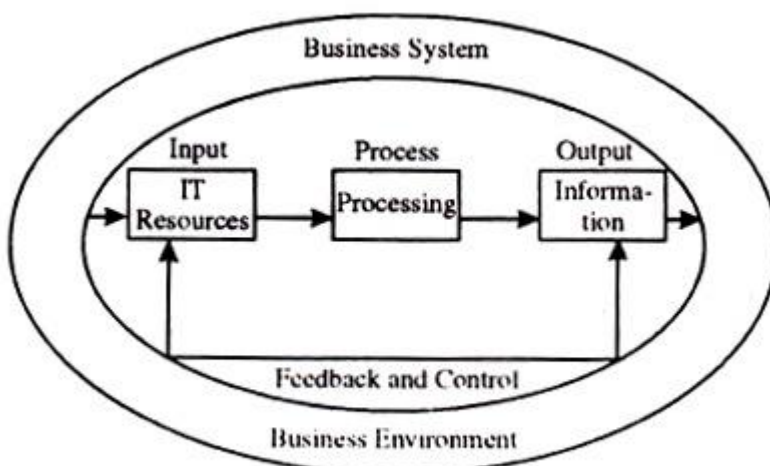


Fig. 13.7 Management Information System.

Key Components of Business Information System:

Information systems can be described by four of their key components which are:

1. Decisions
2. Transactions and processing

Business information systems **provide information that organizations use to manage themselves efficiently and effectively, typically using computer systems and technology**. Primary components of business information systems include hardware, software, data, procedures (design, development, and documentation) and people.

Contemporary Approaches to Information Systems



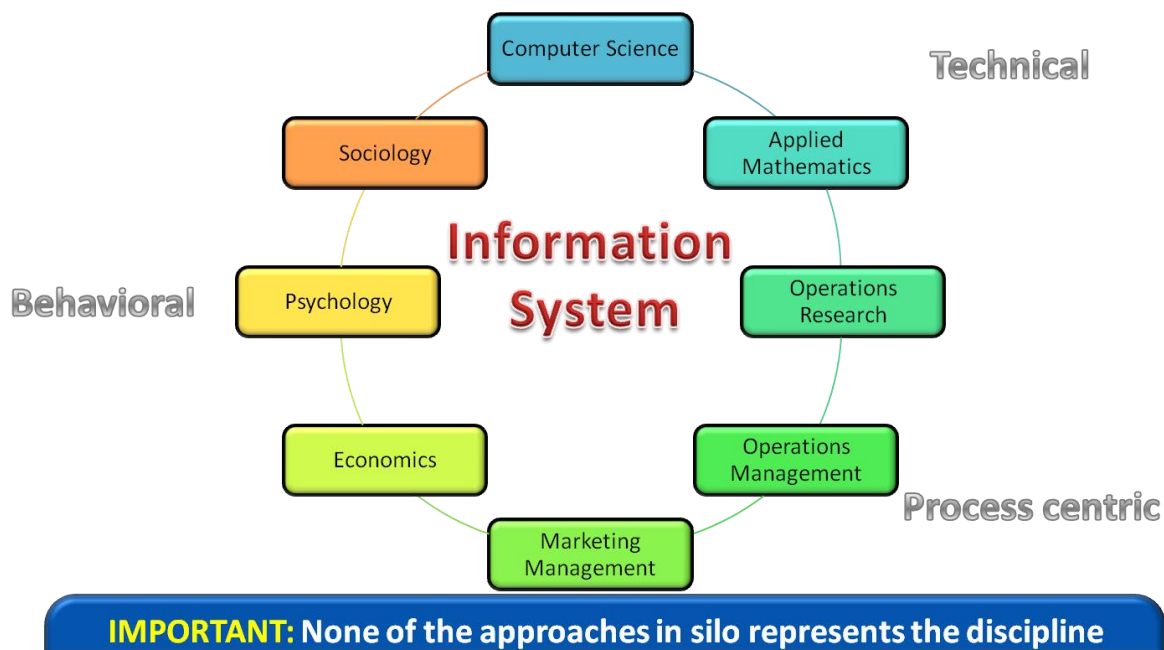
Information systems is an academic discipline of the complementary networks of hardware, software, users and business processes that organizations use to collect, filter, process, create and distribute data. Any specific **information system** aims to support planning, operations, management and decision making.

Contemporary approaches to understanding the domain of Information Systems interfaces a multi-disciplinary perspective. Essentially, in this lens, the usage of information technology is viewed through the lens of people, process and technology.

At a multi-disciplinary level, different theories are utilized to explore the different challenges within this domain. For example, theories of consumer behavior may be drawn from Marketing Management, while theories may also be drawn from Sociology and Psychology to understand the different ways and outcomes when people engage and interact with information systems to achieve any desirable (or not so desirable) outcome. Further theories of operations management, operations research and management science may be explored extensively to developed decision support systems and model the business processes effectively while adopting information systems, entirely from scratch or even to improve upon the existing systems. Again theories of economics may be used to explore the trade-offs of decision making associated with the use of information systems in

different context. One such area could be the exploration of how information technology affects the buyer supplier network structure (or even the markets and hierarchies) after its adoption by the different stake-holders. Similarly, how information assimilation affects the dynamics of competition and markets is an interesting domain which has been explored in information systems literature. Again, in these emerging days of Web 2.0 and Social Media, how ICTs facilitate the sharing of information (through viral Facebook and Twitter messages) and subsequently affect the society and polity, would cut through disciplines like consumer behavior, sociology and political science.

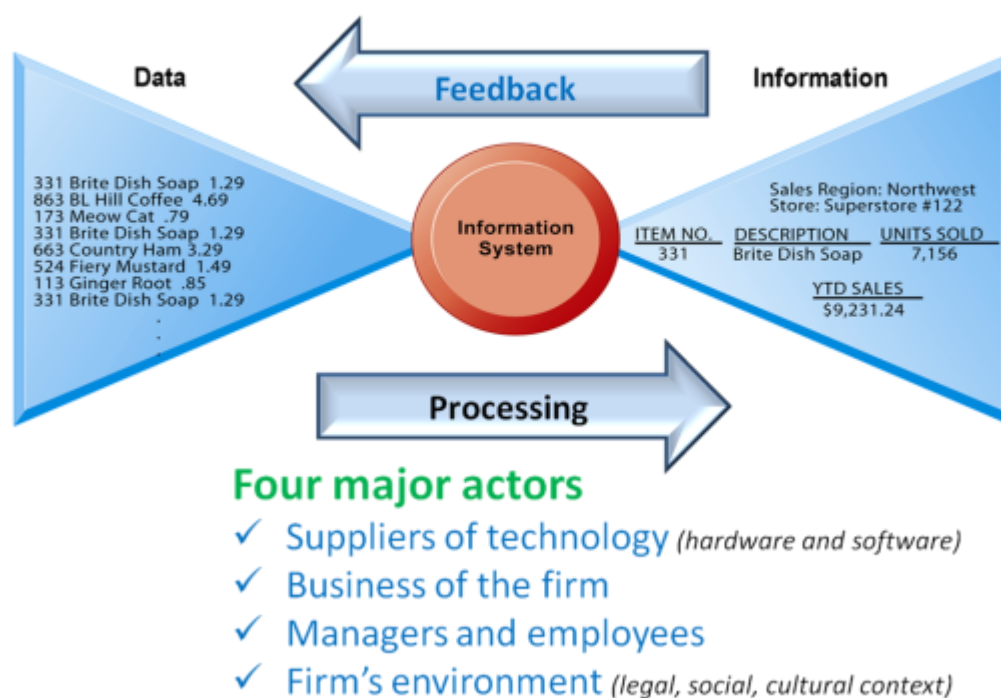
Inter-Disciplinary Perspectives in Information Systems



Essentially, while some limited version may look at Information systems as a perspective of a machine consuming some raw inputs (raw data) and converting it into an useful output (meaningful information or even knowledge), the discipline entails so much more from the perspective of different actors.

Some researchers of the domain clearly demarcate between information systems, computer systems (or the discipline of Information Technology), and business processes (Denoted by functions, workflows and routines from an Operations Management perspective). Information systems typically include an ICT component but are not purely concerned with ICT, focusing instead on the end use of information technology. Information systems are also different from business processes as it interfaces with the same and help to control the performance of business processes. To this effect, the three inter-disciplinary focus are very different and yet converge to create the unique discipline of Information Systems.

Raw data from a supermarket checkout counter can be processed and organized to produce meaningful information, such as the total unit sales of dish detergent or the total sales revenue from dish detergent for a specific store or sales territory.



CONCLUSION

The world has revolutionized in many areas. **The information system has helped the world grow and change for the better.** The revolution has helped the business sector in so many ways, more so the management which has been in the able to increase its efficiency of operations in so many ways. **The ability to understand the various business processes and create a link between the users or customers and the technology** is the primary role of the Information Systems Specialist. Various career opportunities exist in the field of Information Systems.

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