Foreword

Historically, managers in any organization have always used information to perform their tasks and duties as decision makers. The art of management is seen as making the best decision possible, given the incomplete nature of the underlying information. Recently, in the information industry, attention has shifted from administration, to helping executive, managers and professional to achieve the objectives of their organization.

Information Systems is the backbone and lifeblood of the organization. Today, most decision makers understand that Information Systems are crucial and have learned that it is practically impossible to manage their organizations without some knowledge of Information Systems. The state of Information Systems has improved significantly. It is well recognized both in practice and in literature that the capabilities of Information Systems presently offer management more choices in terms of alternatives than those previously available to organizations, and as a consequence, offer new options to the managers. However, the design, implementation and operation of Information Systems is a complex task, which required careful planning, commitment and involvement by appropriate managers and users.

This book explores a lot of fresh ground. It features an expansive, up-to-date survey of Information Systems and analytical approaches, plus collections of reading in profit and nonprofit organizations in developing and developed countries. The topics primarily add in-depth treatment to important areas in the field of Information Systems and also emphasize applications and illustrations of how particular organizations have used Information Systems concepts and tools to their advantage.


The book is intended for two audiences: first, academics, senior-level and MBA students taking a course in Information Systems and, second, practitioners in staying abreast of the fast-moving practices of Information Systems. It can also be used in conjunction with one of several Information Systems casebooks.
We have learned much from the experience of the business organizations over the recent past. Yet, in our content, especially in many exhibits, we still seek a balance of theory and practice, as well as between research findings and models.

The book you are holding is a valuable tool. The author approaches a far-reaching, complicated collection of Information Systems subjects in a truly inspiring way. It is filled with a map for the road ahead.

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