

Requirements Documentation

Due: Friday 11/16/07 by 3pm in ERC 536

The purpose of the Requirements Documentation is to establish an agreement about what the project is to accomplish. It provides a baseline for validation and verification, and it should reduce the development effort by avoiding omissions, misunderstandings, and inconsistencies early in the design lifecycle. All items in the Requirements Documentation should be consistent with other documentation (design diagrams, task lists, timelines, etc.) but it should be readable as a stand-alone document.

The sections of the Requirements Documentation should include the following:

1. Scope

- a. Identify the product, system, or project by name.
- b. Identify team members and faculty advisor.
- c. Describe the benefits, objectives, and goals of the project.
- d. Explain what the project will and will not do.

2. Project Perspective

Place the project in perspective with other related projects. If the project is independent and totally self-contained, it should be stated here. If the project is part of a larger project, then this section should relate the requirements or description of the larger project to the functionality of this project, and identify the interfaces or connections between the two.

3. Project Functions

Summarize the major functions of the project in a manner that is understandable to someone reading this document for the first time.

4. User Characteristics

Describe the intended users of the project.

5. Specific Requirements

Give the functional requirements of all fundamental actions that must take place in the system or project. These include descriptions of valid inputs, expected outputs, exact sequencing of operations, responses to abnormal situations, validity checks, effects of parameters, and processing. It may be appropriate to partition the specific requirements based on the project functions described above.

6. Definitions, Acronyms and Abbreviations

All definitions, acronyms and abbreviations needed to understand the project should be provided here.

7. References

References, if any, should be given here.