

.NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION: APRIL 2009

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS CAC 4104

TIME ALLOWED 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

The paper is divided into two sections:

SECTION A: -Answer all three questions

SECTION B: - Answer any one question only

| <u>QUESTION:</u> | <u>TOPIC</u> | <u>MARKS</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | OFF THE SHELF PACKAGE | 20 |
| 2. | PROJECT MANAGEMENT | 20 |
| 3. | INFORMATION MANAGEMENT | 40 |
| 4. | SYSTEMS EVALUATION | 20 |
| 5. | TYPES OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS | 20 |

SECTION A

QUESTION 1:

BATANAI Pvt Ltd

The choice to develop a purpose written application software system or to purchase a ready written package is one that faces all company executives with responsibility for Information System strategy.

You are required to discuss the strategic issues involved in the choice of software development at BATANAI Pvt (Ltd) (20marks)

QUESTION 2

John graduated from NUST in 2007 and setup a consultancy firm which specializes in business system development, project management and auditing. Due to the good performance of his firm he got a contract with a local NGO to run workshops on systems building tools and techniques, basic project management skills.

You are required to elaborate on various systems building tools and techniques, project management controls tools to be covered in the workshop (20 marks)

QUESTION 3

VIMBAI Consultancy Company helps organizations in the implementation of IT systems. On a client project the staff from the company will review the use of IT within an organization, identify how staff should be using the IT systems obtain information about the proposed IT systems and then ensure that the revised IT system meet the requirements of the user. As management accountant some of the responsibilities are ensuring the information systems of the company support its strategic direction by advising the board of any changes that affect overall company strategy. The board has recognized that growth in its existing market was limited and needed some diversification to meet the objectives of sales and profit growth. An intranet which provides database for technical information, bulletin boards, electronic mail and customer contact information is in place. Intranet is used more frequently by the management accountant to attend to queries, check information on technical database and bulletin boards. The accountant also receives information from professional staff who visits client organizations in the form of verbal queries and written reports, journals specializing in IT systems, administration staff that produces client proposals for review prior to sending out consultants to potential clients, internet, and competitor websites which are reviewed on a daily basis by the accountant. Your first project is to provide a report to the board summarizing the company's current strategic situation compare to its major competitors and suggesting alternatives strategies for diversification.

You are required as the management accountant:

- (a) Briefly explain the concept of information overload, explain how you would refine the information system in the company to limit the amount of information being delivered to you. (15 marks)**
- (b) Evaluate the characteristics that apply to the information being given to the management accountant to ensure accuracy (25 marks)**

SECTION B

(Answer one question only)

QUESTION 4:

Mai Maria acquired a chain of supermarkets in Gweru and would like to centralize the management of the stores by implementing a modern computerized system like point of sale system with linkages to the central computer. The stores are currently using stand alone computer systems. She approached Tinos to help her operate a more user friendly centralized computerized system for her business.

You are required to advise Tinos:

- (a) On the evaluation of various approaches to the system changeover , stating the advantages and disadvantages of each (10 marks)**
- (b) State how the system might be evaluated after operating for three months (10 marks)**

QUESTION 5:

State the seven types of information system and elaborate on their features giving relevant examples for each. Support your answer with the Anthony Hierarchy diagram. (20 marks)

END OF PAPER

GOOD LUCK