UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge International Diploma in Management
Higher Professional Level

INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT
4184/01
4260/01

Core Module

Valid between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2004

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

You should read the assignment carefully

It is important to complete the **Assignment Cover Sheet** when you have finished your work. You must complete the details and sign the declaration to confirm that the assignment is all your own work and your tutor must sign to verify that it is your own work.

The length of the assignment must be between 3000 and 4000 words.

This document consists of **3** printed pages.

Higher Professional Diploma Module 4184/4260

Information Systems Management - Core Module

Title: Information as a Business Resource

The assignment should be prepared in the form of a professional consultancy document that could be presented to the senior management of the organisation that the candidate works for. Candidates should **not** answer each section separately but rather present a coherent report encompassing all of the tasks given below.

Candidates are expected to draw on appropriate research, breadth of academic reading, application of theory to practice and presentation skills. The report should use the number of words as given on the front cover and have any necessary supplementary information attached in appendices.

1.   Within all organisations, the management of information is important. Using your own department or a project you are working on, identify the following:

- The information requirement

- The sources of this information and how it should be gathered

- How information is recorded and stored.

- How information sources and systems are evaluated

Summarise your finding, including a description of the following:

- How information technology is currently used in the information gathering, evaluation and storage process

- How the information management system operates.

Evaluate the effectiveness of the current information systems in meeting business objectives.

2.   Using a range of sources, both internal and external to the organisation, research other relevant information systems that are IT-based.

From your evaluation and research, identify improvements that could be made to the current information management system. Include comments on the information flow through the system, the IT components that are involved and the operation of the system. Describe the benefits to be gained from the improvements suggested.

3.   Conduct a cost-benefit analysis on your suggested improvements to the management information system.

4.   Write a summary report describing how the organisation is dependent on an effective management information system, the effectiveness of the current system, options for change that you have identified and any recommendations for improvement to the present system or the way it is operated.

You must include in your assignment all documentation, notes and materials generated from each stage as shown above, as well as the summaries required.

You are not expected to include confidential material on your organisation, its personnel or performance.

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