

ANATOMY OF A REQUIREMENT

The fields/structure presented should be considered the minimum required. Organisation/Project specific fields/structures are likely to be required.

ID	Title	Originator	Description	Acceptance Criteria	Verification Criteria	Priority
ABC-Cust-001	Football for Tournament	A.N.Originator	In time for the Software Engineer's Football Tournament, a supplier shall be able to manufacture and deliver 20 (twenty) competition standard footballs	ABC-001-AC01 The supplier shall be able to deliver 20 (twenty) identical footballs ABC-001-AC02 The supplier shall be able to deliver footballs that meet FIFA competition standard specification (ref XYZ) ABC-001-AC03 The supplier shall provide footballs that are plain white with only the manufacture's and tournament's logos embossed ABC-001-AC04 The supplier shall provide footballs that are individually boxed ABC-001-AC05 The supplier shall deliver all merchandise no later than two weeks prior to the tournament start	ABC-001-TC01 A representative of the post room shall check the consignment and shall only accept the delivery if all 20 (twenty) footballs are present ABC-001-TC02 Ground staff shall inflate each ball to match pressures. ABC-001-TC03 Tournament board members shall inspect each football against the stated acceptance criteria within 2 working days of receipt of balls ABC-001-TC04 Failure of any test criteria shall result in the consignment being rejected.	Must

<project id>-<requirement type>- Sequential Id

Unique identifier for the requirement. Size the numeric part to meet the number of requirements

Pithy recognisable title. Useful when reading through the requirements set.

Description in language recognisable by the originator (could also be a role)

How are we going to check that the requirement (via acceptance criteria) has been met?

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What is the criteria upon which we will accept the requirement
 Specific - What, why, who, where, which
 Measurable - Is quantifiable
 Attainable - Is realistic
 Relevant - Is consistent with the subject matter
 Time Bounded - Has an end or duration

Warning: This document does not cover Verification of requirements which should be treated as equally important subject matter.

Created On	Quality Indicators					Logical Subgrouping	Requirement Type	Cross Reference	Review log	Stability
	Specific	Measurable	Attainable	Relevant	Time-bounded					
19/10/13	✓	✓		✓	✓	Pitch Equipment	Functional		20/10/13 Reviewed with tournament organisers	In Validation

A requirement may not be SMART when first recorded. Flags to provide metrics on current quality state of the requirement

Functional - The desired behavior
Quality - Non functional requirements e.g. performance
Constraint - Limits the solution further beyond functional and Quality requirements

Link to higher and lower level statements which discuss the requirement further/ provide more information or context (e.g. customer requirement to system requirement system requirement to work package)

Detailed log of the review history of the requirement. e.g. who asked for what change when

E.g. Unvalidated, In Validation, validated, in correction, erroneous

If you are not using a requirements management tool you may need additional fields to hold revision information (e.g. who changed what and when)

"Hunting the value" (Chris Matts)
 In order to + <received benefit> + as a + <role> + I Want + <goal/desire>
 In order to hold the Tournament, as an organiser, I want the tournament specification footballs

The Five Ws
 As + <who> + <when> + <where> + I Need / I Want + <the want> + because + <why>
 As the organiser for the Tournament held at Ashton Court, I need tournament specification footballs in order to comply with FIFA tournament regulations

Structure Natural Language
 <When time/condition> + The System + Shall / Should / Will + be able to <process> / Provide <whom> with the ability to <process> + Object + Additional object detail

BDD Style Acceptance Criteria
 Given + <context> + When + <event> + Then + <outcome>
 Given the referee has started the match, when a goal is scored, then the player must put his head in his/her shirt

Metrics
 Metrics are an important aspect of requirements management. Metrics must cover both sides of the V model

How SMART are we?



State of Requirements



"About the author"
 With over 20 years in the IT industry, **Stefan Brittain** is currently a Senior Manager and lean development proponent at a leading UK defence company. Stefan holds certifications in PRINCE2, ITIL and TOGAFv9.
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Use of English

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