

Describe the effect of an organization's strategic planning on the IT systems it uses. Address how strategic planning simplifies and complicates IT system development and use.

Strategic planning is where an organization defines missions and goals and sets up its businesses and services to achieve them, keeping the organization viable. It is a plan to prepare for the future, being proactive instead of reactive, having both short and long range goals. IT systems support strategic planning and are critical to any strategic plan. It begins with top management assessing the needs of the business and its customers as well as making decisions on what their own system can support. An organization needs to decide what processes to keep in house and which to outsource, and whether there needs to be changes made in the current IT system. It's important for top management to work with the IT division to align the business strategy with the IT system.

Alignment is the key to whether applying a strategic plan will be complicated or not. If the strategic plan is in harmony with the IT system, many problems can be avoided such as: loss of investment made in the IT system, failure to meet client needs, failure to meet organizational goals, and even complete abandonment of an IT system. Continuing alignment should become part of the maintenance regimen to insure the efficiency of the IT system in the future.

Response 2

Strategic planning for an organization is very important. These types of planning really can affect the success of your organization. One great part of planning is trying to figure a good time to deploy this new system to the organization. Planning is totally different if it is a new system or a system that is replacing an existing system. If there is an existing system you have to make a plan to deploy without disrupting your organization with down time during transition. Then on the other hand you have to schedule training if this is a new system that is being installed. This has to be strategically done to ensure that you have ample time to get everyone properly trained without neglecting day-to-day activities. This planning phase is key and instrumental on the success of deploying a business system. You also have to plan for maintenance also. A bad plan can cause for a personnel to stop believe in the system or any future systems that your company will try to develop in the future.