



LRAD Commercial Framework for Teaching Systems Analysis and Design

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ABSTRACT

The Lightweight Rapid Application Development (LRAD) framework is to be used to train students to select commercially appropriate methods and tools according to the project type.

The first year textbooks that are widely used at university level for Systems Analysis and Design generally take a hierarchical and formal view of Systems Analysis and Design. The approach in these textbooks is rigid when applied by students with minimal experience ie students undertaking an industry-based IT project to complete their degree. Students often do not adopt the methodologies used in a commercial environment. In our experience, most students do not understand that different methodologies are appropriate in different project circumstances, and that often what is appropriate in one instance may be inappropriate in another. The current organisation of most first year general textbooks is based on theory, and organised according to techniques and tools, as opposed to situations.

We have established that there is a real need for a scalable and flexible model framework for teaching Analysis and Design presented in a Southern Hemisphere based textbook, the organisation of which should be based around types of commercial projects, rather than an isolated view of methods and tools. The aim of this textbook would be to train students to recognise appropriate methods, tools and techniques based on the project type and project requirements and would introduce a lightweight rapid approach, LRAD, that

teaches students how to select the correct methodology for a project. The approach would include a wide variety of methods but would focus primarily on:

- ◆ process based modelling techniques for analysing e-business and e-commerce projects
- ◆ graphical based modelling techniques for analysing internet, intranet and extranet projects
- ◆ graphical based modelling techniques for multimedia and design based projects
- ◆ knowledge design techniques for development of databases and data warehouses.

The textbook would be supported by a number of real life Southern Hemisphere case studies and teaching resources.

