Week 5 Assignment Instructions

# Intermediate Strategic IS Plan

For this assignment, you will construct a 3-page intermediate strategic IS plan for Reynolds Tool & Die. You will create an outline detailing a comprehensive IT strategy (not just purchases) to support the upcoming merger and acquisition planned by the company. Your plan must address timelines, systems integration, and change management.

In this assignment, you will be leading the IT transition team and once the merger and acquisition are completed, you will serve as the senior IT manager for the new organization that has absorbed the aircraft part manufacturer. You will also be the person working with your counterpart in the joint venture with the company from Mexico, butyou will not have any managerial or supervisory role there. Assume the merger/transition announcement is made in the first quarter. Systems integration needs to start in the second quarter, and then must finish by November 30 in order tobe prepared forthe year-end accounting procedures.

Headings for your intermediate strategic information systems plan should include:

1. **Current Assessment of the Merger/Acquired Organization**

You’ll need to assess and analyze the IT operations and infrastructure of the organization you are about to merge with and/or acquire. This assessment should include hardware, software, and IT personnel. You should consider emerging technologies that are needed by that organization.

1. **IT Intermediate Strategic Plan**

Based on your assessment, you are to propose an intermediate strategic plan for systems and IT organization integrations. Address these questions:

* Which organization’s IT assets will become the primary enterprise IT solution, and why? Will you integrate the merger/acquisition target into your systems, or will the merger/acquisition IT platform become the primary solution? Your assessment should guide you in this decision.
* What will you need to perform the successful integration by theend of the third business quarter? Will you need outside integrators to assist? Will you need a supplemental budget for new hardware and software, as this merger probably wasn’t included in the annual budget? How involved will the merger/acquisition IT organization be involved in the integration, and will you retain their present IT management structure to lead them?

1. **End of Plan and Change Management**

An intermediate strategic plan is analogous to a project in that it has a finite life span. Address how you will wrap up the integration; specifically, what your new IT organization structure will look like, how you will deliver services to the new company, and what change management processes you will employ to deliver those services and address cultural changes and potential conflict within the new organization. Remember, there will be new users who will need to learn entirely new processes and tools as the new company moves forward.

Include at least one additional reference in addition to the class text for this assignment.