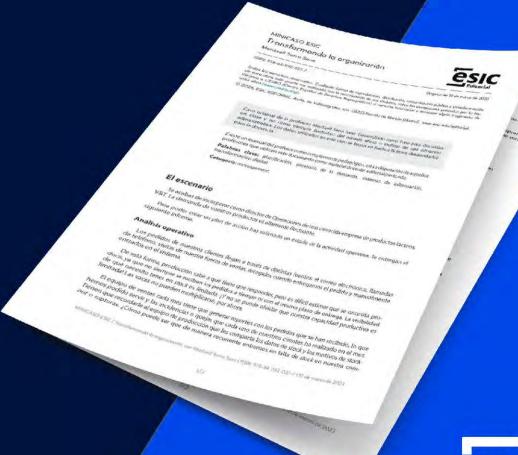
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Architecture of Information Technology

Luis F. Toro Dupouy



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Original case by Professor **Luis F. Toro Dupouy**. Developed to carry out a role-play dynamic that allows for understanding the differences between centralized and decentralized information systems and their advantages and disadvantages for different types of organizations. Other than the companies' profiles, the data used in this case is based on fictitious facts created for teaching purposes.

A teacher's manual is available as a pedagogical supplement for teachers who use this document as teaching material: editorial@esic.edu

Key words: IT organizational structure; centralized Information System (CIS); decentralized Information System (DIS); multinational corporations and procurement.

Category: Information Systems Management, Supply Chain Management, and Operations Management.

Company Profile: Airbus

Airbus SE is a leading European multinational aerospace corporation, headquartered in Leiden, Netherlands, and with its main facilities in Toulouse, France. Established in 1970, Airbus has grown to become one of the world's largest manufacturers of aircraft, helicopters, and defense equipment. The company operates in three primary divisions: Commercial Aircraft, Defense and Space, and Helicopters. Airbus is known for its innovative approach to aircraft design and engineering, such as the A320, A350, and A380 models, which have revolutionized air travel globally. The company employs over 130,000 people and serves clients across 180 countries.

Airbus's mission is to be the leader in aerospace innovation, providing sustainable and efficient solutions for the commercial, defense, and space markets. Its corporate culture promotes safety, sustainability, and innovation, emphasizing collaboration and a global mindset. Airbus is also heavily invested in environmental stewardship, aiming to reduce carbon emissions and drive forward cleaner aviation technologies.

Procurement Scenario: Centralized vs. Decentralized Information System

Scenario Overview

Airbus is seeking to implement a new information system that aligns with its growing business complexity and need for efficiency. Given the company's size, international reach, and multiple divisions, Airbus must decide whether to procure solutions for a Centralized Information System or a Decentralized Information System. This decision will impact how data, communications, and operations are managed across