Examples for the use–based reading scenario

Use–based Reading

Define the set of functions that a user of the system should be able to perform. Define the set of input objects necessary to perform each function, and the set of output objects that are generated by each function. This may be viewed as writing down all operational scenarios or subsets of operational scenarios that the system should perform. Start with the most obvious or nominal scenarios, and proceed to the least common scenarios or special/contingency conditions. In doing so, ask yourself the following questions for each scenario:
Operational scenarios for a manager (m) and a clerk (c) are taken as examples:

1. Are all the functions necessary to write the operational scenario specified in the requirements or functional specifications (e.g., are all the capabilities listed in the general description specified)?
   Page 12/13 (m): There is no functional requirement that describes how to get into the managers' state.

2. Are the initial conditions for starting up the operational scenario clear and correct?
   Page 7 (m): Functional requirement 1: The main menu specified for the initial state lists only clerk functions. How manager functions are to be accessed is not clear.

3. Are the interfaces between functions well-defined and compatible (e.g., do the inputs of one function link to the outputs of the previous function)?
   Page 9 (c): Functional requirement 6: It is not specified that the account number must be entered before the tape bar codes.

4. Can you get into a state of the system that must be avoided (e.g. for reasons of safety or security)?
   Page 9 (c): Since a functional requirement is missing for canceling transactions, the system can get into a state where incorrect information has been entered and cannot be cleared.

5. Might some portion of the operational scenario give different answers depending on how a requirement/functional specification is interpreted?
   Page 10 (m): Functional requirement 10: What 'updating' should mean in this context for the different files is never specified.

6. Does the requirement/functional specification make sense from what you know about the application or from what is specified in the general description?
   Page 11 (c): Functional requirement 15: The general description specifies that a phone number is necessary for each customer, but the functional requirement for adding a new customer does not require a phone number to be entered.