

Introduction to Hospitality, Fourth Edition

After Reading and Studying This Chapter, You Should Be Able to:

- Identify the characteristics of information technology and information systems in the hospitality industry
- Identify the different types of information systems
- Differentiate between information technology use in hotels and restaurants
- Apply the importance of information systems to the hospitality industry
- Relate hospitality industry technology to management, such as property management systems

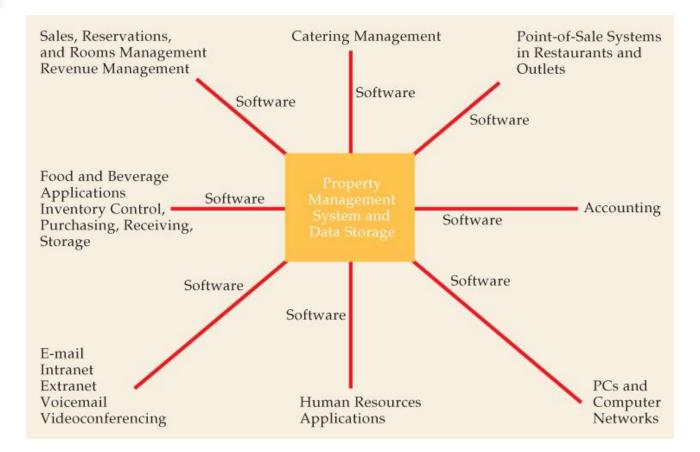
Hospitality Industry Systems (HIS) Defined

Collection of components that work together to provide information help in the operations and management of a hospitality organization.

Components of HIT

- Sales, reservations, rooms and revenue management
- F&B applications, inventory control, purchasing, receiving storage
- Email, intranet, extranet, voicemail, videoconferencing
- Human resource applications
- PCs and computer networks
- Accounting
- POS
- Catering management

Figure 18-1 Components of HIT



Information Technology Systems

- Work group information systems
 - LAN
 - WAN
- Email
- Organization information system
- Global/international information system



Hospitality Information Processing

- Data
- Information
- Information sharing
- Electronic data exchange

Property Management System (PMS)

- Hub of information processing
- Rooms management module
- Guest accounting module
- Ving cards system

Energy Management Systems

- Room occupancy status reporting
- Automatic lighting control
- Minibar access reporting
- Smoke detector alarm reporting
- Central electronic lock control
- Guest control amenities

Call Accounting Systems

- Track guest phone charges
- Available software application
- Coordination with PBX and PMS
- Discounts during off peak hours

Guest Reservation Systems

- Global distribution systems
- Central reservation systems (CRS)
 - Affiliate
 - Non-affiliate
 - Springer Miller Systems

Factors in Choosing a CRS

- Determine whether property is affiliate or non-affiliate
- Size and design of database
- Application service provider
- Web reservation system

Other HIT Services

- Billing of guests (rooming cycle)
- Security
- Guest comfort and convenience
- Video games and Internet



Sales and Marketing

- Database of customers
- Email
- Voicemail
- Internet
- Meeting Matrix



- Event management
- Software
 - Caterease
 - Delphi



Front of the House Systems in Restaurants

- Point of Sale (POS)
- Kitchen display systems
- Guest services solutions

POS Systems

- Central processing unit (CPU) interfacing with individual units
 - Acts as a cash register
 - Guest transactions
 - Sales and guest checks
- MICROS

Choosing and Implementing a POS

Contingents

- Size and type of operation
- Security issues
 - Guest identification verification
- Ease of training for manager and employees
- Compatible with financial applications
- Uses Microsoft Windows NT and SQL
- Scalable over time

Product Management

- Multiple costing methods
- Units and counting locations
- Maintains perpetual inventory balance
- Supports scheduled count
- Detailed recipe management
- Real-time depletion of inventory
- Batch recipes

Back of the House Systems

- Inventory and food costing
- Labor management
- Financial reporting



Beverage Management

Scanbar

- On-going, real-time inventory control
- Tamper-proof reliability interfaced the major POS systems
 - Bar coded label
 - Wine module
 - Keeps control of all wines by region, variety or vintage
 - Bar coded

AZ Bar America

Trends

- Online travel purchasing is rising dramatically
- Online reservation sites provide a place for independent restaurants to advertise and book reservations
- Customer relationship management
- Use of PDA's
- Hotels utilizing wireless connections

Change impact analysis (IA) is defined by Bohner and Arnold as "identifying the potential consequences of a change, or estimating what needs to be modified to accomplish a change", and they focus on IA in terms of scoping changes within the details of a design