Additional Resources for the Cases

Information systems are used in virtually every business today, as the part- and chapter-opening cases demonstrate. The World Wide Web offers a wealth of information on business and management issues. We have prepared this list of resources to help you get information on business opportunities. The list is by no means comprehensive, but it can help you build a foundation. The sites listed are related to the part- and chapter-opening cases in the text.

Note: Web URLs change frequently, so you may need to access the organization's home page and search from there if the links are not currently active.

Please view the below links for additional resources related to the part cases in your text.

Part 1: The Information Age
Part 2: Information Technology
Part 3: Electronic Commerce
Part 4: Managers and Information Systems
Part 5: Planning, Acquisition, and Controls

Part 1: The Information Age

For those who are interested in entrepreneurship and starting a business, as the Better Bites owners did, here are some sites with start-up and business planning information:

1. Open2.net – What makes an entrepreneur? The Open2 web site is an online learning portal from the Open University and the BBC. This page gives an insight in the characteristics of a successful entrepreneur.

2. Business Start-up advice from BusinessLink, a self-help portal of action-focused information for small and medium businesses, linking to all relevant ministries and departments.

3. Entrepreneur advice from Times Online. The site offers plenty of more general business advice too.

4. Shell LiveWIRE has over 25 years experience encouraging young people to start and develop their own business.

5. Start-up guides from the Royal Bank of Scotland.

For those of you who are interested in a career in the restaurant industry, the following sites can give you start:

1. The British Hospitality Association

2. The International Hotel & Restaurant Association

3. The International Food Information Council
   The International Food Information Council's Web site contains information on food safety and nutrition.

Part 2: Information Technology

Trent Courier Services is just one of a myriad of small service businesses. We have compiled these resources to provide information on small business, service businesses, and transportation companies.

1. http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/layer?topicId=1073861197&r.s=tl

    Businesslink.gov.uk is a UK government sponsored site which offers "clear, simple and trustworthy information" to help businesses comply with regulations and improve their performance. The URL above links specifically to advice on IT advice for small businesses

2. http://www.startups.co.uk/

    A useful site for budding entrepreneurs

3. http://www.bytestart.co.uk/

    A portal to plenty of resources for small businesses

4. http://www.microsoft.com/uk/smallbusiness/default.mspx

    Microsoft's small business centre

5. http://www.nasb.org.uk/

    The National Association of Small Businesses

6. IFBMA - Resources for Bike Messengers Worldwide
    Bike messenger services are usually small businesses, but they do have their own association-the International Federation of Bike Messenger Associations. The site's mission is to link messenger services worldwide to create an international community of messenger service providers.

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Part 3: Electronic Commerce

Sparebitz.com has developed into a significant Internet based company. There are many sites that can give useful advice on the technical, business and design aspects of ecommerce.

1. **Mal's E-Commerce**

Free E-Commerce Shopping Cart Software and advice

2. **osCommerce**

Open source E-commerce solutions

3. **freecom.net**

An Internet Service Provider for SMEs

4. **netnames.com**

Domain name registration and management

5. **webcredible**

10 ways to improve the usability of your ecommerce site

6. **stickyeyes**

A company that specialises in web site promotion and marketing

Part 4: Managers and Their Information Needs

Urban Scene is a fashion design, manufacturing, and retail business. For people who are interested in keeping up with news and trends in the global fashion industry, as Urban Scene managers must, here are two sites that can help.

1. Fashion Net
   The Fashion.net Web site contains links to information on selected fashion designers, fashion magazines, and fashion blogs.

2. European Fashion Network
   This Web site, dedicated to European fashion, previews upcoming lines from top European designers and provides links to trade shows, fashion schools, and industry news.

For would-be retailers, the Web offers several sites of interest.

1. Retail Technology Magazine

   Retail Technology magazine has news and advice on the use of technology in he retail industry

2. Retail Week

   Retail week – "the latest news, jobs, analysis and market data"

3. imrg - interactive media in retail group

The Interactive Media in Retail Group maintains a Web site dedicated to the global e-retailing industry. The Web site provides resources for users who want to secure their e-commerce site, locate e-commerce supplies, and study the latest industry statistics.

For those of you who may be interested in exploring management issues or careers, the Web offers a site for you.

1. American Management Association
   The American Management Association is an 80-year-old professional association whose mission is to provide a range of management development and educational services to individuals, companies, and government agencies worldwide. Aside from information about research, conferences, and books on management issues such as leadership, strategic planning, and training, the site offers online seminars and self-study programs. There are specific sites for Europe and the Middle East and the Asia-Pacific region

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Logistics and supply chain management are key to the success of any retail operation.

1. SupplyChainManagment.com

   A useful website of European supply chain management resources

Several sites compile information on global business. Here is just one that may be of interest.

1. [Ft.com](Ft.com)
   The *Financial Times* newspaper has an online site that profiles global business. The site also offers breaking news and in-depth reports on national economies. The site also offers a free 15-day trial subscription to its publication.

Part 5: Planning, Acquisition, and Controls

The travel industry has embraced the use of information technology, just as Worldwide Host has. Here are just two sites that are focused on technology's use in travel:

1. Sabre Holdings
   Sabre was one of the first airline reservations systems developed for travel agents. The company has now branched into several travel reservations and support areas: to the general public through its Travelocity site; to travel agents through its Sabre Travel Network; and to airline decision support, reservations, and departure control through its Sabre Airline Solutions system.

2. LastMinute.com
   A very successful web site for searching for cheap air fares, deals on hotel rooms etc.

For those interested in systems development and project management, here are three sites that may be helpful:

1. Project Management Institute
   The Project Management Institute is a leading not-for-profit professional organization dedicated to systems development project management. The organization also developed and maintains standards for managing development projects.

2. Association for Project Management
   The Association for Project Management is a leading European professional organization whose goals are to develop and promote excellence in project management.

Security is a constant concern for those who use, develop, and maintain information systems. Here are five sites related to security issues:

1. SC Security Magazine

   This magazine is aimed at professionals in IT security. The opening page allows you to link to the UK, US, Asian or Australian version of the magazine.

2. Security Pipeline
   InformationWeek offers a Web site that is focused on security issues. Readers will find late-breaking news on security problems and fixes, as well as a link to its magazine *Secure Enterprise*.

3. PGP Corporation
   Pretty Good Privacy Corporation is an organization that has developed systems and standards for secure electronic messaging and transactions on the Internet.