

Attachment 07 – Definitions

Key Characteristics and Functions:

- **Centralized Repository:**
Data warehouses act as a single source of truth for an organization, consolidating data from multiple sources.
- **Data Integration:**
They integrate data from various operational systems, databases, and external sources.
- **Data Transformation:**
Data is often transformed and cleaned before being loaded into the warehouse to ensure data quality and consistency.
- **Optimized for Analysis:**
Data warehouses are designed for efficient querying and analysis, allowing users to extract insights from large datasets.
- **Business Intelligence (BI):**
They are a core component of business intelligence, providing the foundation for reporting, data mining, and other analytical activities.
- **Historical Data:**
Data warehouses typically store both current and historical data, enabling trend analysis and long-term forecasting.
- **Data Access:**
Business analysts, data scientists, and other users can access the data through various tools and applications, such as SQL clients and BI applications.

Benefits of Using a Data Warehouse:

- **Improved Decision-Making:**
By providing a comprehensive and reliable view of data, data warehouses enable organizations to make more informed decisions.
- **Enhanced Reporting and Analysis:**
They facilitate the creation of reports, dashboards, and other analytical tools, allowing users to gain insights into their business data.
- **Data Consistency:**
Data warehouses ensure data consistency and accuracy by standardizing data formats and cleaning data before it is loaded.
- **Reduced Data Silos:**
They help break down data silos by providing a centralized repository for all data sources.
- **Scalability:**
Data warehouses are designed to handle large volumes of data and can be scaled to meet growing business needs.

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