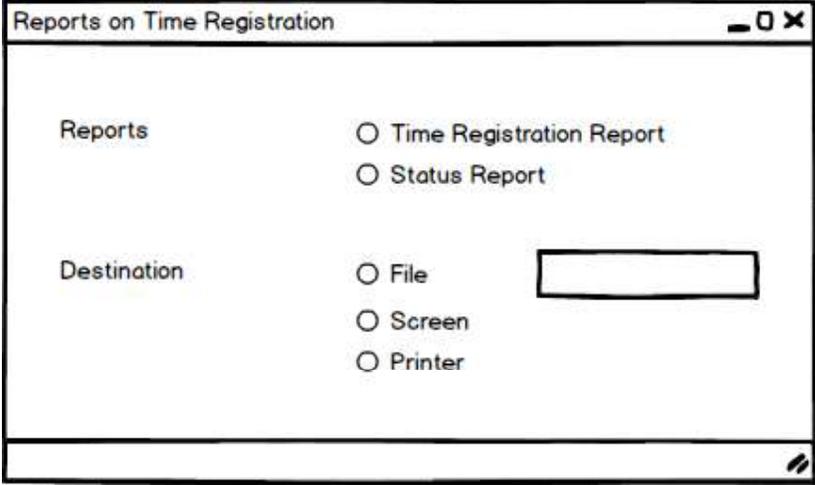


12 REPORTS ON DIFFERENT MEDIA

Problem description

Using the first selection screen on the following page, the user can make a selection from two kinds of reports (see the menu selection on the screen).



The *Time Registration Report* shows time registration data that has been entered, whereas the *Status Report* shows a list with the status of the time registration forms.

Also the destination should be entered on the screen.

As far as the layout and the attributes displayed are concerned, the *Time Registration Report* is exactly the same whether it is printed on paper, displayed on a screen, or exported to a file. The same is also true for the *Status Report*.

Is the report on paper a different external output than the one on screen or than the output to a file? How many external outputs are there? Is an external input counted for entering the destination?

How many external inputs should be counted here?

Discussion

The criterion used to determine the number of external outputs is that each external output must be unique. An external output is unique if no other external output exists with the same logical processing and with the same set of data element types for the application concerned.

The problem description above shows that the *Status Report* contains different information than the *Time Registration Report* so that two external outputs are present.

Additionally, the layout of the *Time Registration Report* in this example consists of the same set of data element types, regardless of the destination. The problem description does not indicate that there is a different logical processing for the different media to which the report can be sent. The *Time Registration Report* is therefore counted as one external output.

This also applies to the *Status Report*.

The data entered for the destination is control information. This data is used only for controlling where the output is sent. This means that no external input is involved.

Solution

Count two external outputs: one for the *Time Registration Report* and one for the *Status Report*.

The radio buttons for the destination and the field where a file name can be filled in must be counted as data element types when complexity is being determined.

References to the standard

4.15, 4.23, 8.2.e, 8.2.i, 8.3.b and 8.3.c