

32 CODE AND DESCRIPTION

Problem description

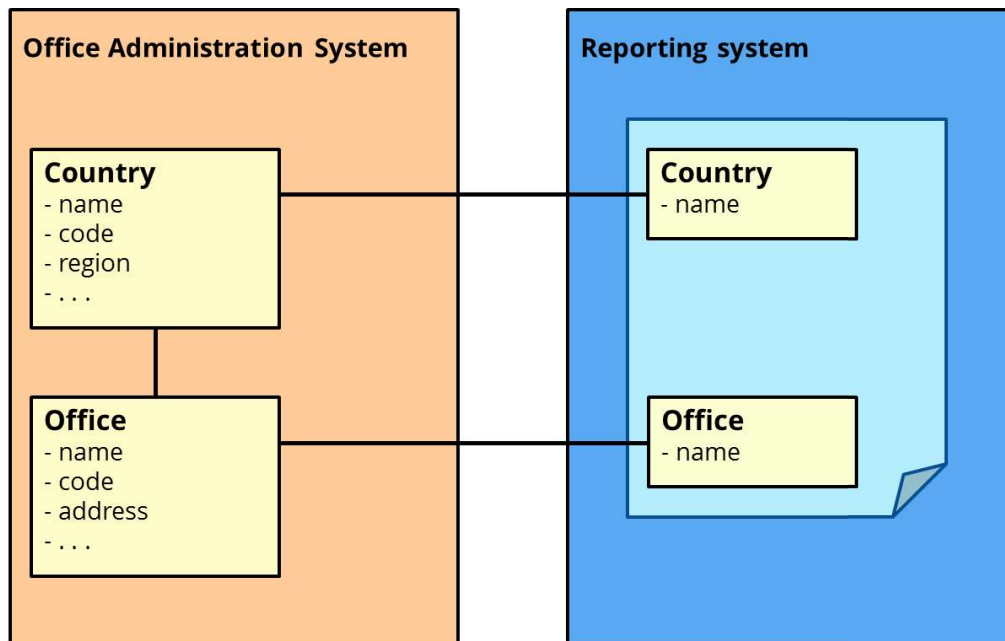
In an Office Administration System, data on offices of an organization is saved and maintained.

- Regarding the countries, the following data is recorded: name of the country, country code, area code, date of entry, date of termination
- For the office, the following data is recorded: name of the office, office code, address, location, phone number, date of entry, date of termination

In a Reporting system reports are put together made from various information systems.

The Office Administration System generates a summary with offices per country.

See figure below.



How many ILFs are identified for the summary generated by the Reporting system?

Is one ELF *Office* identified, are two ELFs *Country* and *Office* identified, or is an FPA tables ELF identified?

Discussion

The main question is how you deal with data being an ILF in one information system (the Office Administration System in this example), that is used in another system.

Country and *Office* are both an ILF in the Office Administration System.

For the Reporting system however only the names are of interest, all other fields have no meaning for this Reporting system. Seen from the Reporting system one could conclude that one ELF *Office* exists, where country name is an attribute of *Office*.

Solution

If during the function point analysis of the Reporting system it is known how the information is used in the Office Administration System, we know that both *Country* and *Office* are an ILF in the Office Administration System. In this case they must be counted twice as an ELF for the Reporting system.

If during the function point analysis of the Reporting system it is not known which type of functions *Country* and *Office* are in the Office Administration System, the function point analyst should make an assumption. In this example an ELF *Office* is the most obvious choice, but it is also possible to identify an FPA table ELF for *Country*.

References to the standard

4.20, 6.1 and 6.2.g