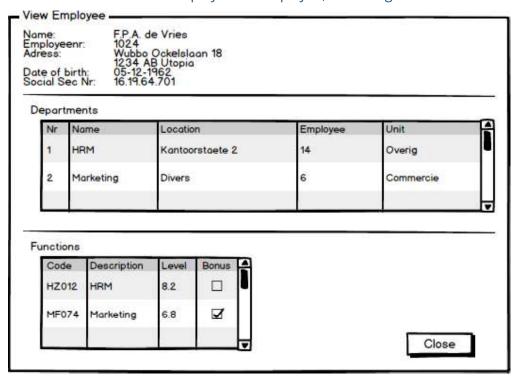# 40 COMBINED EXTERNAL INQUIRY

Problem description

Using a viewing function the data of one employee can be viewed. In addition to the data stored in the Employee entity, all data from the related departments and functions of the selected employee are displayed, according to the screenshot.

```
View Employee
  Name:           F.P.A. de Vries
  Employeenr:     1024
  Adress:         Wubbo Ockelslaan 18
                  1234 AB Utopia
  Date of birth:  05-12-1962
  Social Sec Nr:  16.19.64.701
```

Departments

Nr	Name	Location	Employee	Unit
1	HRM	Kantoorstaete 2	14	Overig
2	Marketing	Divers	6	Commercie

Functions

Code	Description	Level	Bonus
HZ012	HRM	8.2	☐
MF074	Marketing	6.8	☑

Close

The question is how this function should be counted.

Discussion

Basically there are three possible solutions to count this feature:

1) as 1 external inquiry (employee data) and 2 external outputs (department and function data) because in this case there are three different logical ways of processing.

2) as 2 external outputs (department and function data) because the choice to display employee data once at the top of the screen and not to repeat lines or data groups is an implementation choice.

3) as 1 external output because the view function can only be shown in its entirety

The first option is not correct, because the difference between the upper block and the lower block is nothing but a difference in frequency/number of occurrences. This is no reason to recognize multiple functions. A report function with a head and repeating details is counted by anyone directly as a single external output normally.

Nor can be chosen on the basis of rule 8.2.g.2 for counting two external outputs. First, the different parts are not separately retrievable and secondly the fact that this report is derived from various logical files is not a sufficient reason to conclude that in this case there are different logical ways of processing within the meaning of Rule 8.2.g.2. The sections shown are indeed related to the employee.

Based on the name of this function (View employee) and its description it has to be concluded that the user has asked "show me the employee data." In other words, the function should be seen as a whole and, therefore as one elementary process.

Solution

Count one external output.

Reference to the standard

2.7, 8.2.g