

Recall The Team Skills

1. Analyzing the Problem (with 5 steps)
2. Understanding User and Stakeholder Needs
3. **Defining the System**
 - A Use Case Primer
 - Organizing Requirements Information
 - The Vision Document
4. Managing Scope
5. Refining the System Definition
6. Building the Right System

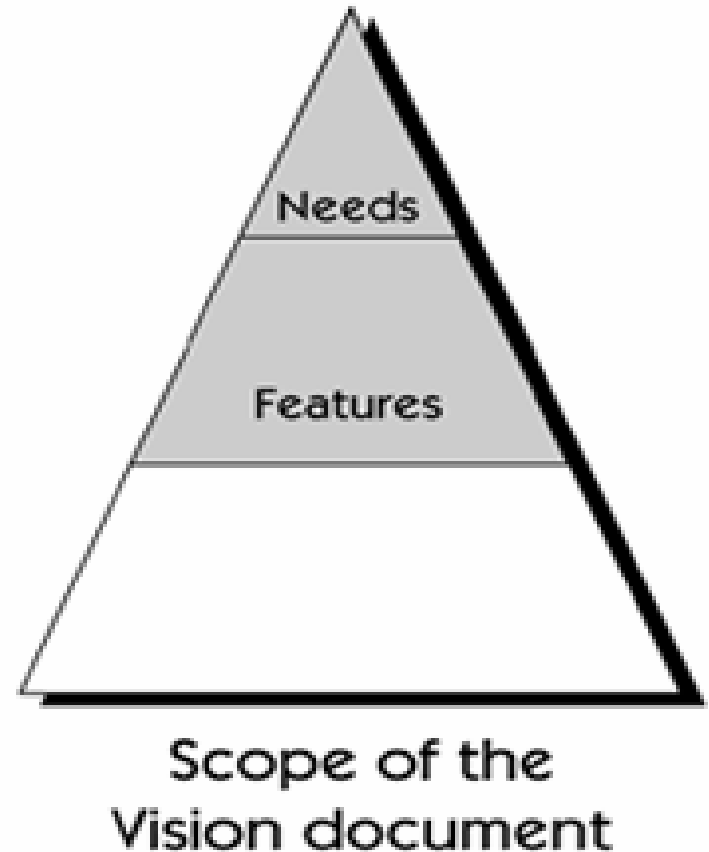


Chapter 16
The Vision Document



The Vision Document

- The Vision document captures the needs of the user, the features of the system, and other common requirements for the project.
- As such, the scope of the Vision document extends over the top two levels of the requirements pyramid, thereby defining at a high level of abstraction both the *problem* and the *solution*.



The Importance of Vision Document

- It serves as the basis for discussion and agreement among the stakeholders.
- It captures the essence of the product from all significant perspectives in a short, abstract, readable, and manageable form.



Template for a Software Product Vision Document



1. Introduction

Provide an overview of the entire Vision document.

1.1. Purpose of the Vision Document

State the purpose of the Vision document: to collect, analyze, and define high-level user needs and features of the product.

1.2. Product Overview

State the purpose of the application, its version, and new features for delivery.

1.3. References

Provide a complete list of all documents referenced elsewhere in the Vision document.

2. User Description

Briefly describe the perspective of the users of your system.

2.1. User/Market Demographics

Summarize the key market demographics that motivate your product decisions.

2.2. User Profiles

Briefly describe the prospective users of your system.

2.3. User Environment

Describe the working environment, including elements such as applications and platforms in use, and specific usage models.

2.4. Key User Needs

List the key problems or needs as perceived by the user.

2.5. Alternatives and Competition

Identify any alternatives the user perceives as available.

3. Product Overview

3.1. Product Perspective

Provide a block diagram of the product or system and its interfaces to the external environment.

3.2. Product Position Statement

Provide an overall statement summarizing, at the highest level, the unique position the product intends to fill in the marketplace. Moore [1991] recommends the following format.

For *(target customer)*
Who *(statement of the need or opportunity)*
The *(product name)* is a *(product category)*
That *(statement of key benefit, that is, compelling reason to buy)*
Unlike *(primary competitive alternative)*
Our product *(statement of primary differentiation)*

3.3. Summary of Capabilities

Summarize the major benefits and features the product will provide.

| Customer Benefit | Supporting Features |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Benefit 1 | Feature |
| Benefit 2 | Feature |
| Benefit 3 | Feature |

3.4. Assumptions and Dependencies

3.5. Cost and Pricing

Describe any elements of continuing product cost as well as anticipated product price points.

4. Feature Attributes

Describe the feature attributes that will be used to evaluate, track, prioritize, and manage the features. The following are some suggestions.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Status | Proposed, Approved, Incorporated |
| Priority | Cumulative vote results; order ranking; or Critical, Important, Useful |
| Effort | Low, Medium, High; team-weeks; or person-months |
| Risk | Low, Medium, High |
| Stability | Low, Medium, High |
| Target release | Version number |
| Assigned to | Name |
| Reason | Text field |

5. Product Features

This section of the document lists the product features.

5.1. Feature 1

5.2. Feature 2

6. Exemplary Use Cases

Describe a few key use cases, perhaps those that are architecturally significant or those that will most readily help the reader understand how the system is intended to be used.

7. Other Product Requirements

7.1. Applicable Standards

List all standards with which the product must comply.

7.2. System Requirements

Define any system requirements necessary to support the application, such as operating systems, network performance, and the like.

7.3. Licensing, Security, and Installation

Describe any licensing, security, or installation requirements that also affect the development effort or that create the need for separate installation software.

7.4. Performance Requirements

Use this section to detail performance requirements.

8. Documentation Requirements

Describe the documentation that must be developed to support successful application deployment.

8.1. User Manual

Describe the purpose and contents of the product user manual.

8.2. Online Help

List requirements for online help, tool tips, and so on.

8.3. Installation Guides, Configuration, and Read Me Files

8.4. Labeling and Packaging

9. Glossary

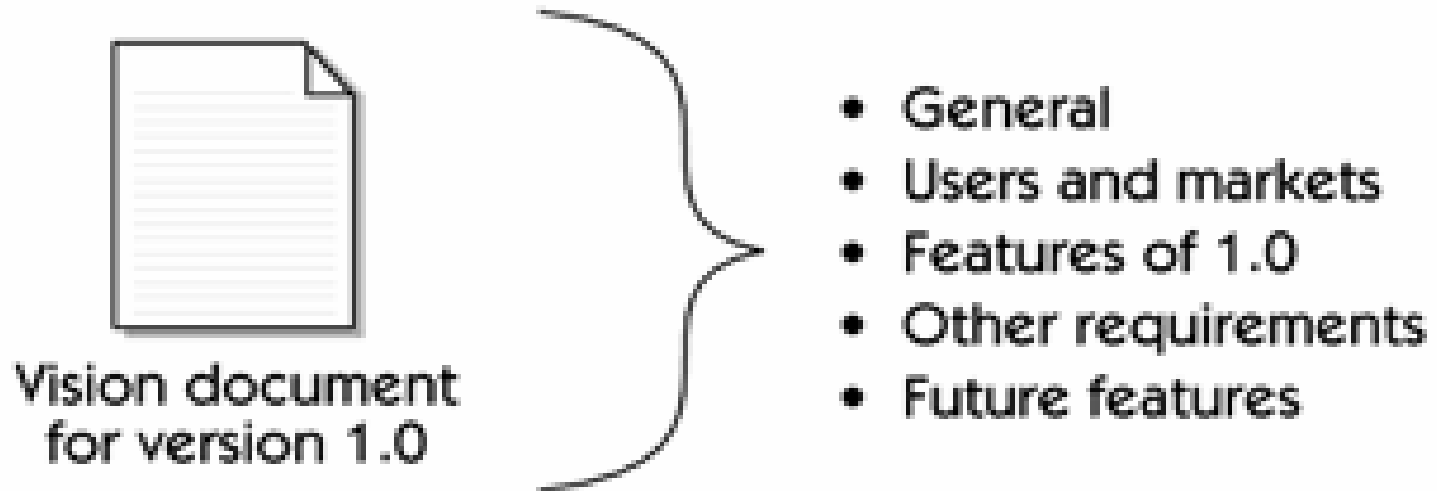
See Appendix B

- For more detailed template.

The Delta Vision Document

- Keeping the Vision document understandable and manageable is an important team skill that will greatly benefit the overall productivity of the project.
- In future releases, you may discover that it is counterproductive to repeat features that have been incorporated in prior releases and other information that has not changed in this particular project context, such as user profiles, markets served, and existing features.
 - We therefore introduce the *Delta Vision document*, which addresses these issues.

The Vision Document for Version 1.0

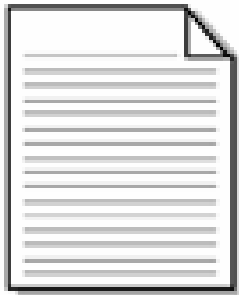


- This document serves as the foundation for the 1.0 release and drives the more detailed software requirements and use cases that will more fully elaborate the system.

Delta Vision Document v2.0

- The Delta Vision document focuses on only two things:
 - **What has changed**; and
 - **Any other information** that must be included for context.
- In other words, it focuses primarily on ...
 - **What is new**; and
 - **What is different** about this release.

The Evolving Product Definition

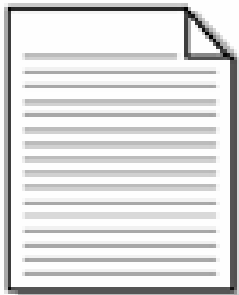


Vision 1.0

General

- + Features of 1.0
- + Future features

*Comprehensive
starting point*



Delta
Vision 2.0

- + New features
- Removed features
- + Future features

+

= The whole product definition

Key Points

- Every software project will benefit from having a Vision document.
- The Vision document describes the application in general terms, including descriptions of the target market, the system users, and the application features.
- The Vision document defines, at a high level of abstraction, both the problem and the solution.
- The Delta Vision document focuses on what has changed.