Use Case Description
Example Relationship Database

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| **Use Case Name**: | Record code definition |
| **Iteration**: | Filled |
| **Summary**: | The user enters or changes information defining a code defined for use within the system. |
| **Basic Course of Events**: | 1. The user indicates that a code definition is to be entered or changed<br>2. The system prompts the user to identify which code set will be worked with:<br>a. Code set name (pick list or similar, not free text entry; possible values include "contact subject", "individual class", "membership", "organization class", "organizational issue", "organization service", "skill", "subscriber interest", "subscription source")<br>b. Allows the user to indicate whether to<br>i. Display the code set indicated by the user<br>ii. exit the use case<br>3. The system:<br>a. displays information from pre-existing records in the system defining valid codes already defined for the code set indicated in step 2. The information displayed includes:<br>i. the defined abbreviation for the category<br>ii. the text description of the meaning of the code<br>b. allows the user to:<br>i. select one of the existing records for modification<br>ii. indicate that a new record is to be entered<br>iii. indicate that a different code set should be used<br>iv. exit the use case<br>4. The system prompts the user for:<br>a. abbreviation to be used<br>b. text description of the definition for the category<br>The system also prompts the user to indicate what action to take with the information displayed/altered by the user:<br>c. delete the displayed record from the system<br>d. save record to system<br>e. start anew for this record, discard changes already entered<br>f. select a different record for modification, discard changes already entered<br>5. If the user has selected "save" in step 3, the system displays the information entered and prompts the user to indicate when they are finished viewing that information<br>6. The system returns the user to step 2 |
| **Alternative Paths**: | 1. At step 4, if the user selects "start anew", the system returns them to step 4, displaying the information originally present on the record before step 4, or to a blank screen in the case where a new record is being entered.<br>2. At step 4, if the user selects "select a different record", the system discards any changes made by user and returns the user to step 2 |
| **Exception Paths**: | 1. At step 4, if the user enters an abbreviation that has already been applied on another record in the code set, they are provided a message indicating that a unique abbreviation must be chosen, and they are returned to the "abbreviation" prompt. |
| **Extension Points**: | 1. |
| **Trigger**: | 1. |
| **Assumptions**: | 1. The user has appropriate privileges for working with code definitions<br>2. |
| **Preconditions**: | 1. |
| **Postconditions**: | 1. Information modifications entered by the user are appropriately stored in the |

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| | system. |
| **Related Business Rules**: | |
| **Author**: | L.Bednar |
| **Date**: | Facade 7/29/2003; Filled 8/14/2003; |

**Notes**

1. In exception 1 or in step 4, it may be beneficial to provide some display of abbreviations that have already been used, to assist the user in avoiding entry of a pre-existing abbreviation.

# Information Item Descriptions

**Use Case Name** – A very short phrase describing the interaction of an actor (person, program, system, etc) with the system. Should begin with an active verb.
**Iteration** – Relates to the four stages through which a use case typically progresses

- façade – use cases entered primarily with summary information as "placeholders", with no strongly focused cross-checks or similar analysis completed
- filled – preliminary description completed, some cross-checking with other described use cases to eliminate duplicates, etc.
- focused – use cases analyzed, prioritized to differentiate essential from nonessential user interactions with the system, common elements identified
- finished. – user interface requirements and nonfunctional requirements are added, and use cases documentation is packaged for the system design effort

**Summary** – A short paragraph (1-2 sentences) explaining the interaction.
**Basic Course of Events** – A numbered outline of the usual course of the interaction. A "normal" interaction without errors, malfunctions or mishaps should be represented. If several different courses are possible, the most commonly occurring should be described.
**Alternative Paths** – Outlines of less common courses of interaction. These should represent "normal" interactions without errors, malfunctions, or mishaps.
**Exception Paths** - Outline of alternative courses of interactions in case of errors, malfunctions, or mishaps.
**Extension Points** – Shows the steps in a related use case that includes the use of the interaction described here.
**Trigger** – Description of the event or circumstance that causes the start of the use.
**Assumptions** – Description of any conditions assumed to be true, but which might not be true.
**Preconditions** – List of things that must be true before this interaction can occur.
**Postconditions** – List of things that are expected to be true after the interaction.
**Related Business Rules** – Business rules are the written and unwritten rules that dictate how a company runs its business. This section documents or refers to business rules that relate to this interaction.
**Author** – The name of the individual entering information into the use case description.
**Date** – The date of modification for the use case description.