Use Case Description
Example Relationship Database

Use Case Name:	Report subscription sources
Iteration:	Filled
Summary:	The system generates a report of information about subscription opt-ins stored in the system. The system includes only those records matching criteria specified by the user.
Basic Course of Events:	1. The user indicates that a report of stored information about subscription sources is to be generated 2. The system prompts the user for criteria to be used in select records to include in the report. This information includes: a. Time window (start and end date) for opt-in date b. Time window (start and end date) for subscription end date c. Time window (start and end date) for subscription start date d. Source name/abbreviation (pick list allowing multiple selections) e. Indicator – confirmed/unconfirmed/all subscriptions (only one selection allowed; default "all") f. Indicator – only subscriptions preexisting at time of provision/newly created by provision/all (only one selection allowed; default "all") g. Publications (pick list allowing multiple selections) h. Cancellation reason (pick list allowing multiple selections) The system also allows the user to indicate that they want to exit the use case 3. The system displays information from records matching the selection criteria entered by the user. This information includes: a. A summary of the selection criteria used to choose the set of records represented on the report b. The date on which the report was generated c. Source name/abbreviation d. Email address e. Indicator – matched pre-existing subscription at time of provision f. Indicator – confirmed g. Subscription confirmation date?? h. Publication (Does publication really belong in this report? 14Aug2003 ERD does not include a specification of publication for "subscription source" records) i. Person associated with email address ??? i. The system allows the user to specify the sorting of displayed records. The system also allows the user to indicate the next action to be taken by the system: j. export information from the displayed records to a system file k. print a copy of the report l. modify the selection criteria for this report m. create a new report using different criteria 4. If the user has selected "export", "print" or "create new report", the system performs the requested action and displays a message telling the user what is happening, prompting the user to indicate when they are done viewing the confirmation. 5. The system returns the user to step 2 with a blank set of selection criteria
Alternative Paths:	1. At step 3, if the user selects "modify", they are returned to step 2 with the previously displayed selection criteria displayed intact 2.
Exception Paths:	1. At step 3, if no records matching the information provided by the user at step 2 are found, a message indicating that is issued to the user and the system returns them to step 2 with the information they entered previously displayed intact.
Extension Points:	1.

Trigger:	1.
Assumptions:	1. The user has appropriate privileges for working with opt-in information 2. Any classification codes, etc. to be applied to this record have already been entered into the system.
Preconditions:	1.
Postconditions:	1. Any output requested by the user at step 3 has been created
Related Business Rules:	
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Date:	Facade 7/29/2003; Filled 8/15/2003;

Notes

1. Note that the usual procedure for a user to exit the use case is for them to indicate an "exit" at step 2.
2. It may be desirable at step 3 to provide the user a choice of several report formats.
3. As of 14Aug2003, the data model does not provide a way to store an indication of whether a subscription is already in place when a subscription source record is provided. A rough computation comparing subscription start date to subscription source provision date will approximate the correct response, but is not rigorous.
4. Are subscription source provisions targeted at a specific publication, or are they simply email addresses that might be targeted towards a subscription to any publication? [As of 14Aug2003, the ERD treats them as simple email addresses not targeted towards any particular publication.]
5. If email addresses provided by a source may be offered subscriptions to several publications, then the reports generated here must specifically allow multiple values/responses for different publications.
6. (14Aug2003) "Subscription" area of ERD needs another review, perhaps some modification.
7. Is there a need for a report format that highlights the use of multiple email addresses by individuals, or focuses on the person rather than the email address?
8.

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.