

OLE
A tool for evaluating IT with regards to
organisation, learning and ethics

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Instructions for use

The aim of the OLE tool is to support the identification of important non-technical aspects and problems in IT use. The questions below focus on such problems. Working with these questions will raise the awareness of the important aspects and facilitate measures for improving usability and productivity.

The questions do not imply any criticism of the IT system or product in question. Try to avoid the "my baby syndrome" and be careful to pinpoint all potential weaknesses in the system/product.

Try to identify all risks in your project and suggest concrete measures!

The below answers are not accepted:

1. "No, there are no problems." (you have to explain why there are no problems).
2. "Yes, there are problems, but the new system/product will eliminate them" (you have to describe exactly the measures that will be undertaken).

Use your imagination!

Ethics, internal relations and relations to society at large

1. Will there be any ethical problems or conflicts in the context, in the organisation or in the group where your project or the results of it will be applied or used?
2. Will your project or the results of it cause any ethical problems or conflicts?
3. What groups, individuals, organisations, etc, will in any way be affected by or have a stake in the development, use or mere existence of your project or the results of it? (Including society at large and the environment.)
4. What values, interests, duties, standpoints and attitudes are involved in the use of your project or the results of it?
5. What effects will your project or the results of it have on each of these values, etc? Will your project or the results of it fit certain values and conflict with others? What values and how?
6. What will you do to make sure that the use of your project or the results of it will be optimal with regards to ethical aspects? For instance if it is an IT system, adapt the design of the product, user training, organizational changes, inform stakeholders, etc? How exactly are you going to succeed with this?