

#### Heuristics: How do I find use cases?

- Select a narrow vertical slice of the system (i.e. one scenario)
  - □ Discuss it in detail with the user to understand the user's preferred style
- Select a horizontal slice (i.e. many scenarios) to define the scope of the system.
  - Discuss the scope with the user
- Use illustrative prototypes (mock-ups) as visual support
- Find out what the user does
  - Task observation (Good)
  - Questionnaires (Bad)

Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

# **Use Case Process**

- Identify actors and their purpose
- Develop a Candidate Use Case List
- Graphically depict all Use Cases in the system
- Review with the user
- Describe each Use Case, concentrating on control
- Review the Use Case descriptions

Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

#### Use Case Example: ReportEmergency

- Use case name: ReportEmergency
- Participating Actors:
  - Field Officer (Bob and Alice in the Scenario) Dispatcher (John in the Scenario)
- Exceptions:
  - The FieldOfficer is notified immediately if the connection between her terminal and the central is lost.
  - The Dispatcher is notified immediately if the connection between any logged in FieldOfficer and the central is lost.
- Flow of Events: on next slide.
- Special Requirements:
  - The FieldOfficer's report is acknowledged within 30 seconds. The selected response arrives no later than 30 seconds after it is sent by the Dispatcher.

Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

### Use Case Example: ReportEmergency Flow of Events

- The FieldOfficer activates the "Report Emergency" function of her terminal. FRIEND responds by presenting a form to the officer.
- The FieldOfficer fills the form, by selecting the emergency level, type, location, and brief description of the situation. The FieldOfficer also describes possible responses to the emergency situation. Once the form is completed, the FieldOfficer submits the form, at which point, the Dispatcher is notified.
- The Dispatcher reviews the submitted information and creates an Incident in the database by invoking the OpenIncident use case. The Dispatcher selects a response and acknowledges the emergency report.
- The FieldOfficer receives the acknowledgment and the selected response.

Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

## Order of steps when formulating use cases

- First step: name the use case
  - □ Use case name: ReportEmergency
- Second step: Find the actors
  - Generalize the concrete names ("Bob") to participating actors ("Field
  - Participating Actors:
    - Field Officer (Bob and Alice in the Scenario)
    - Dispatcher (John in the Scenario)
- Third step: Then concentrate on the flow of events
  - Use informal natural language

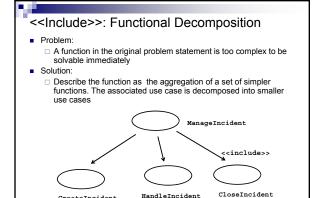
Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

CreateIncident Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake, University of Miami

#### **Use Case Associations**

- A use case model consists of use cases and use case associations
- A use case association is a relationship between use cases
- Important types of use case associations: Include, Extends, Generalization
- Include
  - □ A use case uses another use case ("functional decomposition")
- Extends
  - A use case extends another use case
- Generalization
  - An abstract use case has different specializations

Copyright @ Dr. M. Brian Blake. University of Miami



HandleIncident

