

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF COMMERCE  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
MAIN EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2017**

**TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS COMPUTING  
COURSE CODE: BUS111/ IDE-BUS111/BA112/IDE-BA112  
BCOM 1/B.ED 1/BCOM LEVEL I (IDE)/ B.ED LEVEL1(IDE)  
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. This paper consists of Sections A & B.**
- 2. The Case Study (Section A) is compulsory.**
- 3. Answer any three questions from section B.**

**Note:**

**THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS  
BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

## SECTION A

### **This section is compulsory**

Have you ever imagined having one electronic device that does everything you would ever need. Mobile phone makers in Japan have gone beyond the imagining phase. Cell phones are becoming more versatile than ever. Newer models of cell phones contain a myriad of applications and can do many of the things that a personal computer (PC) can do. PCs are also able to function as phones. DualCor Technologies offers a handheld Windows XP PC that also comes with a built in cell phone. The PC comes with a 1.5GHz processor, 1 GB of memory, and a 40 GB hard drive that it shares with the cell phone component. The PC is 6.5 inches long, 3.3 inches wide 1.2 inches thick, has a 5 inch diagonal screen and costs around \$1,500. A growing number of professionals are trading in their laptops for handheld computers.

### **Case Study Questions**

- a. What commercial activities can be done with a cell phone/PC with Cell phone device? (5)
- b. How can businesses utilise this technology to operate their businesses more efficiently and effectively? (15)
- c. What are some problems or drawbacks you can see with using this device in business? (5)

## SECTION B

Answer any three questions from this section

### QUESTION 1

A local college is in the process of developing a system to help manage the admission process. From this scenario answer the following questions:

- a) What qualities should the information meet (10)
- b) Discuss the issues they should consider as they acquire the hardware. (15)
- c) Discuss application software and its importance in the scenario presented above, giving examples where applicable. (10)

### QUESTION 2

Give a detailed account of distributed databases (DD). In your answer include any 3 merits and 2 demerits of DD. (25)

### QUESTION 3

Explain with the aid of diagrams the difference between the following network topologies:

- a. Star (8)
- b. Bus (9)
- c. Ring (8)

### Question 4

Discuss three benefits and two challenges that can arise from installation of networks. (25)