1.0 Executive Summary

Nowadays, Enterprise resource planning (ERP) have become vital strategic tools in today's competitive business environment. During the last decade, ERP systems have received a significant amount of attention from researchers and practitioners from a variety of functional disciplines.

Today, ERP is seen as an integrated computer system that powers the business processes of any business, not just manufacturing, via embedded best practices and a unified database. Thus, Enterprise resource planning (ERP) system solutions are currently in high demand by both manufacturing and service organizations because they provide a tightly integrated solution to an organization's information system needs.

In this paper, a comprehensive review concerning ERP software is presented. It attempts to identify the main benefits of ERP systems, the drawbacks, and its architecture.

1

2.0 Acknowledgments

"I would like to thank my lecturer, Mr. Razi for the encouragement and guidance and also for the valuable advice and support he has given me in the writing of this paper. Thanks also to all the people who provide useful suggestions to me in which aid me in researching and compiling the paper. And, finally my deepest thanks go to my parents, for their love, understanding and support."



5.0 ERP Architecture

ERP system architecture is organized in layers or tiers to manage system complexity in order to provide scalability and flexibility.

5.1 Layered Architecture

Traditional ERP architecture generally has three layers usually referred to as a "3-tier architecture." with each responsible for a particular system function. The 3-tier architecture concept is not new, as it was used on mainframes and has now been brought to the general PC platform.

The 3-tier architecture is composed of three layers (Figure 4):

(1) Presentation Layer (End-User Interface—GUI)

- It is considered the top layer, in which the user interacts with a system. Screen layout avigation, language integration and other user-based elements are controlled in this layer

(2) Business Logic Layer (Business logic of functional months)

- It is the driver of the entire system. This layer handles the sequents and commands that have been sent from the presentation layer. It then takes those requests and runs business logic against them to provide an overs to the presentation and not management layers.

(3) Data Management Layer (Data Management)

- This layer stores and retrieves all of the information within a database or file system.



Figure 4