

Contents of a Technical Design

An effective means of controlling model developments is to pre-define as much of the work as possible, thus reducing later risks and reducing the likelihood of time being wasted on blind alleys etc. The purposes of the Technical Design are therefore to:

- 1) identify the full range of tasks needed to develop the model,
- 2) describe each task in as much detail as possible, in this process seeking to constrain the analysis to preferred/expected outcomes, and
- 3) anticipate risks.

The Technical Model Specification is written in note/abbreviated form in order that the key requirements are transparent. It is intended as a reference document for the model development activities rather than a model text and will be progressively extended and increased in detail as the project progresses.

The main text is a series of tasks, structured with one task per page, with the format *Inputs - Processing - Outputs - Resources*. If the resource plan for each task is not completed, it should be reviewed in detail at the outset of each task.

It is not possible to anticipate every contingency at the outset. Therefore at the commencement of every task, the specification in the Technical Design should be comprehensively reviewed and, in some cases, further detailed.

The templates on this website are examples drawn from various technical specifications/designs.