

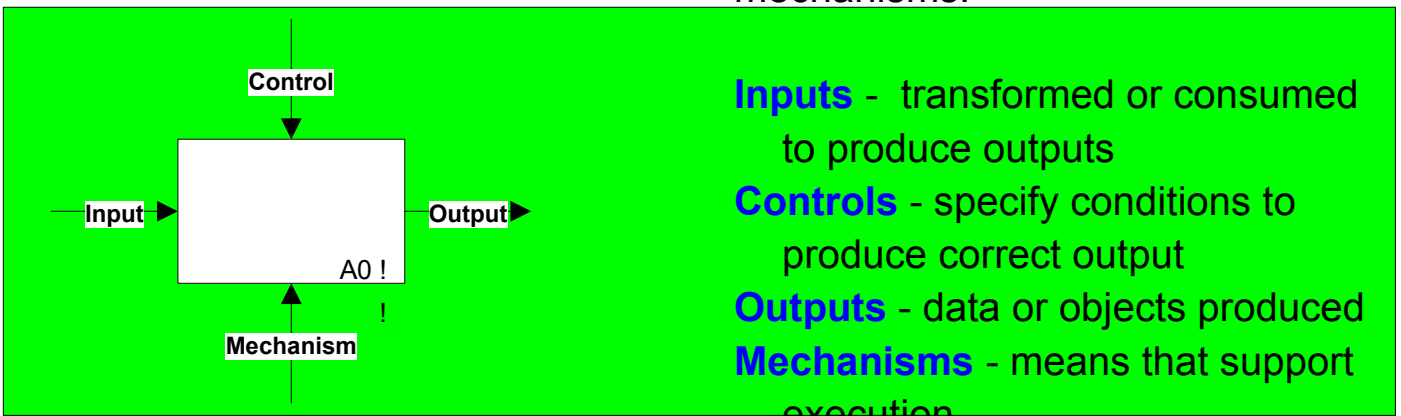
Double-click here for tips on creating this drawing.

Context Diagram

IDEF0 Models are composed of three types of diagrams:

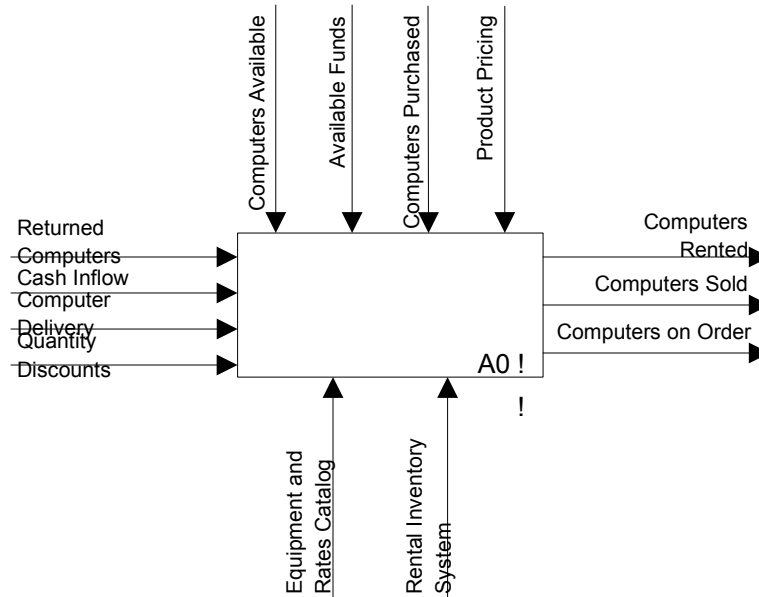
Context diagrams
Decomposition diagrams
Node trees

The model starts with a single box, which represents the boundary of the system. This is called the "context diagram." Context diagrams have inputs on the left side, outputs on the right side, top arrows specifying controls, and bottom arrows representing mechanisms.



Inputs - transformed or consumed to produce outputs
Controls - specify conditions to produce correct output
Outputs - data or objects produced
Mechanisms - means that support execution

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NODE:

TITLE:

NO.:

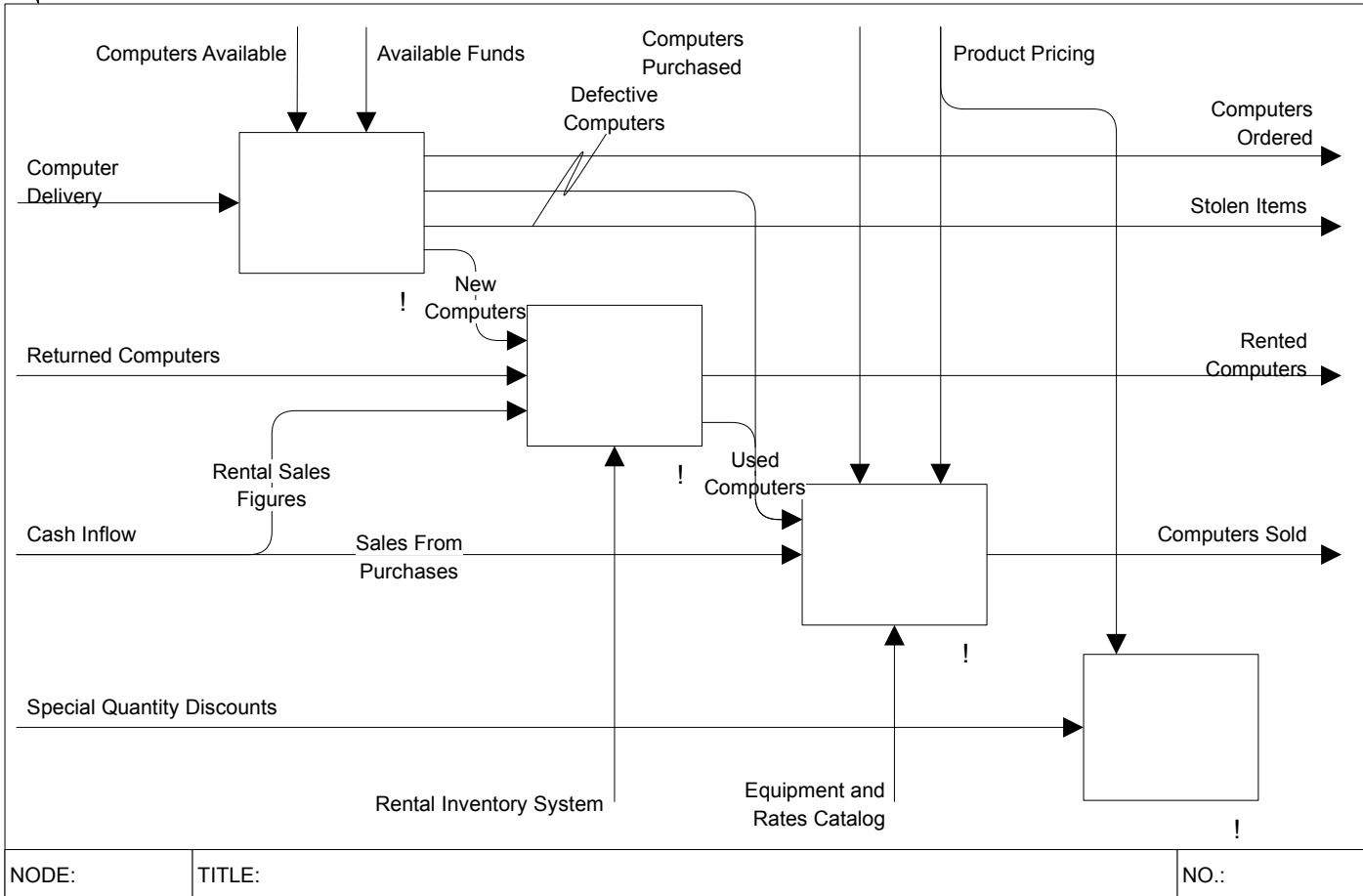
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Decomposition Diagram

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Decomposition diagrams are essentially context diagrams that have been "decomposed" to reveal more detail. This example shows a decomposed version of the A0 context diagram from the previous page. Notice how the decomposition diagram contains much more information than the context diagram.

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NODE:

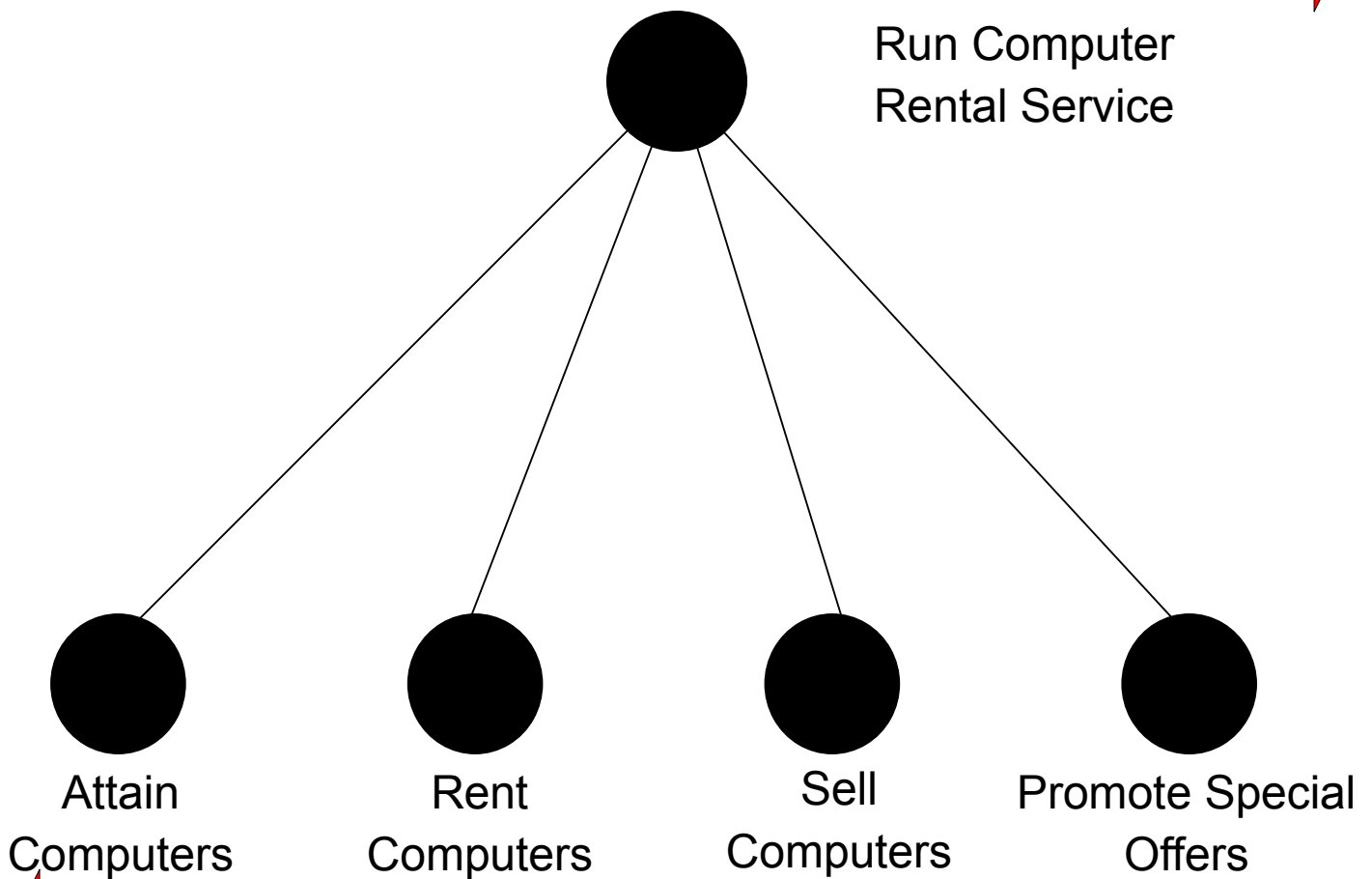
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Node Tree Diagram

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A **node tree** represents activities in an inverted tree structure. They show how the activities of the model relate to each other in a top-down, hierarchical manner.

In essence, node trees show the entire system from a big picture perspective. By eliminating detail, such as arrows, you can reprint all of the activities within a model in a single diagram.

Tips on creating IDEF0 diagrams.

See the Help section for more information.

How to create a **Context Diagram**:

~~Step 1: Drag the **Title Block** shape from the IDEF0 stencil. Type the Node, Title, Number and Page Offset.~~

Step 2: Drag the **Activity Box** shape from the IDEF0 stencil, then enter the Process Name, Process ID, and Sub-diagram ID.

Step 3: Drag the **1 Legged Connector** shape from the IDEF0 stencil and connect it to the Activity Box. These connectors should always be horizontal or vertical to so as to maintain a consistent look for all IDEF0 diagrams.

Step 4: Click the connectors and type the inputs, mechanisms, controls, and outputs or drag the **Text Block** shape from the IDEF0 stencil, then type the same information.

How to create a **Decomposition Diagram**:

Step 1: Drag the **Title Block** shape from the IDEF0 stencil. Type the Node, Title, Number, and Page Offset.

Step 2: Drag the appropriate number of **Activity Box** shapes corresponding to your context diagram. Type the Process Name, Process ID, and Sub-diagram ID.

Step 3: Drag the appropriate connectors (**IDEF0, Universal, or 1 Legged**), connect the activity boxes and display other connections as necessary.

Step 4: Select the **Text Tool**, then label the connectors with their appropriate names.

How to create a **Node Tree**:

Step 1: Drag the appropriate number of **Node** shapes from the IDEF0 stencil. Input the Diagram Node Number for each.

Step 2: Select the **Text Tool** and label all nodes with their appropriate activity name.

~~Step 3: Drag and drop the **Solid Connector** from the IDEF0 stencil and connect~~

Double-click here to return to the first diagram.