

EVALUATE HARDWARE SOLUTIONS

In this exercise, you will use spreadsheet software to calculate the cost of desktop systems, printers, and software. You have been asked to obtain pricing information on hardware and software for an office of 30 people. Using the Internet, get pricing for 30 PC desktop systems (monitors, computers, and keyboards) manufactured by Lenovo, Asus, and Acer as listed at their respective corporate Web sites. (For the purposes of this exercise, ignore the fact that desktop systems usually come with preloaded software packages.) Also obtain pricing on 15 desktop printers manufactured by HP, Canon, and Epson. Each desktop system must satisfy the minimum specifications shown in the following table:

MINIMUM DESKTOP SPECIFICATIONS

Processor speed: 3 GHz

Hard drive: 500 GB

RAM: 2 GB

DVD-ROM drive: Yes

Monitor (diagonal measurement): 20 inches

Maximum price/unit: \$600

Each desktop printer must satisfy the minimum specifications shown in the following table:

MINIMUM PRINTER SPECIFICATIONS

Print speed (black and white): 20 pages per minute
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Multi function: Yes

Print resolution : 600 × 600

Network ready: Yes

Maximum price/unit: \$300

Prepare a spreadsheet showing your research results for the desktop Systems and for the printers. Use your spreadsheet software to determine the desktop system and printer combination that will offer both the best performance and pricing per worker. Because every two workers will share one printer (15 printers/30 systems), assume only half a printer cost per worker in the spreadsheet. Assume that your company will take the standard warranty and service contract offered by each product's manufacturer.