**Assignment 4: Evaluating E-commerce Hosting Services**

Assignment 4 is worth 10 percent of your final grade for this course. This assignment is based on the Hands-on MIS project*Achieving Operational Excellence: Evaluating E-Commerce Hosting Services*on page 428 of the textbook. You must compare the three e-commerce hosting services identified in the textbook PLUS one other hosting site that you find on your own. Follow the instructions and answer the questions in the textbook for all FOUR sites.

**Instructions:**
This assignment allows you to explore two important information system trends. First, you will investigate what is necessary to open an Internet business. Second, you will be introduced to cloud computing, in the form of Web page hosting.

To submit the complete assignment, you must:

* create a spreadsheet to compare the three identified e-commerce hosting sites and the e-commerce hosting site that you find
* prepare a PowerPoint presentation that represents the presentation you would give to management explaining your selection. It should explain all the criteria that you included in your spreadsheet evaluation and the strengths and weaknesses of each choice, and it should identify your choice and the reasons why you made this choice. For each slide, include “notes” that would represent what you would say if you were giving the presentation.

**For this assignment you must hand in:**

* an Excel spreadsheet
* a PowerPoint presentation

When you are ready to submit your assignment, listen to this **message from your Course Coordinator**.

**Marking criteria:**
You will be marked according to the following criteria.

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| --- | --- |
| **Spreadsheet** | **10 marks** |
|   | * contains evaluation criteria, each of the four web site hosting companies being evaluated (the three identified sites plus the one you found) and assessments for each
* is clear and concise
* is of professional quality
 |   |
| **PowerPoint Presentation** | **10 marks** |
|   | * explains criteria clearly
* summarizes the strengths and weaknesses of each vendor
* identifies and explains the vendor choice
* contains notes on each slide that indicate what you would say if you were giving this presentation
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Once you have completed the assignment, you must return to this Web page and follow the instructions on the right to submit your assignment for marking.