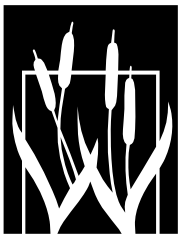

Whitemarsh
Information Systems Corporation

Whitemarsh Metabase System Requirements Management Users Guide

March 2011

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1 Introduction

The purpose of this Metabase System module, Requirements Management, is to provide:

- Identification and description of requirements.
- Interrelationship among different requirements.
- Relationship between requirements and other metadata artifacts.
  - ♦ Mapping to Business Events
  - ♦ Mapping to Business Information Systems
  - ♦ Mapping to DBMS Columns
  - ♦ Mapping to User Acceptance Test Steps
  - ♦ Mapping to Database Objects
  - ♦ Mapping to User Cases
  - ♦ Mapping to Data Integrity Rules
  - ♦ Mapping to Resource Life Cycle Nodes
  - ♦ Mapping to Mission Organization Functions

The Requirements Management module permits recording of the characteristics of the requirements associated with the enterprise. Each requirement can be described and interrelated with other requirements. Once requirements are identified and described, they can be allocated to any of the "mapping" items above. This permits enterprises to know the requirements needed by whom within the different organizations in the performance enterprise missions.

Presumed Knowledge

This user guide, and all the other metabase user guides presume that the reader has read and is completely familiar with the following documents: Metabase Common Processes, and Metabase Bill of Materials and Single File Recursion (BOM/SFR Guide). These two documents serve as metabase teaching guides for processes that commonly occur throughout the metabase system.

F7 invokes automatic spell checking on all text fields like names and descriptions.

Metabase Example

The metabase example, Movies, is a complete example of a business which is available from the Whitemarsh website. The Movies Rental Corporation was modeled after the largest movies rental corporation in the United States. As such, the example has national, regional, and retail outlets. There are two data models, one for an original data capture, store based system, and another which is a data warehouse for rented movies.

2 Software Installation

Metabase installation is explained in the Metabase Administrators Guide.

3 Database Design

Requirement data is represented in 13 different tables in this metabase database application. The tables are:

- Business Event and Requirement Structure
- Business Information System and Requirement Structure
- Data Integrity Rule Structure and Requirement Structure
- DBMS Column and Requirement Structure
- Mission Organization Function and Requirement Structure
- Requirement
- Requirement Category
- Requirement Structure
- Requirement Structure Type
- Resource Life Cycle Node and Requirement Structure
- Use Case and Requirement Structure
- User Acceptance Test Step Structure and Requirement Structure

There are nine additional entities in the database. These are:

- Business Event
- Business Information System
- Data Integrity Rule Structure
- DBMS Column
- Mission Organization Function
- Resource Life Cycle Node
- Use Case
- User Acceptance Test Step Structure

These entities are shaded because they are read-only within this module. They are created/updated in the following modules:

- Business Information Systems
- Database Objects
- Mission Organization Function Position Assignment
- Operational Data Model
- Resource Life Cycle Analysis
- Use Cases

Figure 1 presents the overall data model.

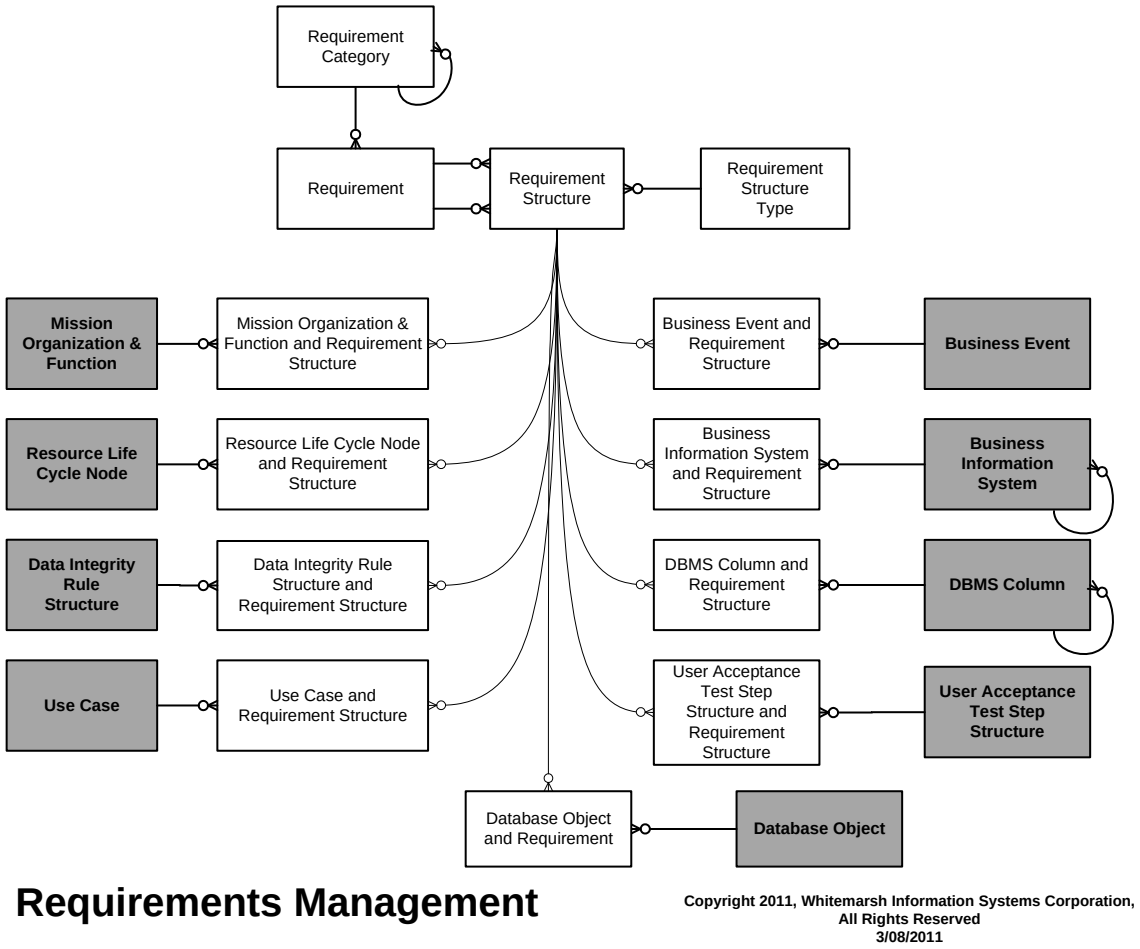

Figure 1. Requirements Data Model.

The design permits the creation of specifications, descriptions, and interrelationships among one or more requirements. Once the Requirements Management are specified, they can be related to:

- Mission-Organization-Functions
- Resource Life Cycle Nodes
- Data Integrity Rules
- Use Cases
- Business Events
- Business Information Systems
- DBMS Columns
- User Acceptance Test Steps
- Database Objects

The definition for each entity is as follows:

Business Event: A business event is an intersection between a business information system and a business function. A business event is a triggering event. It is invoked by the business function and the business information systems executes in response. Business events may be set within business event cycles and calendar cycles, or both.

Business Event and Requirement Structure: A Business Event and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of Business Event. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Business Event.

Business Information System: A Business Information System is a computer based information system that is being managed through the metabase. It is know by its characteristics, its operation cycles (business event and calendar), subordinate business information systems, employed databases, views, and associated resource life cycle nodes.

Business Information System and Requirement Structure: A Business Event and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of Business Information System. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Business Information System.

Data Integrity Rule Structure and Requirement Structure: A Data Integrity Rule Structure and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of Data Integrity Rule Structure. A Data Integrity Rule Structure maps to a specific Data Integrity Rule. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Data Integrity Rule set within a collection of Data Integrity Rules.

Data Integrity Rule Structure: A Data Integrity Rule Structure is a collection of related data integrity rules. Each data integrity rule is a specification that involves values, database table columns, relational operations, and the like that must test true when evaluated.

DBMS Column: A DBMS Columns are the manifestation of the semantics of a column within a DBMS table of a DBMS schema. Not all the DBMS columns of a DBMS table must map to attributes from a single table.

DBMS Column and Requirement Structure: A DBMS Column and Requirement Structure is the association of a DBMS Column with a Requirement that exists within a collection of Requirements, that is, the Requirement Structure. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific DBMS Column.

Mission Organization Function: A Mission-Organization-Function is the association of a mission-organization with a function. A mission-organization can be associated with multiple

functions and a function can be associated with multiple mission-organizations. One or more mission-organization-functions may be associated with a business information system. When they are, business events are created. The business event process is accomplished within the Business Information Systems module.

Mission Organization Function and Requirement Structure: A Mission Organization Function and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of Mission-Organization-Function. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Mission-Organization-Function.

Requirement: A Requirement is the identification, name and description of a documented need of a particular product or service should be or perform. Requirements can be categorized and can be interrelated through Requirement Structures. The specification of a requirement consists of necessary Mission-Organization-Functions, Resource Life Cycle Nodes, Data Integrity Rules, Use Cases, Business Events, Business Information Systems, Dbms Columns, User Acceptance Test Steps via Structures, and Database Objects.

Requirement Category: A Requirement Category is a identified, named, and described collection of requirements that must be met.

Requirement Structure: A Requirement Structure is a collection of requirements of a certain classification that is specified in through a Requirement Structure Type.

Requirement Structure Type: A Requirement Structure Type is the identified, named, and described categorization of a collection of requirements within a requirement structure.

Resource Life Cycle Node and Requirement Structure: A Resource Life Cycle Node and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of Mission-Organization-Function. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Resource Life Cycle Node.

Resource Life Cycle Node: A Resource Life Cycle Node: is a life cycle state within the resource. If the resource is employee then the life cycle node may be employee requisition, employee candidate, employee new hire, assigned employee, reviewed employee, and separated employee.

Use Case: A Use Case is the identified, named, and described series of interactions between a business information system module and an external agent such as a person or a component of a business information system. Use cases can be interrelated within network structures, contain pre-, post-, and special-conditions, have use case events, are related to mission-organization-functions, business information systems, and can include use case facts. Use case facts are, in

turn, related to database table columns. Use Case Events are related to Use Case Actors as they preform certain Use Case Event roles.

Use Case and Requirement Structure: A Use Case and Requirement Structure is the association of a use case with a specific Requirement Structure. This process is accomplished within the Business Information Systems module. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific Use Case.

User Acceptance Test Step Structure: A User Acceptance Test Step Structure is a collection of Use Case Steps of a certain Use Case Test Step Structure Type that is specified in through a Requirement Structure Type

User Acceptance Test Step Structure and Requirement Structure: A User Acceptance Test Step Structure and Requirement Structure is the association of a Requirement Structure with an instance of User Acceptance Test Step Structure. This implies that a particular requirement within the a collection of requirements, that is, a requirement structure is relevant to that specific User Acceptance Test Step Structure, that in turn is related to a specific User Acceptance Test Step.

4 Operation

Once the application is installed it is ready to use. Just invoke the software from the metabase program. The application is a traditional windows application. Metabase reports are accomplished through any ODBC class report writer such as Crystal Reports.

4.1 Log In Process

Figure 2 shows the log-in screen that appears immediately after the application is started. Choose the specific DBMS that is to be accessed and then press the Close button.

Figure 3 shows the screen that appears after the DBMS is chosen. Enter your user name and your password. These are created by the Metabase Administrator through the metabase administration module. Please contact your metabase administrator to set up your user name and password. Once a user name and password is established, all the user's information can be changed by the user through a restricted use version of the administrator software. Once the send button is pressed the specific metabase database instances that can be accessed by the user is presented. The metabase is such that users are allowed to use specific metabase instances and specific metabase modules.

In this particular example, the user, once they sent their user name and password are shown the metabase database that they can access, that is, Movies. Highlight the choice and press the Select button. Once that is done then the metabase name, Movies, is shown as the data set that is being accessed.

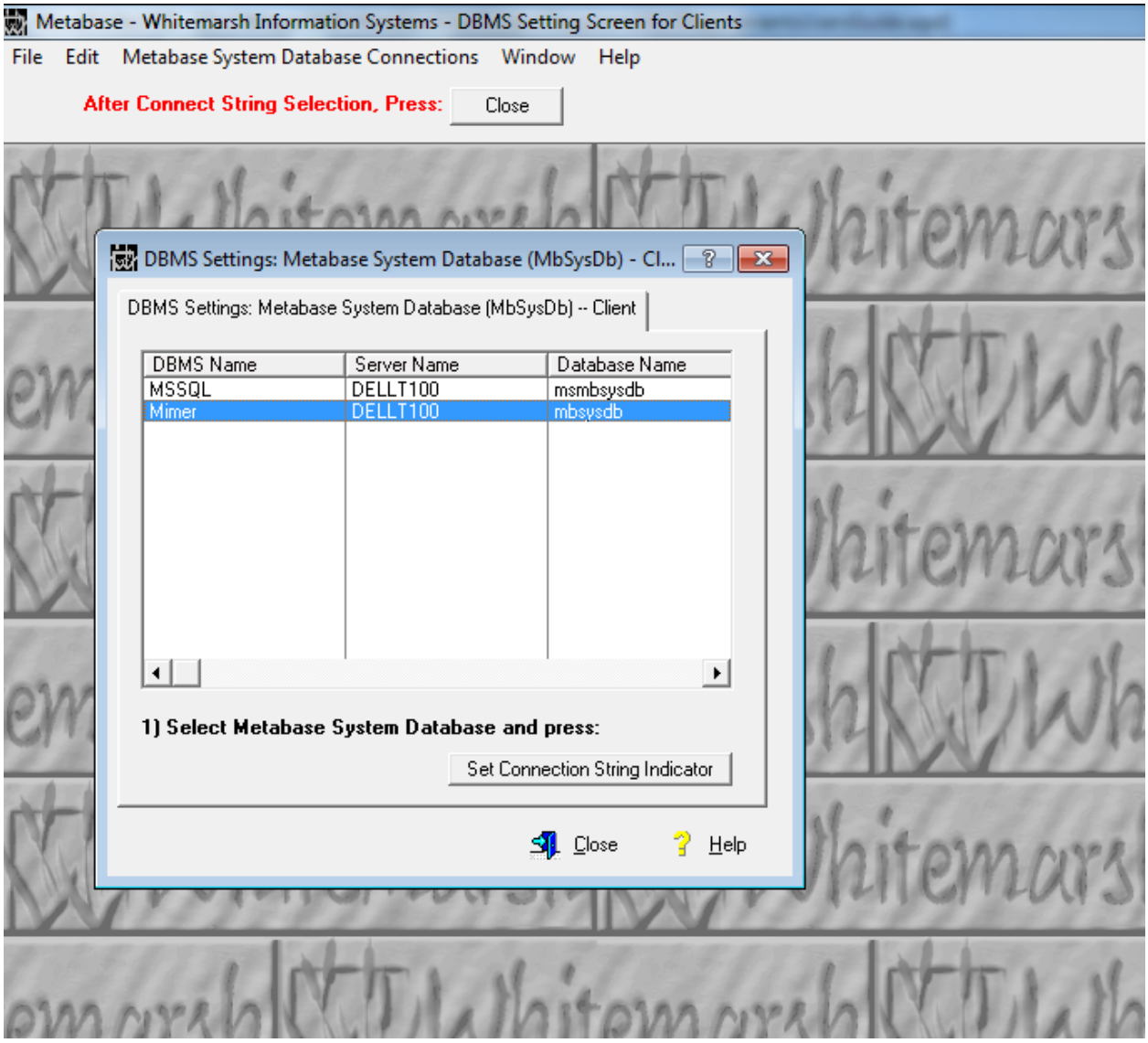

Figure 2. Log-in Screen.

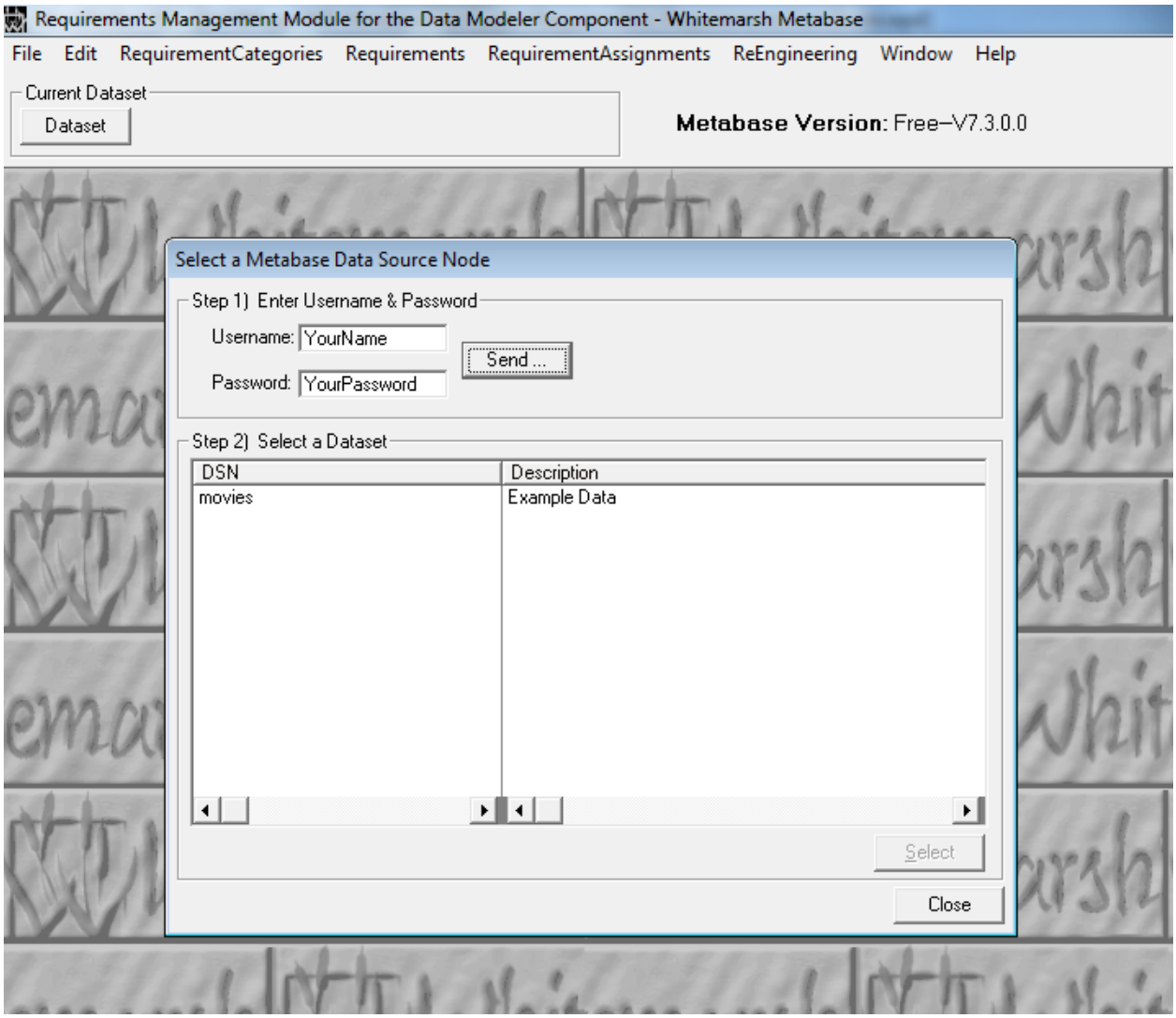

Figure 3. User Name and Password Screen.

5 Process Model

5.1 Menu Structure

The top level of the Requirements Management module includes the following:

- Requirements Category
- Requirements
- Requirement Assignments
- ReEngineering

A complete menu is provided in the table that follows:

Menu for Requirements Management
-- Requirement Categories -- Requirement Category -- Requirements -- Requirement -- Requirement Structure -- Requirement Structure Type -- Requirement Assignments -- Requirement Business Event Assignment -- Requirement Business Information System Assignment -- Requirement Database Object Assignment -- Requirement Data Integrity Rule Clause Assignment -- Requirement DBMS Column Assignment -- Requirement Mission Organization Function Assignment -- Requirement Resource Life Cycle Node Assignment -- Requirement Use Case Event Assignment -- Requirement User Acceptance Test Step Assignment -- ReEngineering -- Reallocate Requirement Category -- Reallocate Requirement To Different Requirement Category

Figure 4 shows an example of navigating the menu structure.

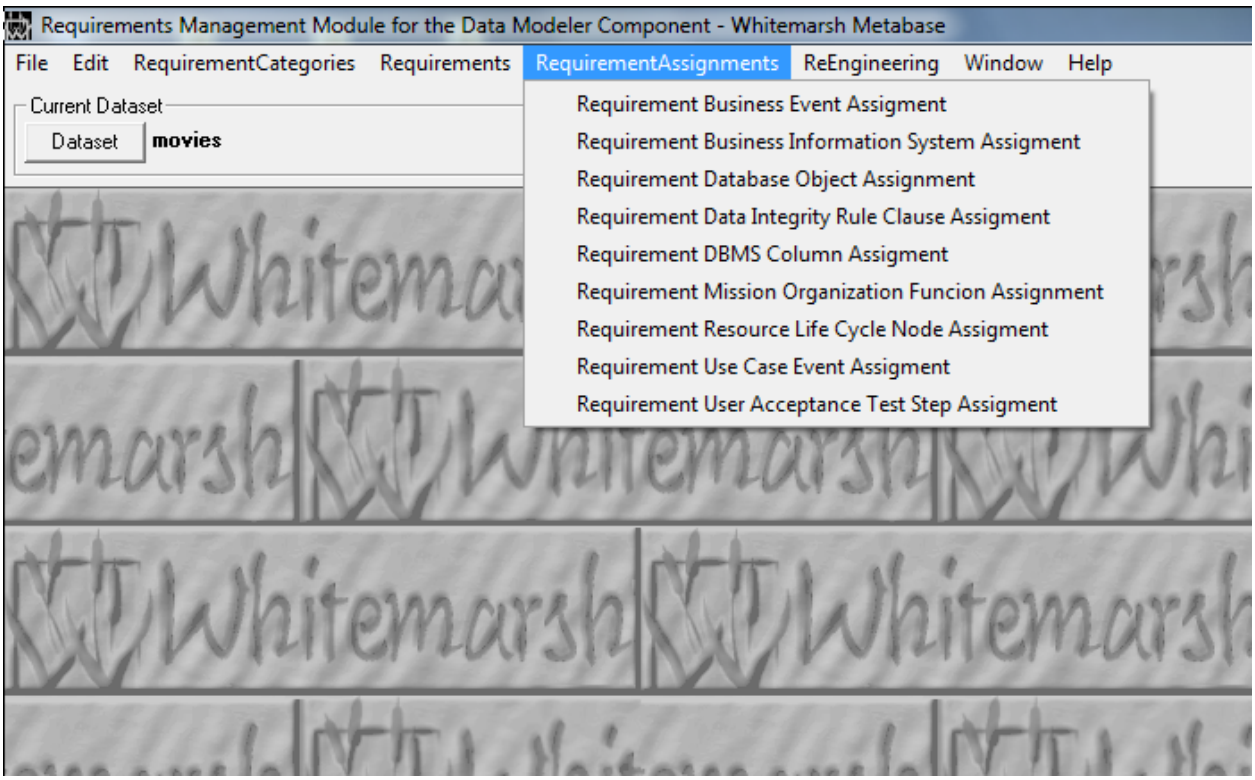

Figure 4. Requirement Assignments Menu Structure.

5.2 Requirement Processes

The processes necessary to define and interrelate requirement data are:

- Requirement Category
- Requirements
- Requirement Structure
- Requirement Structure Type
- Requirement Business Event Assignment
- Requirement Business Information System Assignment
- Requirement Database Object Assignment
- Requirement Data Integrity Rule Clause Assignment
- Requirement DBMS Column Assignment
- Requirement Mission Organization Function Assignment
- Requirement Resource Life Cycle Node Assignment
- Requirement Use Case Event Assignment
- Requirement User Acceptance Test Step Assignment
- Reallocate Requirement Category
- Reallocate Requirement To Different Requirement Category

5.2.1 Requirement Category

A requirement category is a means of classifying requirements. There at least two schemes for determining requirement categories the first is from the business information system engineering perspective such as Missions, Organization, Functions, Database Objects, Business Information Systems, Data Models, and the like. Under this scenario the requirements relate to the fact that these types of work product have to be accomplished and what specific requirements have to exist for each.

The second scheme relates to the business-centric requirements that need to be created. For example, what are the requirements that need to be put into place for Timeliness, Precision, Finance, Human Resources, Marketing, and the like. Specific requirements for each should be specified. As collections of Requirement Structures are created, requirements from the Business scheme can be set within those of business information system engineering scheme.

Figure 6 presents the update scheme for any Requirement Category.

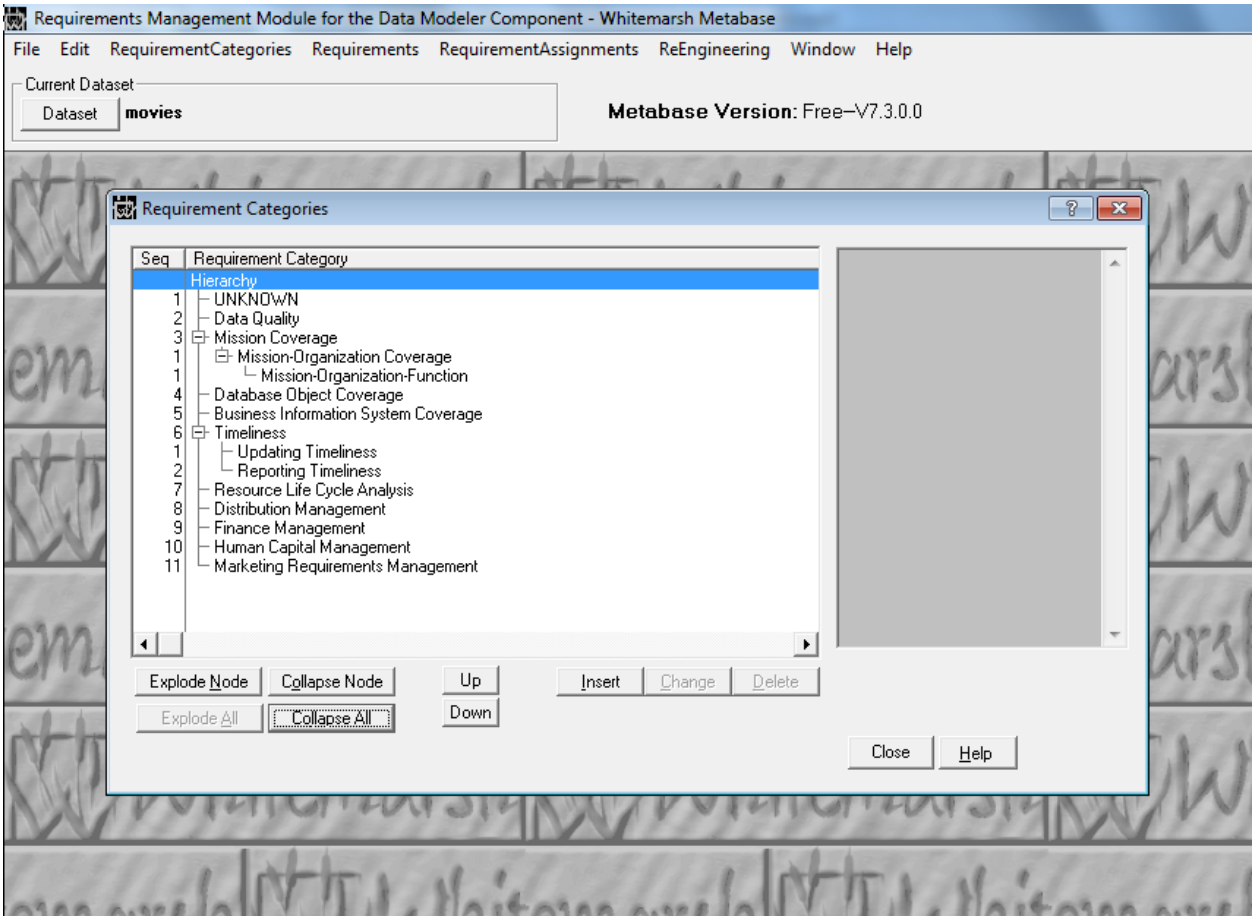

Figure 5. Requirements Categories.

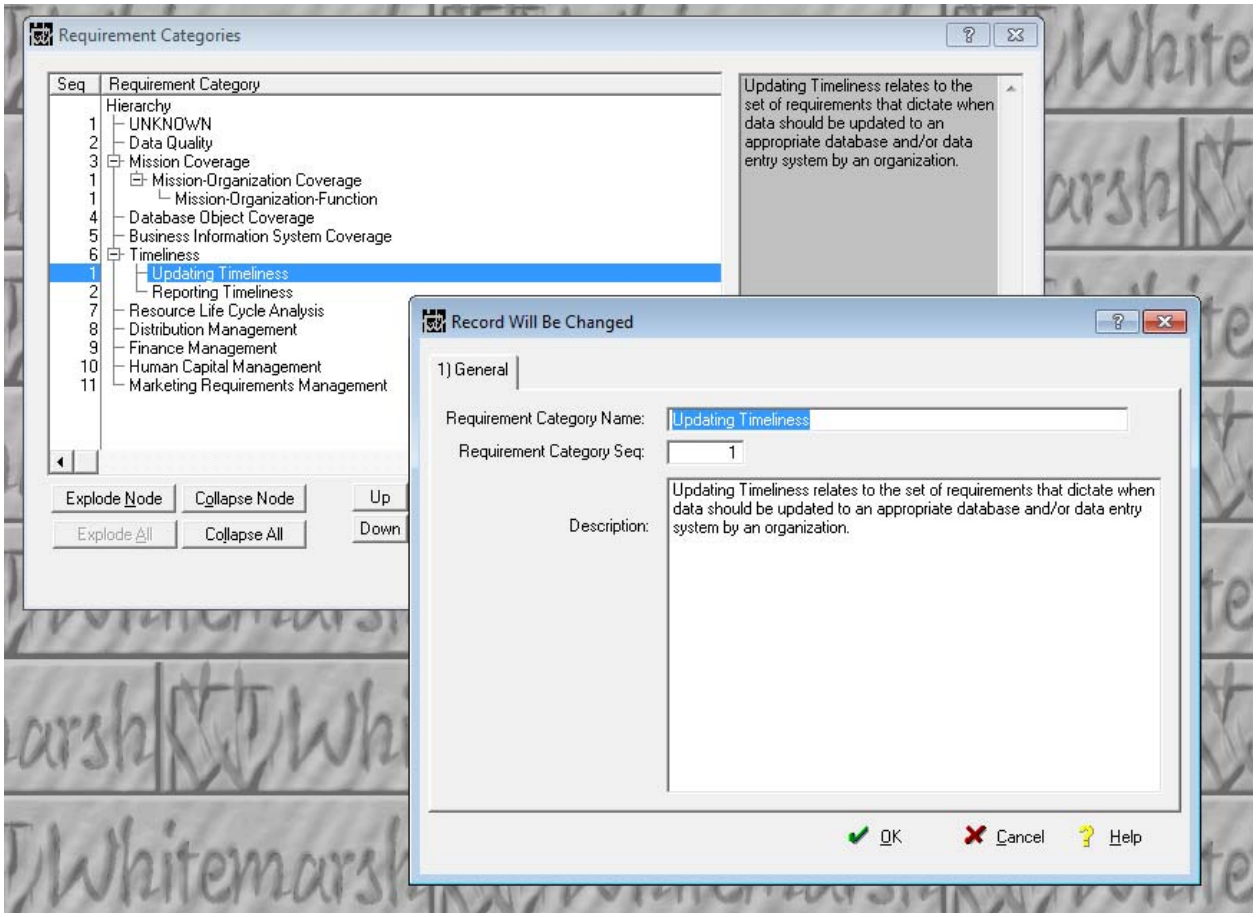

Figure 6. Requirements Categories Update.

5.2.2 Requirement

Requirements consist of three tables:

- Requirements
- Requirement Structure
- Requirement Structure Type

5.2.1.1 Requirements

Figure 7 provides a list of requirements that are currently stored in the metabase. Since Requirements do not exist in isolation, it is also subject to DELETE referential integrity rules. In

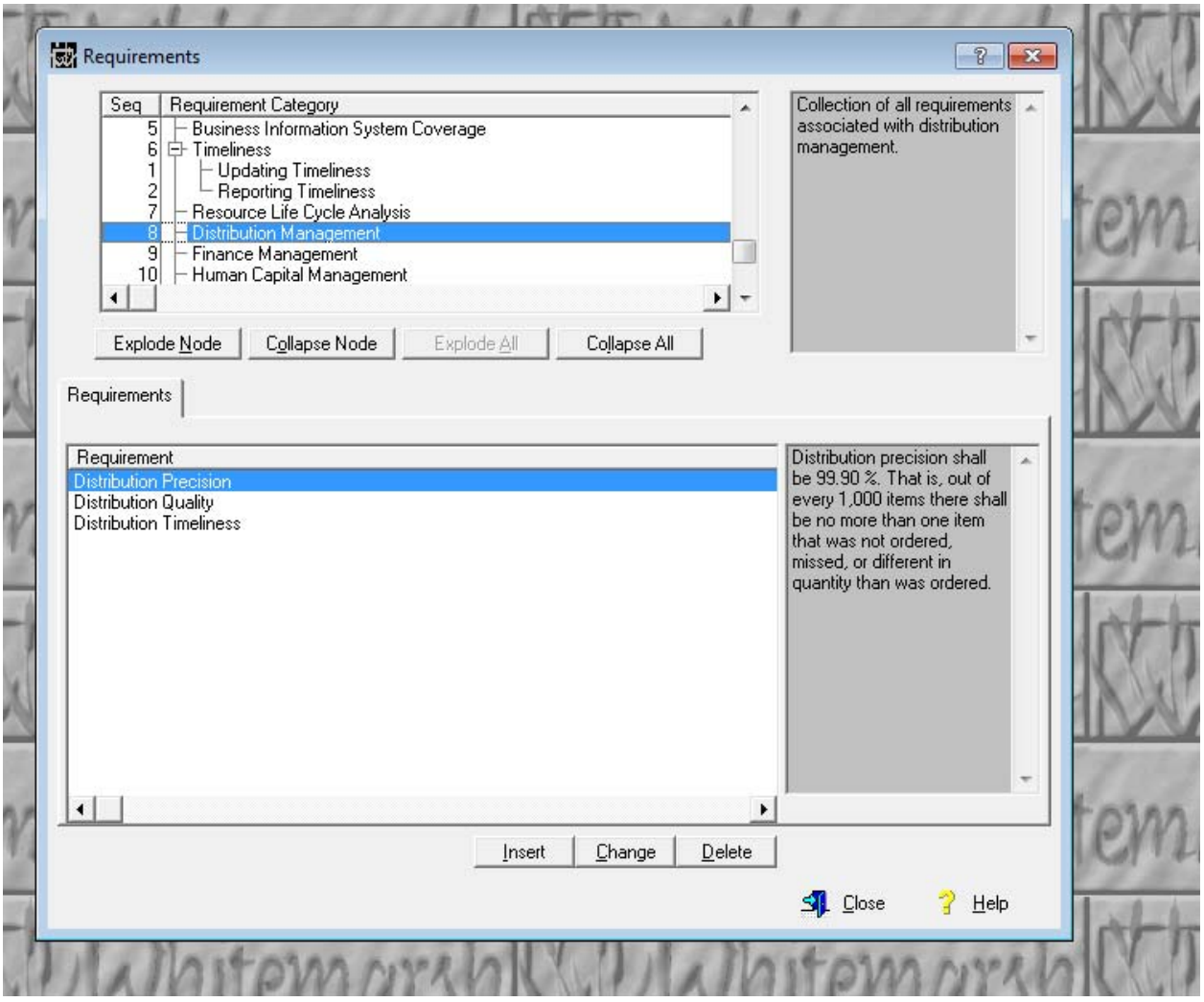

Figure 7. Requirements within Requirement Categories

this case, a requirement may be allocated to one or more requirement sections, or requirement structures. These relationships are shown in Figure 1. Regardless of the cause of the attachment, the effects are felt in this module. If a requirement deletion is attempted, the deletion will be rejected if there is an attached requirement section or requirement structure.

Figure 8 presents the update screen for a requirement.

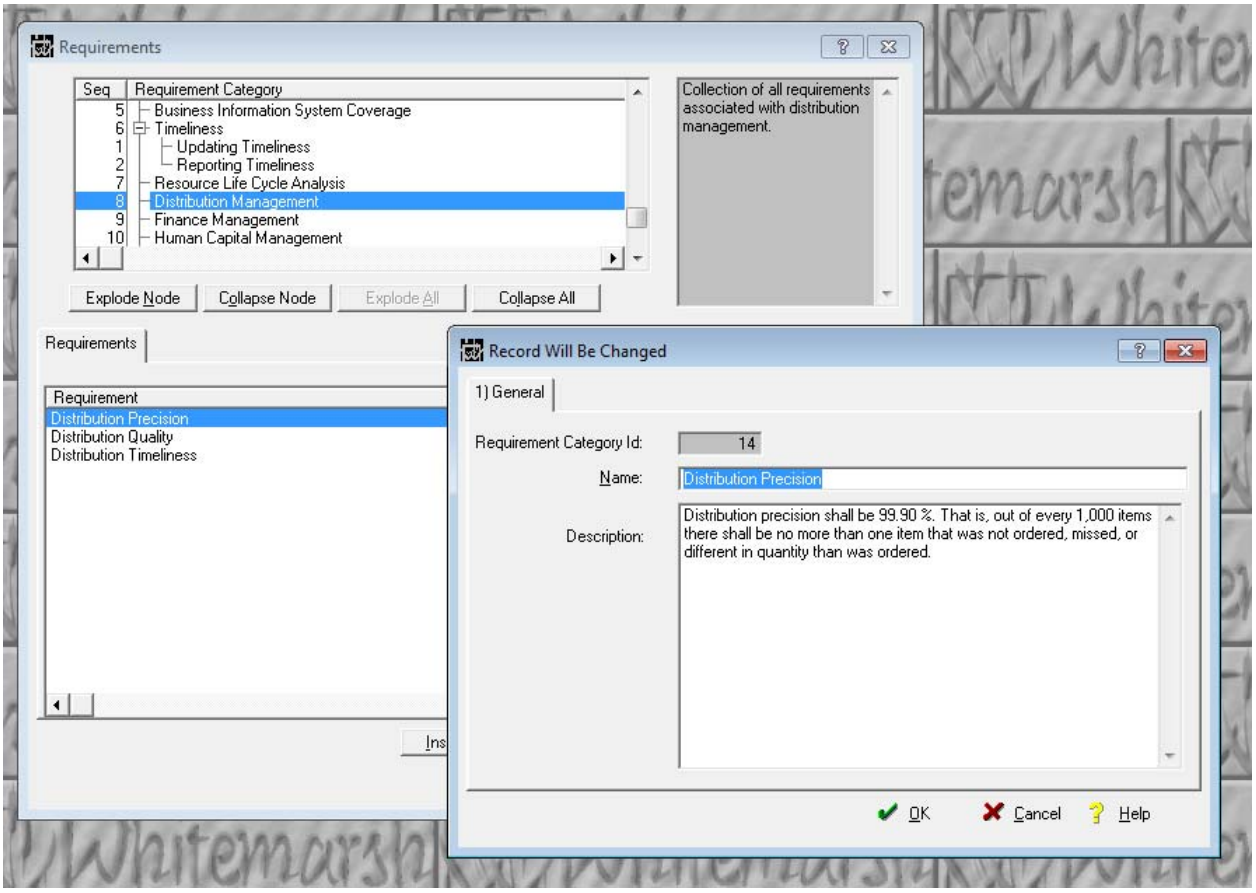

Figure 8. Requirement Update Screen.

5.2.1.2 Requirement Structure

Figure 9 provides a list of requirement structures that are currently stored in the metabase. Requirements can exist singly or in hierarchies, or networks. In the last case, Requirements form a traditional bill of materials data structure.

From above, Figure 8 presents a set of requirements. These requirements are not displayed within structures, that is, Distribution Precision. To create a structure among a collection of Requirements, select the menu item, Requirement Structure. Figure 9 presents the current set of Requirement Structures. If, after highlighting the appropriate Requirement Structure Type row, there are no acceptable requirement structures, press the Insert button so that Figure 10 is then presented.

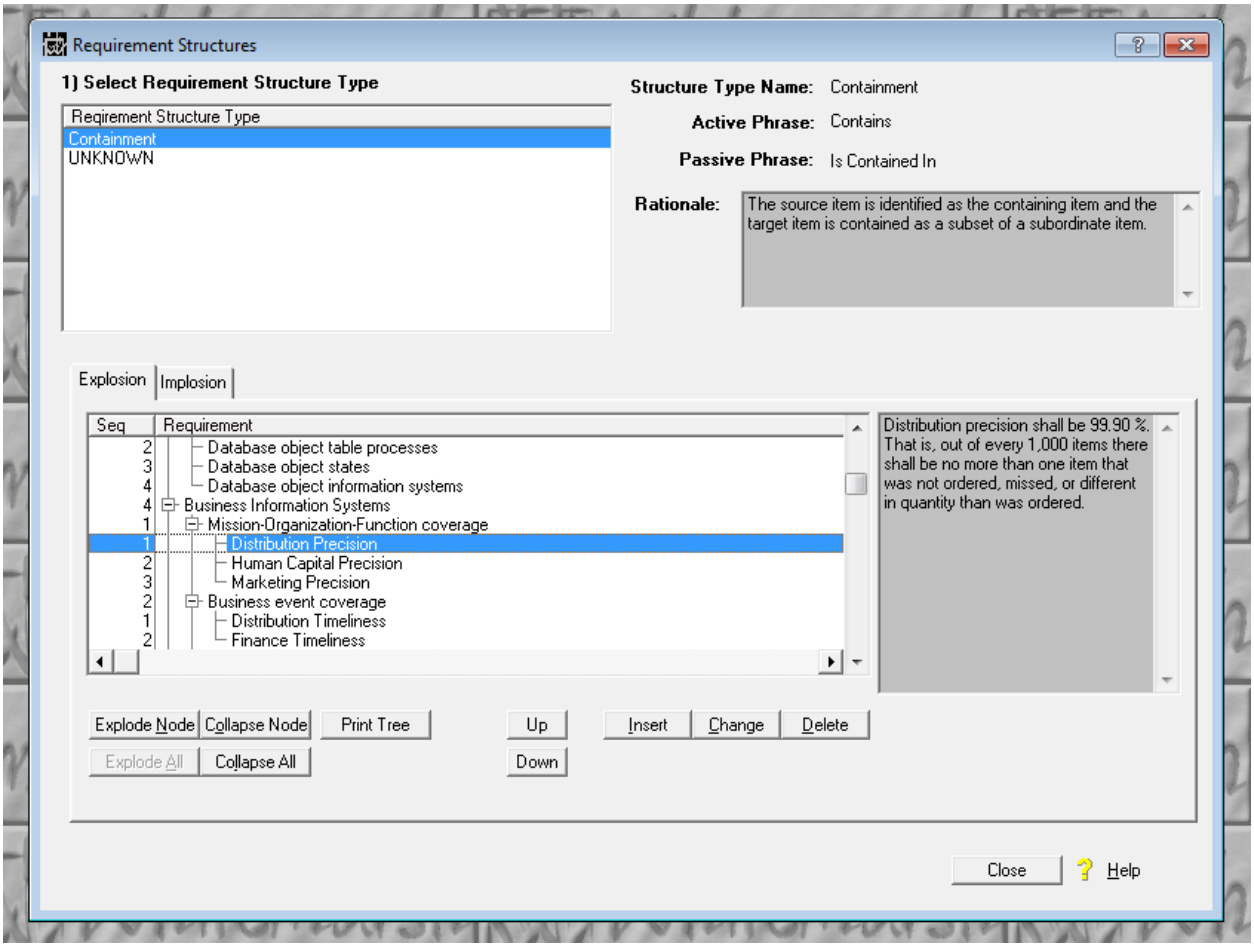

Figure 9. Requirement Structures.

On Figure 9, there are two tabs. Explosion and Implosion. An explosion is a collection of "active tense" relationships, Business Information Systemss contain Mission-Organization-Function coverage which in turn contains Distribution Precision.

Implosion is the reverse. Figure 11 shows a existing set of Requirement Structure inversions. In this example, Distribution Timeliness is contained in Business Event Coverage which, in turn is contained in Business Information Systems.

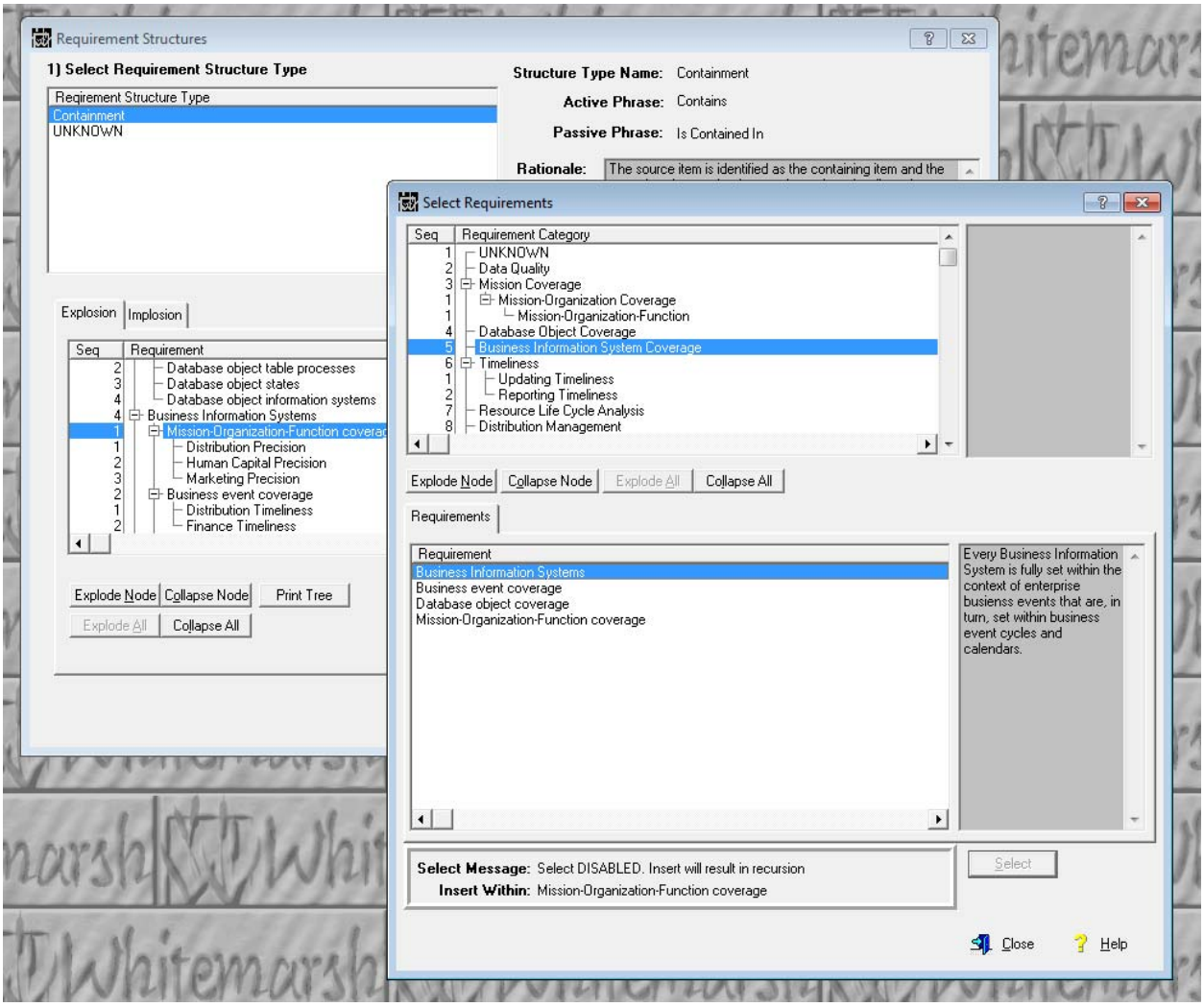

Figure 10. Requirement Select Screen for Requirement Structures.

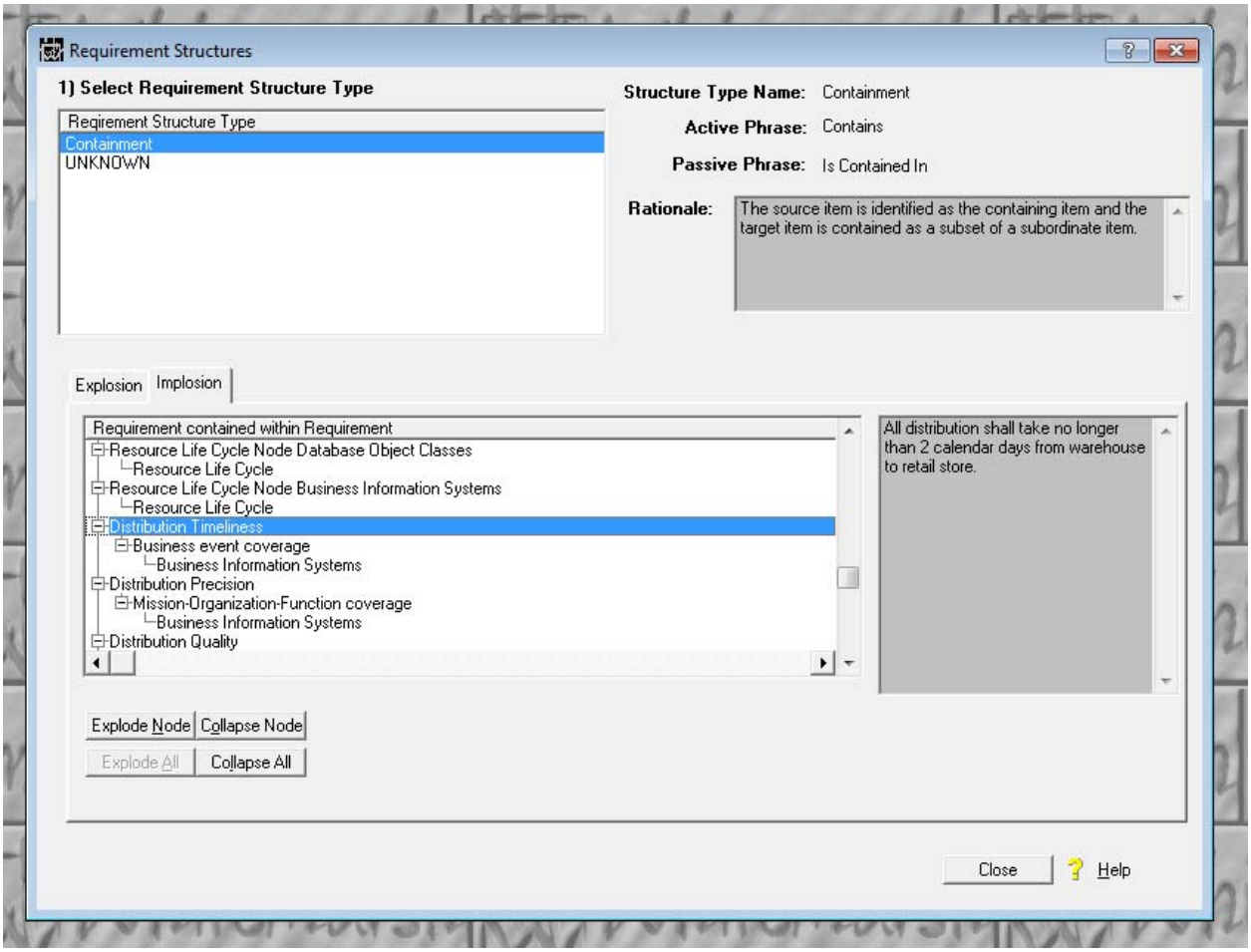

Figure 11. Requirement Structures Implosion.

When a new Requirement is to be inserted within an existing Requirement Structure, the name is highlighted and the Insert button is pressed, a screen like Figure 10 is presented. The specific Requirement that is desired as the containing Requirement is highlighted and the select button is pressed. In this particular example, (as shown in Figure 10), Mission Organization Function Coverage was highlighted as the parent, and Business Information System (within the Business Information System Coverage requirement category was inserted as the child). The message at the bottom of the Select window indicated that the insert process is not acceptable because that record is already within the structure. At that point, press the Select button. The three cases that are automatically screened out are presented in the BOM/SFR user guide.

5.2.1.3 Requirement Structure Type

The Requirement Structure type is a way of distinguishing one collection of requirement structures from another. Figure 12 presents the current list. If two different classification hierarchies are interconnected, it may be that the intersection is distinguished from the others by means of a different Requirement structure type.

Figure 13 presents the Requirement structure type update form. Not only is the name and description of the Requirement structure type provided, so too is the active phrase and the passive phrase. The active phrase is employed by the Whitemarsh metabase system when a down-ward structure is presented. For example, <parent> contains <child 1>, <child 2>,.., <child n>. The passive phrase enables the reverse phrases to be presented. That is, <child 2> is contained in <parent>.

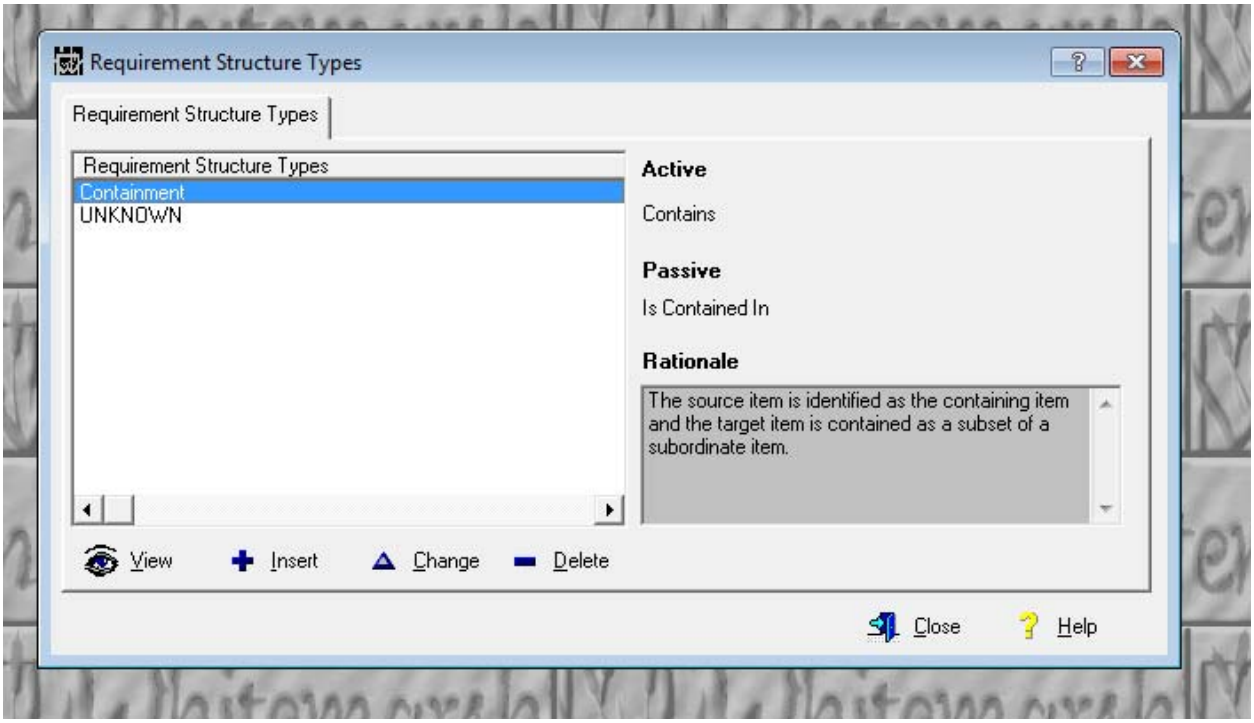

Figure 12. Requirement Structure Types.

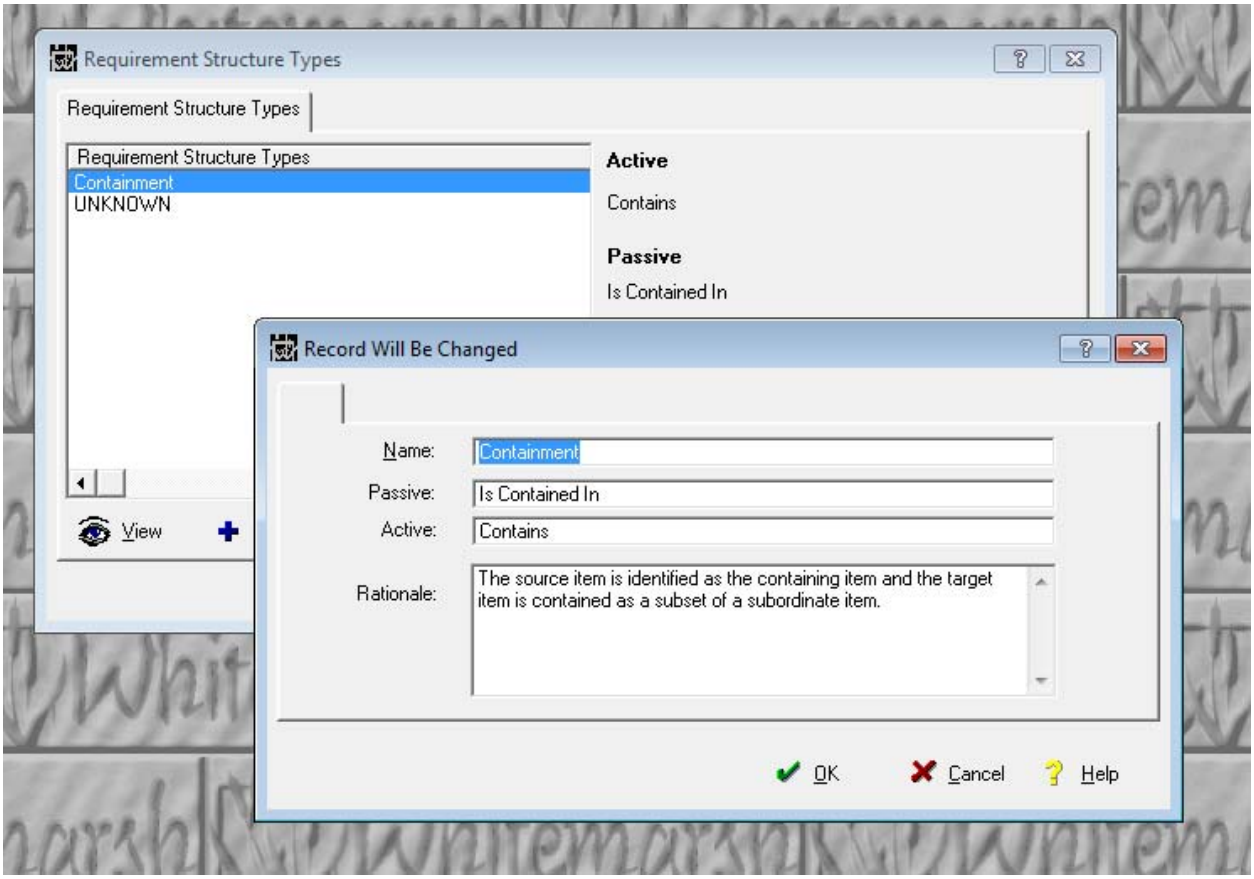

Figure 13. Update Requirement Structure Type.

5.3 Requirement Structure Business Event Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Business Events as a way to identify those business events that are the intersection of mission-organization-functions's and business information systems. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, select a specific business information system and tag one or more business events within the context of the business information system. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Restricted Value Sets is to be a requirement imposed on the Perform Marketing Program Management business event within the Customer Management business information system. Not only is the association shown, so to is the mission-organization-function that is also the parent of the business event shown.

If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

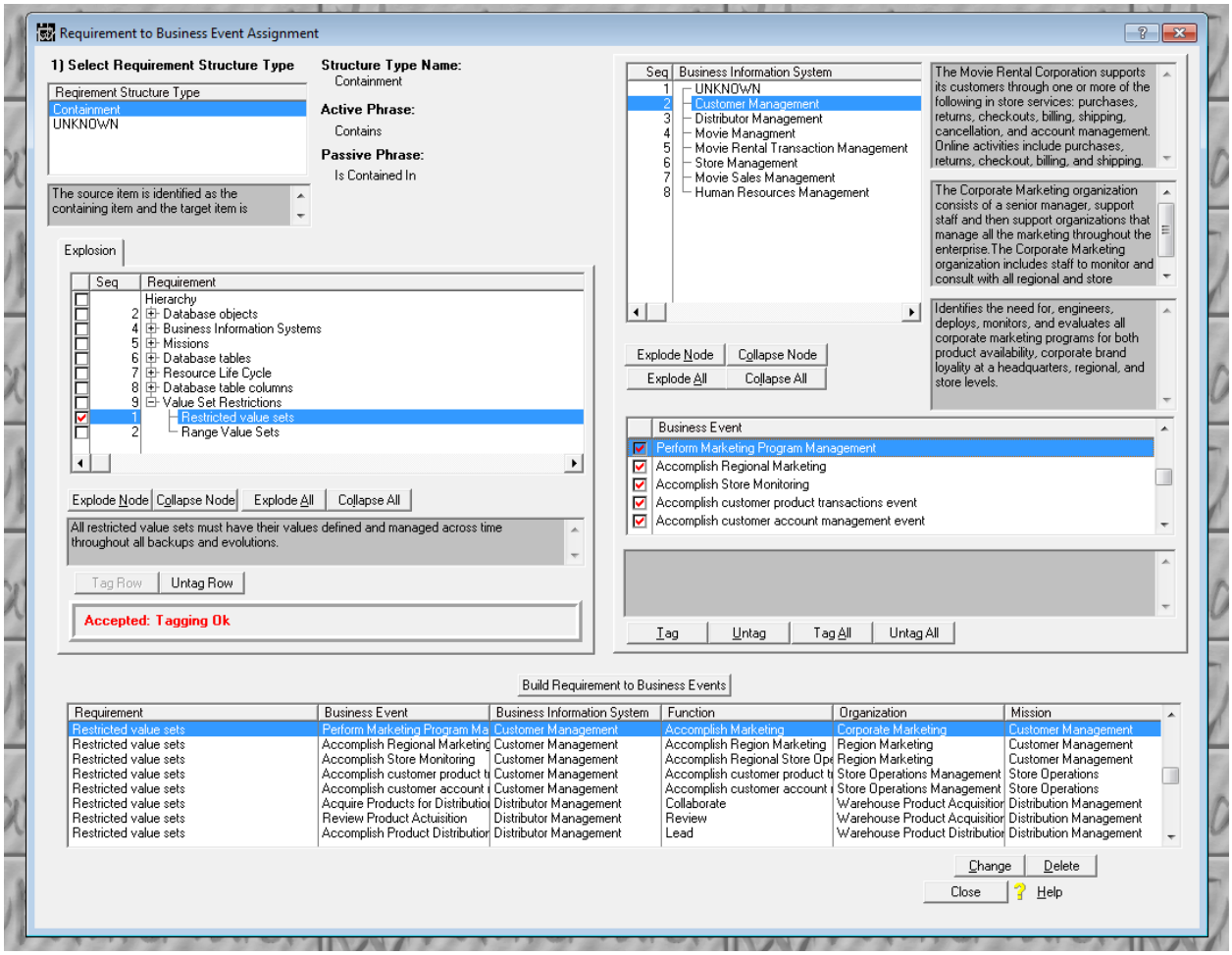

Figure 14. Requirement Assignment to Business Events.

5.4 Requirement Structure Business Information System Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Business Information Systems as a way to identify those requirements that a given business information system must exhibit. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, tag one or more specific business information systems. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Human Capital Precision is to be a requirement imposed on the Customer Management business information system. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

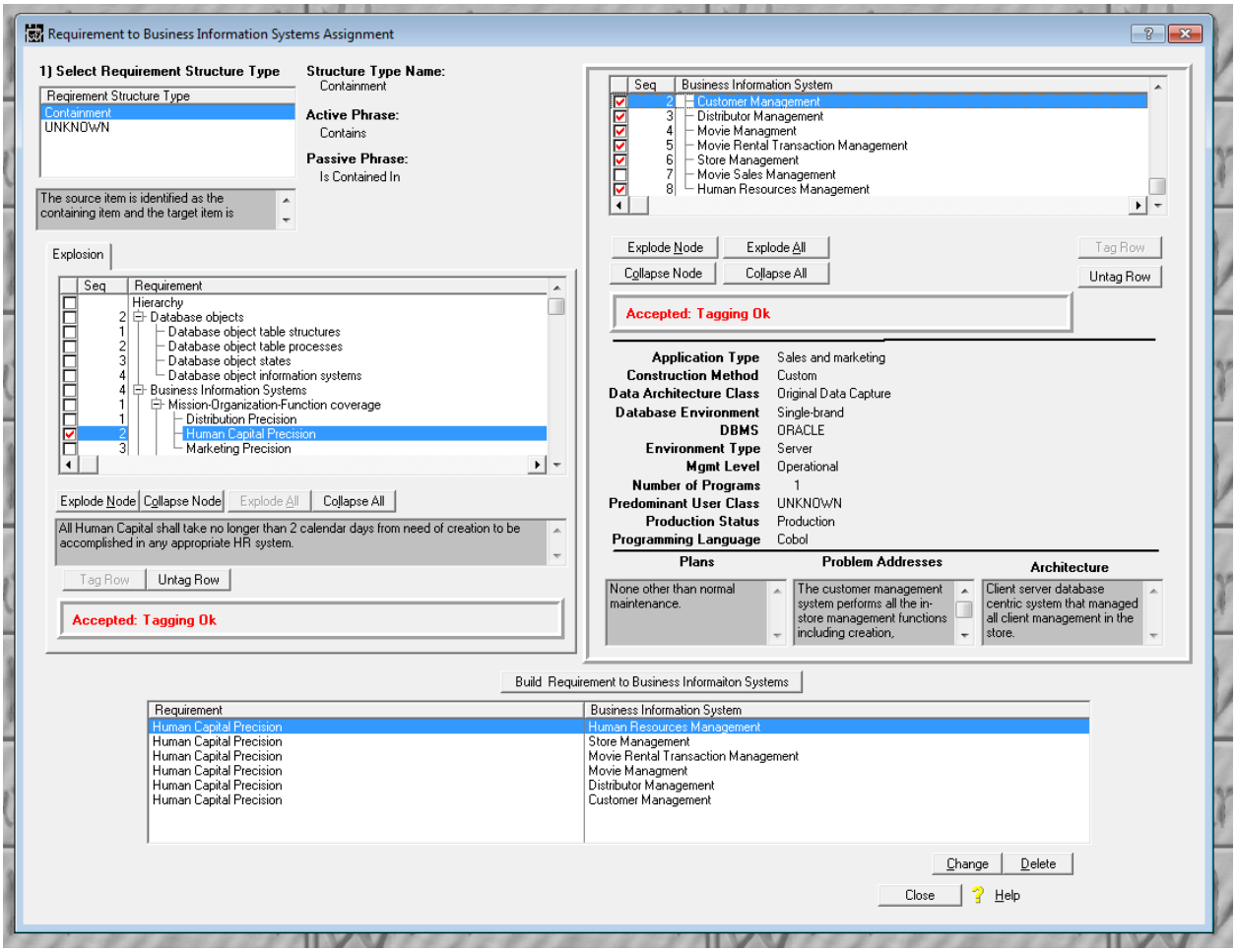

Figure 15. Requirement Assignment to Business Information System.

5.5 Requirement Structure Database Object Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Database Objects within the context of a specific database schema as a way to identify those database object classes that need to be represented within the enterprise. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, select a database schema and then tag one or more specific database objects. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Database Object Table Schemas is to be a requirement imposed on the database schema, Movies Original Data Capture's Employee Object. It is likely that the other three parts of a complete database object's specification would be a requirement as well. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

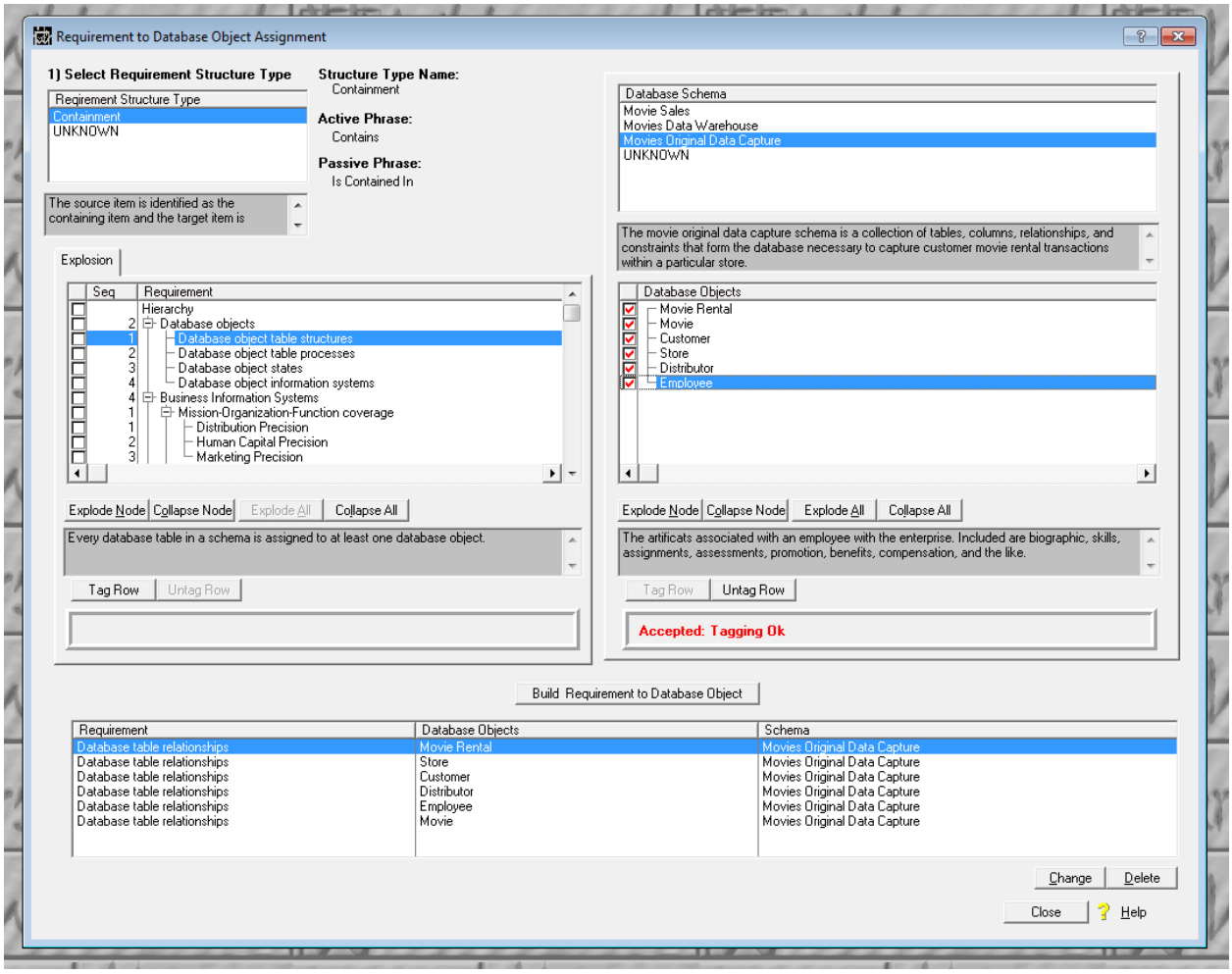

Figure 16. Requirement Assignment to Database Object.

5.6 Requirement Structure Data Integrity Rule Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Data Integrity Rule as a way to identify those data integrity rules that must be accomplished. ***Note**: as the Data Integrity Rule metabase system module is implemented its data model and thus its processes may change.* At this point, the assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, select a data integrity rule type, and then one or more data integrity rule rules within the context of a collection of data integrity rules. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

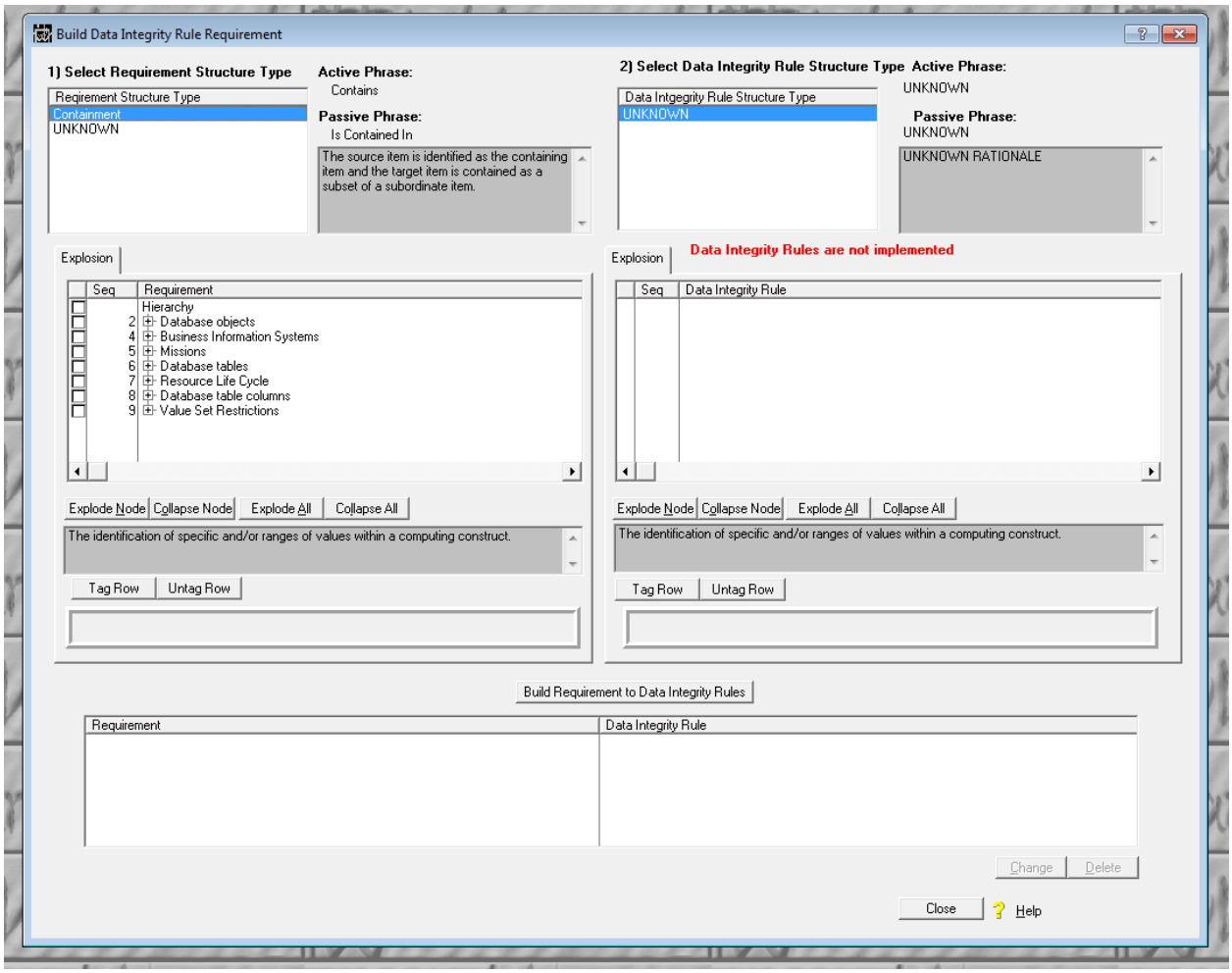

Figure 17. Requirement Assignments to Data Integrity Rules.

5.7 Requirement Structure DBMS Column Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to DBMS Column as a way to identify those DBMS Columns must exist within a given database. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, select a specific DBMS Schema, DBMS Table, and finally, tag one or more specific DBMS Columns. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Dates is to be a requirement imposed on the Movie Data Warehouse DBMS Schema, Employee DBMS Table, Employee Hire Date DBMS Column. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

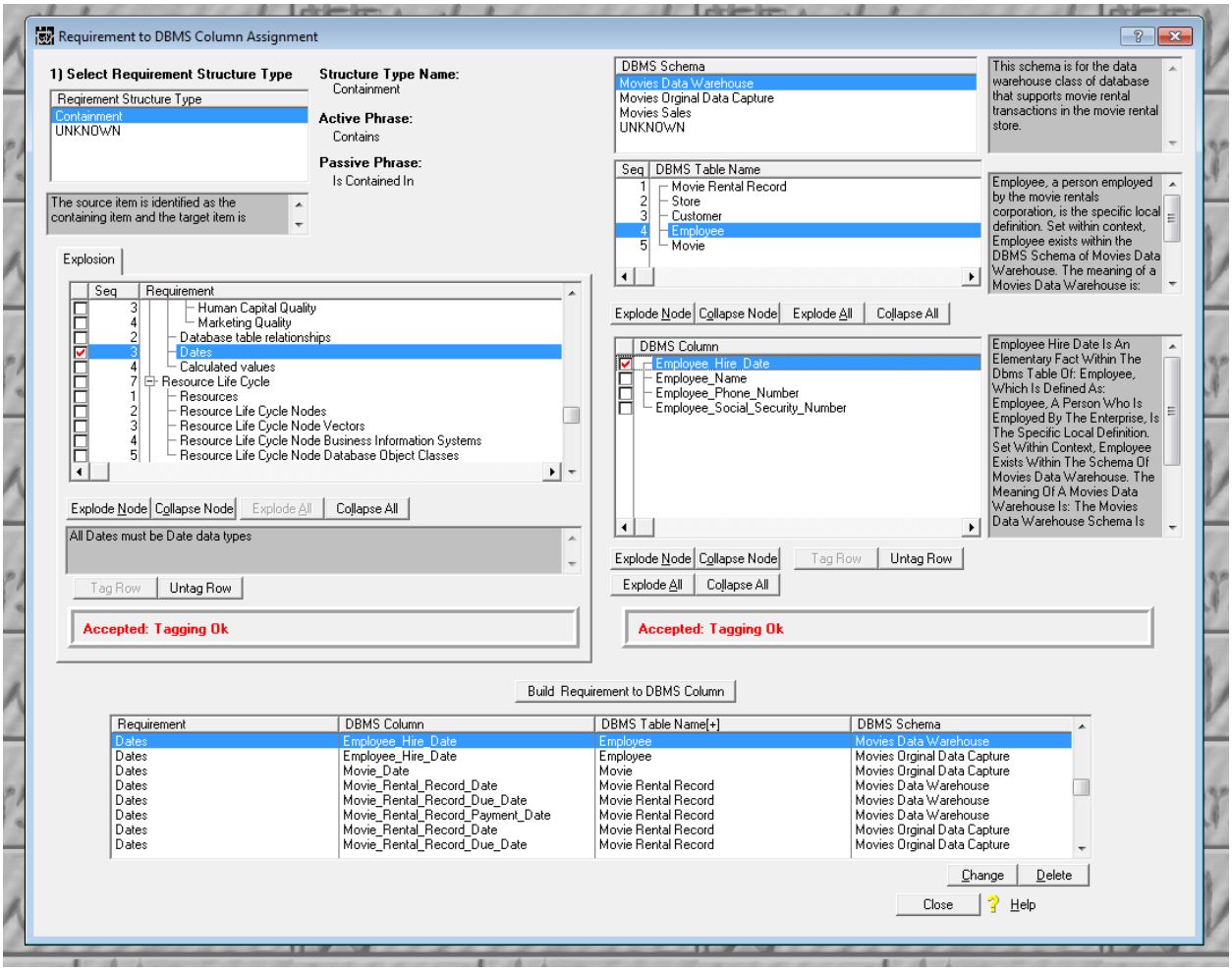

Figure 18. Requirement Assignment to DBMS Columns.

5.8 Requirement Structure Mission Organization Function Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Mission-Organization-Functions as a way to identify those functions performed by certain organizations as they achieve enterprise missions. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, tag one or more specific functions within organizations that are accomplishing missions. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, requirement functions must be identified for the mission, Customer Account Management that are performed by Store Marketing. That is, Accomplish Customer Account Management. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

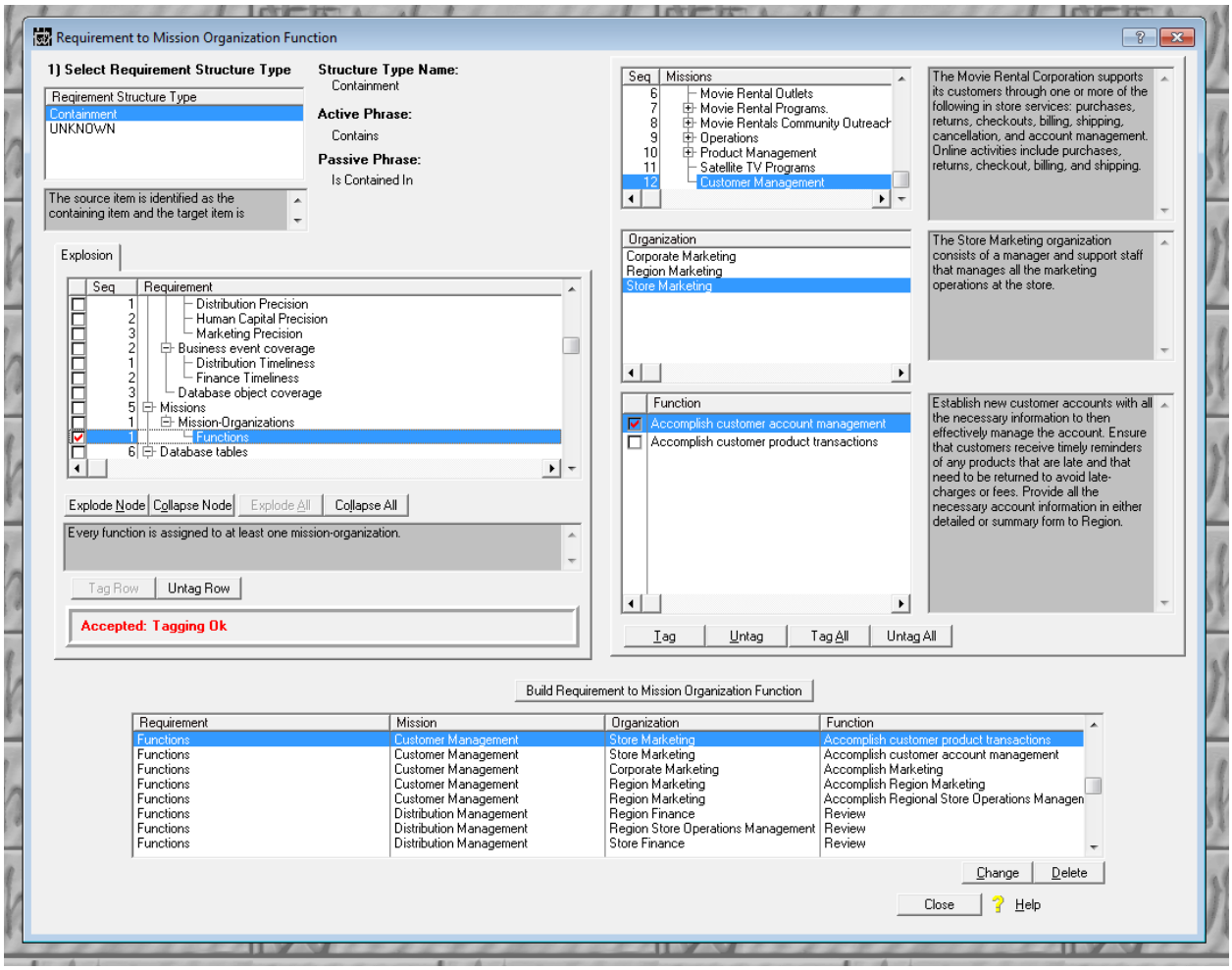

Figure 19. Requirement Assignment to Function within Organization and Mission.

5.9 Requirement Structure Resource Life Cycle Node Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Resource Life Cycle Nodes as a way to identify those Resource Life Cycle Nodes that need to exist for the complete end-to-end transformation of a resource within an enterprise. Resource Life Cycle Nodes are ultimately accomplished by their assigned database object classes and business information systems. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, select a resource type, a resource, and tag one or more specific resource life cycle nodes. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Customer Wait Time is to encompass the accomplishment of five tagged resource life cycle nodes. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

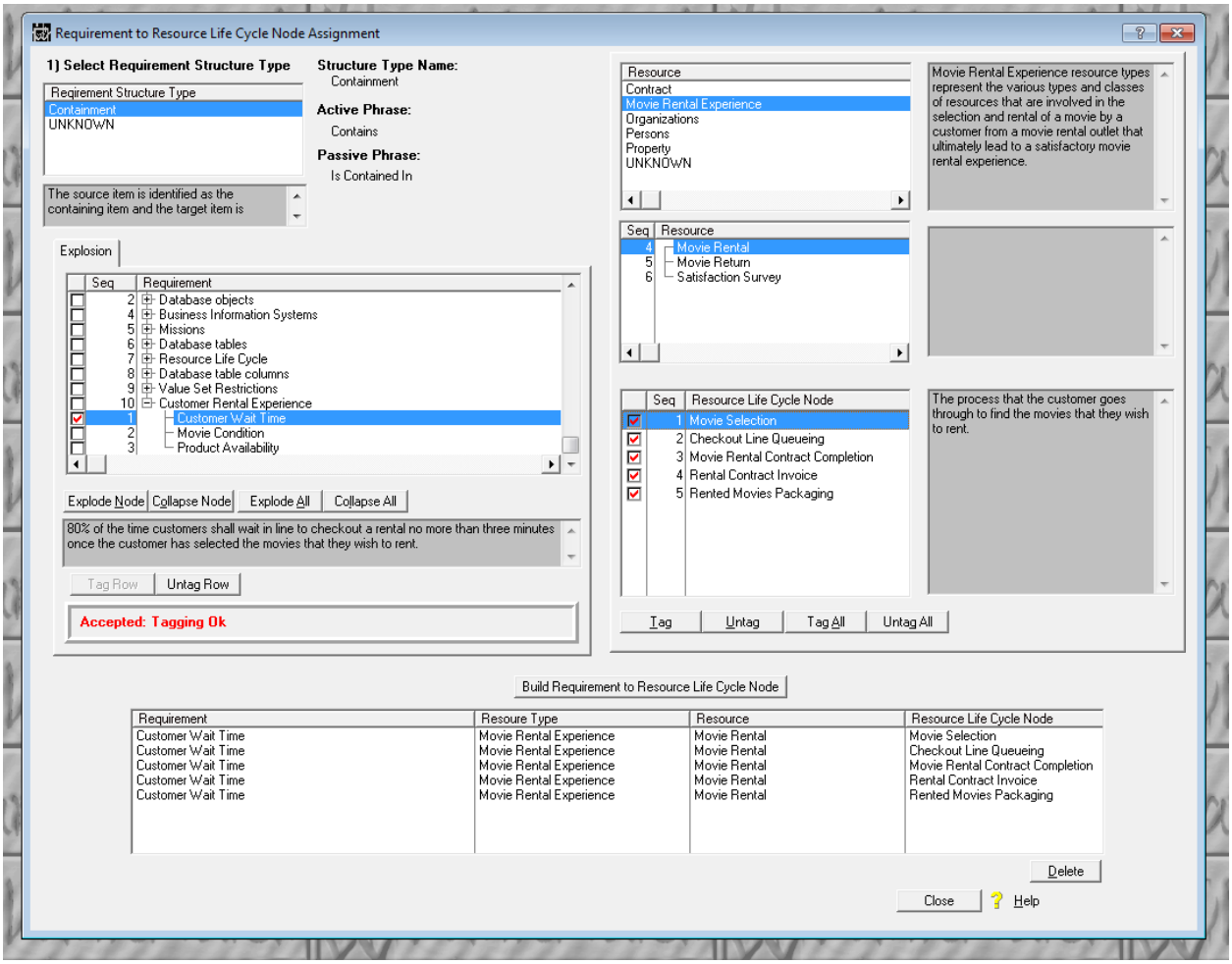

Figure 20. Requirement Assignment to Resource Life Cycle Node.

5.10 Requirement Structure Use Case Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to Use Cases as a way to identify those use cases that must be accomplished to satisfy a particular requirements within the enterprise. The assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, tag one or more specific Use Cases. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Functions must then encompass the entire set of use cases that are a requirement imposed on the enterprise. Use Cases through their Use Case Events are distributed to different business information systems. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

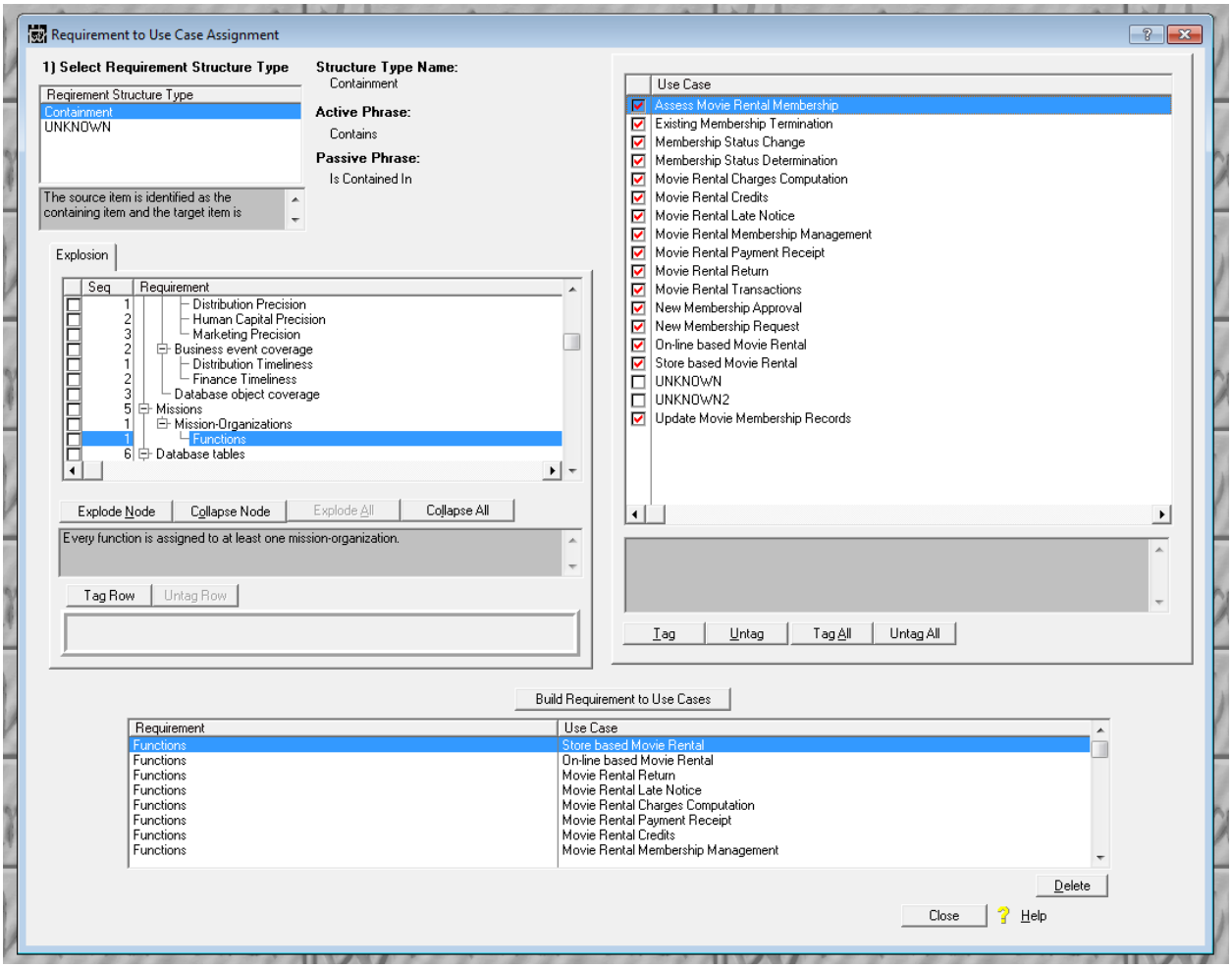

Figure 21. Requirement Assignment to Use Cases.

5.11 Requirement Structure User Acceptance Test Step Assignment

Requirement Structures can be assigned to User Acceptance Test Steps as a way to identify those acceptance test steps that must be performed and by implication, succeed, before a given business information system can be considered complete. The mapping from the user acceptance test step is through view column to view and then to business information system. ***Note**: as the User Acceptance Test metabase system module is implemented its data model and thus its processes may change.* At this point, the assignment process consists of selecting a Requirement Structure Type and tagging a single appropriate requirement within a structure of requirements. Thereafter, tag one or more specific User Acceptance Test Steps. Once both sides are tagged, press the Build button. In this example, the requirement Human Capital Precision is to be a requirement imposed on the Customer Management business information system. If an association is to be deleted, it is selected and the delete button is pressed.

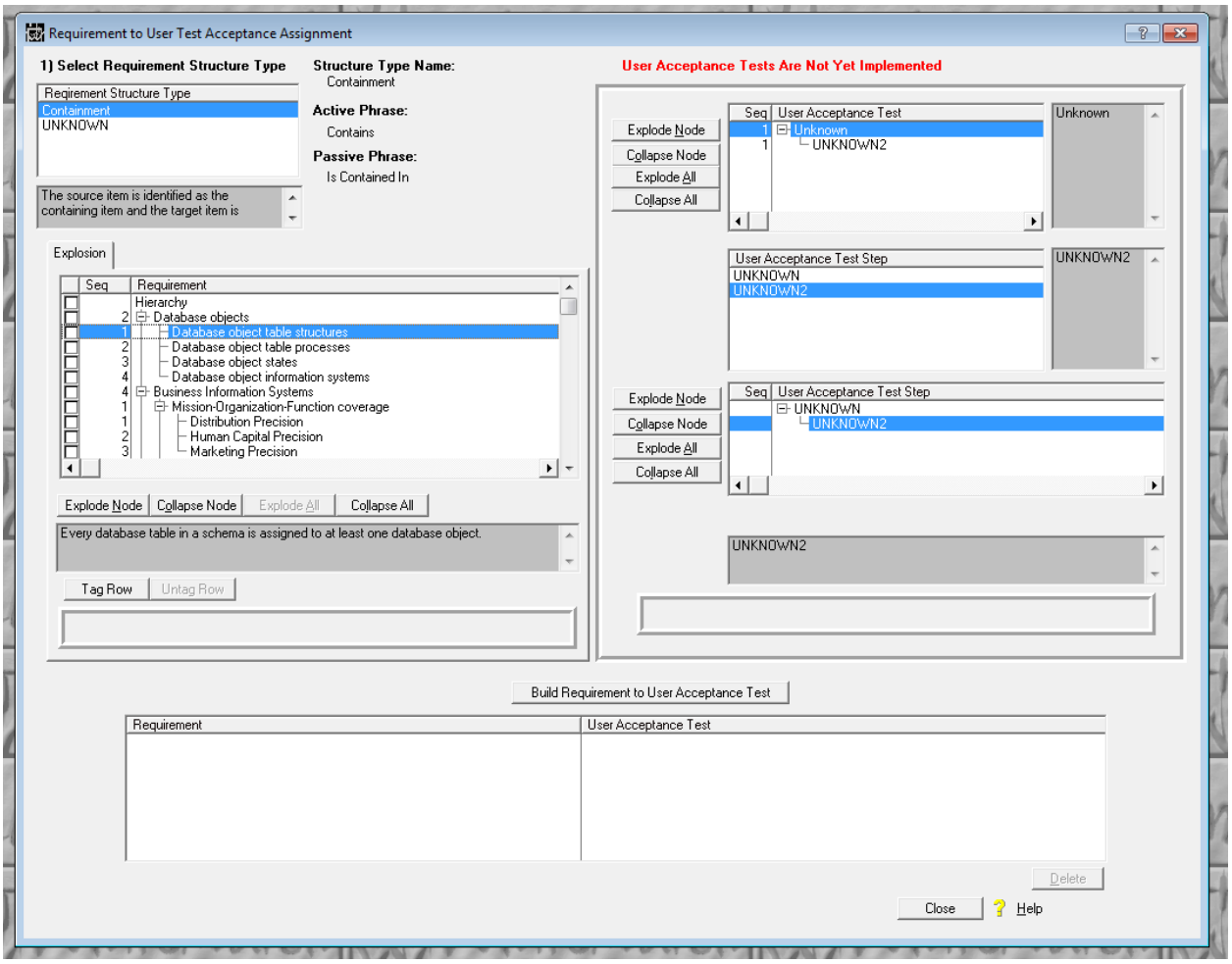

Figure 22. Requirement Assignment to Use Acceptance Test Step Structure.

5.12 Reallocate Requirement Category

Requirement Categories are hierarchical and are subject to redefinition. That is, be "moved" from one Requirement Category to another. The assignment process consists of tagging a "from" Requirement Category on the left side and then a "to" Requirement Category in the right side. Once both sides are tagged, press the ReAllocate button. In this example, the Requirement Category, Database Object Coverage, is to be reallocated to be within the Sales Management Requirement Category.

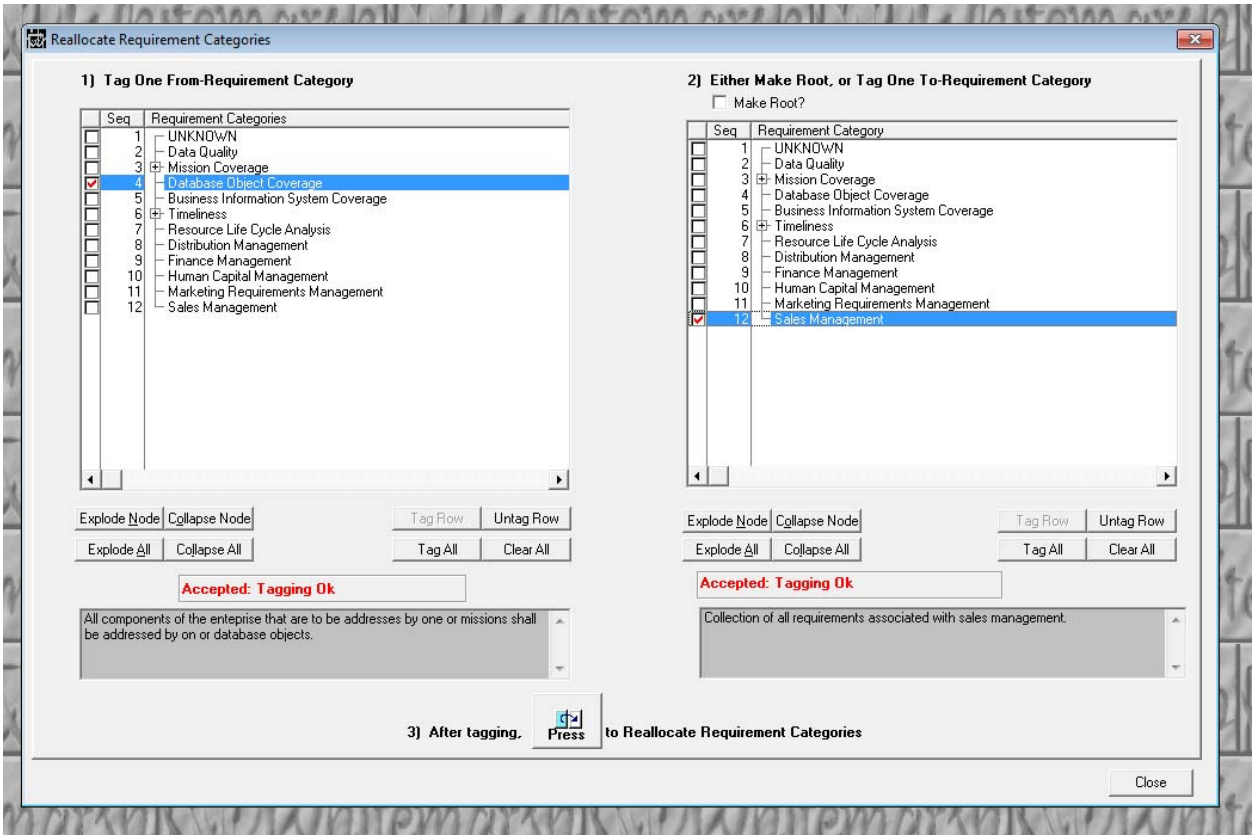

Figure 23. ReAllocation of a Requirement Category to Different Requirement Category.

5.13 Reallocate Requirement To Different Requirement Category

Requirements are assigned to Requirement Categories. Once assigned, they can be "moved" from one Requirement Category to another. The reallocation process consists of tagging a single appropriate requirement within a requirement category from the left side, and tagging a differ requirement category on the right side. Once both sides are tagged, press the ReAllocate button. In this example, the requirement Movie Condition is to be moved from its requirement category to the Distribution Management Requirement category.

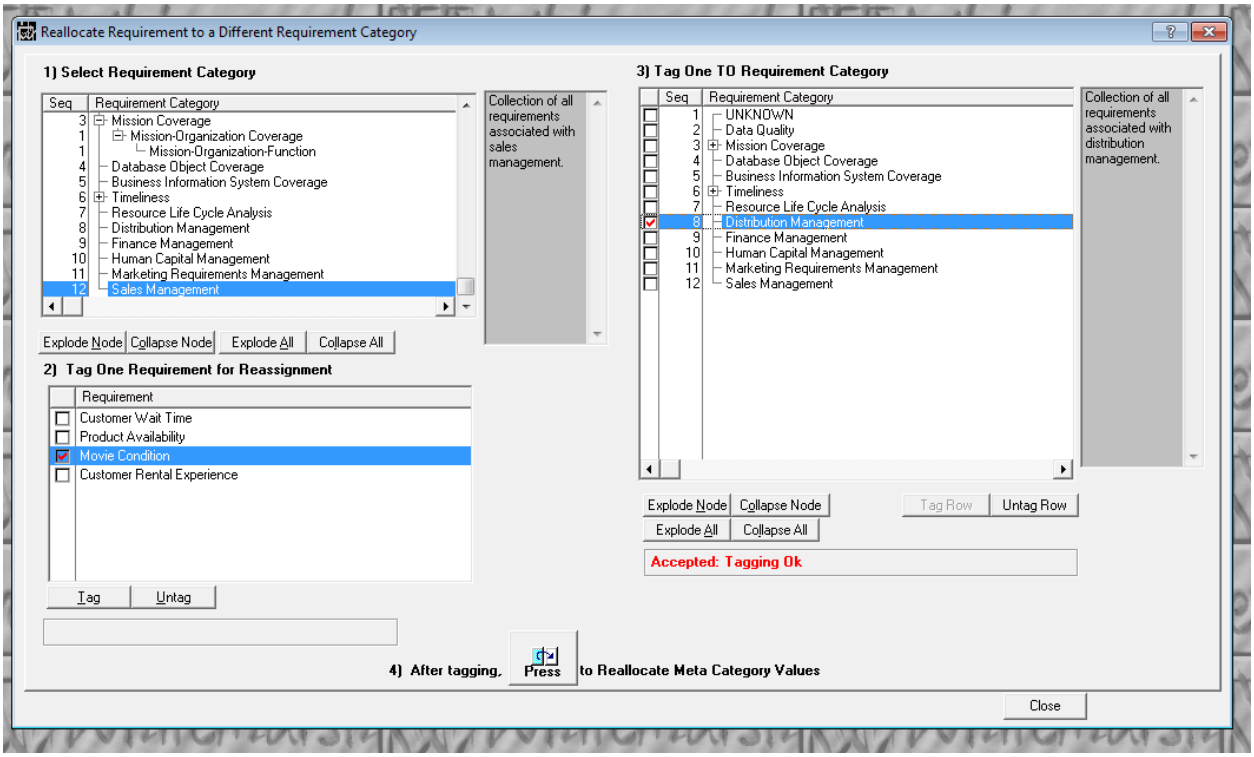

Figure 24. ReAllocation of Requirement to Different Requirement Category.

5.14 Reports

Reports are accomplished through access to a particular metabase database instance through commercial report writers such as Crystal Reports. Whitemarsh provides about 100 such report templates for Crystal Report access from the Whitemarsh website.