4. A landscape gardening company has six employees who work in the main office. Each employee has a stand-alone computer system and printer to use for his/her daily tasks. It was recommended that it would be more efficient if the six computers were networked.

(a) Explain what is meant by a 'network'.

(**2 marks**)

(b) Describe TWO benefits of networking the computer systems in the office. (**2 marks**)

(c) State, with reasons, whether the network among these employees in the office would be an intranet, extranet, or internet.

(**2 marks**)

(d) Describe TWO security measures that would protect the computers and data from unauthorised access.

(**2 marks**)

(e) Identify TWO ways in which employees in the office can contact gardeners who are on a job.

(**2 marks**)

Total 10 marks

4

(a) A network is when (more) computer systems are linked with eachother via cables or wirelessly so that information can be shared and for easier communication.

(b) • When computers are linked to eachother, they can share information by transferring files and other important documents to eachother.

• When computers are linked to eachother, they can all utilize one printer. This reduces the number of printers in the office.

(c) The network would be an intranet because the only authorized access to the network would be from the employees within the company.

(d) • The use of passwords can protect the entering of computers and data.

• The use of biometric devices, i.e eye/retina scanners, to enable certain persons on gaining entry into a room with important data and computers.

(e) • The use of VoIP (Voice over internet protocol) where persons in the office can make a telephone call via the internet to the gardener on the job.

• The use of IRC (Internet Relay Chat) where persons in the office can send messages to persons' mobiles provided that the person on the job has internet access on his/her mobile

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CSEC Information Technology

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Comments

<u>Question 4</u>

The question tested the candidate's knowledge on data security, data communication and networks and the differences between internet, intranet and extranet.

For Part (a), the candidate exhibited good knowledge for the basics of networks (linked together).

In Part (b), the candidate showed good knowledge of network functions (explanation of sharing of information and hardware).

In Part (c), the candidate gave the correct response to the type of network used.

For Part (d), the candidate demonstrated good knowledge of the types of security measures that can be used to protect data.

For Part (e), the candidate demonstrated good knowledge of the use of communication devices.

<u>Summary</u>

Full marks were awarded for this question.