 Financial Management.  The graduate analyzes how financial information influences organization decision-making, operational sustainability, and productivity. 4052.6.1 : Budgeting The graduate creates IT capital and operating budgets that meet an organization’s mission and goals. 4052.7.1 : IT Procurement The graduate manages the acquisition and replacement of technology resources for an organization. INTRODUCTION During your career as an IT manager, you will be asked to conduct analyses to make well-reasoned financial decisions. It is important that you are able to not only complete an analysis but also communicate the support for your decisions to a CEO and board of directors. Your financial decisions will need to align with the mission and strategic goals of the company. Your responsibilities will likely include determining the budgets for an IT department, making financial decisions about IT projects and enhancements, and managing the procurement of technology resources. For Task 1 of this assessment, you will choose a publicly traded company from the list provided in the scenario. Once you have chosen a company, you will download the company’s recent quarterly financials (10-Q) from the SEC.gov web link. You will also need to read the attached "Financial Fact Sheet” for the company you choose. This fact sheet will provide you with the company’s strategic goals and the information you will need to determine any project budgets. You will select one strategic goal for your chosen company and decide on an IT project that aligns with that goal. Your IT investment project idea must include a software component or a software as a service (SaaS) solution and be based on the information provided in the company’s “Financial Fact Sheet” regarding the initial cost of the project. SCENARIO You are the chief information officer (CIO) of one of the following publicly traded companies: • Apple Inc. (ticker symbol: AAPL) • Ford Motor Company (ticker symbol: F) • Walmart Inc. (ticker symbol: WMT) As part of your responsibilities, the CEO has asked you to review the company’s financial statements and determine the budget and cash flow for the IT department. The CEO would also like you to propose an IT project that includes a software component. In your project idea proposal, you will need to include how you will be funding this project idea and how it aligns with the company’s strategic goals and budgets. At the end of the IT project analysis and proposal report, you will provide a summary of the report’s key points.