## COST TERMS, CONCEPTS, AND CLASSIFICATIONS

| Purpose of Cost Classification | Cost Classifications |
| :---: | :---: |
| Assigning costs to cost objects | - Direct costs (can be easily traced) <br> - Indirect costs (cannot be easily traced) |
| Accounting for costs in manufacturing companies | - Manufacturing costs <br> - Direct materials <br> - Direct labor <br> - Manufacturing overhead <br> - Nonmanufacturing costs <br> - Selling costs <br> - Administrative costs |
| Preparing financial statements | - Product costs (inventoriable) <br> - Period costs (expensed) |
| Predicting cost behavior in response to changes in activity | - Variable costs (proportional to activity) <br> - Fixed costs (constant in total) <br> - Mixed costs (has variable and fixed elements) |
| Making decisions | - Relevant costs (differs between alternatives) <br> - Irrelevant costs (should be ignored) |



## Factory



Total Cost of Meals


Total Cost of Renting the Building



# Comparison of Cost Classifications for Predicting Cost Behavior 

## Behavior of Cost (within the relevant range)

| Cost | In Total | Per Unit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Variable | Total variable cost Increase <br> and decrease in proportion <br> to changes in the activity level. | Variable cost per unit <br> remains constant. |
| Fixed | Total fixed cost is not affected <br> by changes in the activity <br> level within the relevant range. | Fixed cost per unit decreases <br> as the activity level rises and <br> increases as the activity level falls. |

## Mixed Costs - An Example

If your fixed monthly utility charge is \$40, your
variable cost is $\$ 0.03$ per kilowatt hour, and your monthly activity level is 2,000 kilowatt hours, what is the amount of your utility bill?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& Y=a+b X \\
& Y=\$ 40+(\$ 0.03 \times 2,000) \\
& Y=\$ 100
\end{aligned}
$$

## Mixed Costs - Part 1

A mixed cost contains both variable and fixed elements. Consider the example of utility cost.


Variable
Cost per KW
Fixed Monthly
Utility Charge

## Mixed Costs - Part 2



## The Traditional and Contribution Formats

| Comparison of the Contribution Income Statement with the Traditional Income Statement |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Traditional Format |  |  | Contribution Format |  |  |
| Sales |  | 100,000 | Sales | \$ 100,000 |  |
| Cost of goods sold |  | 70,000 | Variable expenses Contribution margin | 60,000 |  |
| Gross margin | \$ | 30,000 |  | \$ | 40,000 |
| Selling \& admin. expense: |  | 20,000 | Fixed expenses Net operating income |  | 30,000 |
| Net operating income | \$ | 10,000 |  | \$ | 10,000 |




