What is a System?

Definition 1:
“A system is an entity that maintains its existence and functions as a whole through the interaction of its parts.” O’Connor & McDermott

Definition 2:
A system is a collection of elements that interact with each other over time to function as a whole.

What is Systems Thinking?

Definition 1:
“Systems thinking is a vantage point from which you see a whole, a web of relationships, rather than focusing only on the detail of any particular piece. Events are seen in the larger context of a pattern that is unfolding over time.”
High Performance Systems (now isee systems)

Definition 2:
Systems thinking is a worldview, a perspective of seeing and understanding systems as wholes rather than as collections of parts. A whole is a web of interconnections that creates emerging patterns.