IConsult

Format respected:

- *As a [role], I want [goal], so that [benefit].*

- Acceptance criteria in Gherkin (Given/When/Then)

- Priority: MoSCoW

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1) Accounts & Roles

US-ACC-01 — Account creation (Must)

As a visitor, I want to create an account as Company or Consultant using only a username, so that I can start using the app quickly.

AC:

- *Given* the signup page

- *When* I enter a unique username and select a role

- *Then* my account is created and I am immediately logged in

- No password is required

US-ACC-02 — Edit basic profile (Must)

As a user, I want to edit my profile information so that my public profile or company listing displays the correct details.

AC:

- Users can update display name, location, headline/bio, contact info

- Updates persist and are visible immediately

- Required fields trigger a "profile incomplete" warning on dashboard

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2) Consultant Profiles

US-CON-01 — Anonymised consultant profile (Must)

As a consultant, I want my profile to be anonymised by default so that I can be discovered safely.

AC:

- Name defaults to username until updated

- Profile picture is blurred or uses a placeholder if not unlocked

- Contact details (email, phone, CV) are hidden until a company unlocks

- Company can only view contact details after unlocking or collaborating

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US-CON-02 — Browse & filter consultants (Must)

As a company, I want to browse and filter consultant profiles so that I can find relevant candidates.

AC:

- Filters available: skills, location, country, job-based matching

- Sorting available: relevance or alphabetical

- Cards show anonymised names, masked contact details

- Pagination or scrolling loads all results

- Unlock states persist

US-CON-03 — Unlock consultant contact details (Must)

As a company, I want to unlock a consultant profile so that I can view their contact details.

AC:

- Unlock button reveals email, phone, CV

- Unlock creates a persistent Unlock record

- Unlock is permanent for that company

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3) Company Profiles & Job Posts

US-COM-01 — Anonymised company profile (Must)

As a company, I want my job posts to remain anonymised until a consultant unlocks them so that I can recruit confidentially.

AC:

- Job posts show generic company name & masked logo unless unlocked

- Company contact details remain hidden until consultant unlocks

- Unlock persists permanently

US-JOB-01 — Browse & filter job posts (Must)

As a consultant, I want to browse and filter job posts so that I can find relevant missions.

AC:

- Filters available: skills, location, country, contract type

- Sorting available: relevance or alphabetical

- Job cards are anonymised until unlocked

- Unlock state persists

US-JOB-02 — Unlock job/company details (Must)

As a consultant, I want to unlock the company behind a job so that I can contact them.

AC:

- Unlock button reveals company name and contact details

- Unlock persists and is recorded

- Consultants automatically unlock the company when collaboration begins

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US-JOB-03 — Create and edit job posts (Must)

As a company, I want to create and edit job posts so that I can publish accurate missions.

AC:

- Required fields: title, description, location, contract type

- Company can edit or delete its own jobs

- Editing updates the job immediately

- Filled jobs automatically become inactive

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4) Collaboration System

US-COL-01 — Start collaboration (company → consultant) (Must)

As a company, I want to start a collaboration with an available consultant so that I can hire them.

AC:

- Consultant must be unlocked first

- Starting collaboration sets consultant to unavailable

- Collaboration row is created and shown in dashboards

US-COL-02 — Start collaboration (consultant → job) (Must)

As a consultant, I want to start a collaboration on a job post so that I can begin working with a company.

AC:

- Job must be unlocked first

- Starting collaboration closes the job and marks consultant unavailable

- Company automatically gets an Unlock record for that consultant

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5) Search, Ranking & Matching

US-SRCH-01 — Relevance-based ranking (Must)

As a user, I want search results ordered by relevance so that the best matches appear first.

AC:

- Score = weighted combination of

    - Skill similarity

    - Text similarity

    - Recency

    - Popularity (unlock count)

- Score breakdown is visible on home page

- Sorting can toggle relevance vs manual filters

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6) Unlock Persistence & Audit

US-UNL-01 — Unlock persistence (Must)

As a user, I want unlocks to persist so that I can always access previously unlocked items.

AC:

- Unlocks are saved in database

- Unlock removes anonymisation permanently for that user

- Unlock state is visible on detail pages and lists

US-UNL-02 — Admin unlock overview (Should)

As an admin, I want to view unlock activity so that I can review system usage.

AC:

- Admin table lists unlocks (user, type, target, timestamp)

- Sorted by recency

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7) Admin & Moderation

US-ADM-01 — Admin management pages (Must)

As an admin, I want to view and moderate all users, companies, consultants, and jobs so that the platform remains clean.

AC:

- Admin can view consultant list

- Admin can view company list and associated job posts

- Admin can view all collaborations

- No edit/delete needed (MVP minimal)

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8) Definition of Done (DoD)

- Full end-to-end implementation (DB, Flask, Templates)

- Basic validation & error handling

- Unlock logic works correctly

- Relevance score reproducible

- Screenshots updated in README

- Demonstrable in sprint review

Extensions Beyond the MVP Scope

While the core functionality of the IConsult platform follows the provided user stories (user accounts, unlocking mechanism, matching, and collaborations), several features were intentionally implemented beyond the minimum viable product. These additions were not explicitly requested by the external partner, but were designed and implemented by our team to improve realism, usability, and overall system quality.

1. Live Status Management (Functional Extension)

We implemented a dynamic status system that automatically updates the availability of consultants and the state of job posts based on user actions:

- When a collaboration is started, the consultant is automatically marked as unavailable.

- The associated job post is automatically closed and marked as no longer active.

- When a collaboration ends, the consultant can be set back to available.

- These status changes are immediately reflected across the platform (lists, detail pages, and dashboards).

2. Advanced Filtering Logic (Team-Designed Extension)

The external partner defined that filtering should be possible, but did not specify the depth, combinations, or user experience of these filters. We expanded this concept significantly.

For consultants, companies can filter by:

- Minimum years of experience

- Maximum distance from a job location

- Same-country-only constraint

- Combined text search

For jobs, consultants can filter by:

- Contract type (freelance, full-time, part-time, project-based)

- Skills

- Location and distance

- Combined text search

The design of these filters, their combinations, and their integration into the user interface were fully designed and implemented by our team.

3. Match Mode vs. Manual Mode (Conceptual and UX Extension)

The user stories only require sorting by relevance or alphabetically. We extended this requirement into two clearly separated modes:

- Relevance-based matching mode, which uses a weighted scoring algorithm (skills, text match, recency, popularity).

- Manual filtering and sorting mode, where users have full control over filters and results are sorted alphabetically.

This explicit separation improves transparency and usability by clearly communicating how results are generated. This conceptual and UX-driven design choice was not dictated by the external partner.

4. Interactive Distance Filtering (UX and Technical Extension)

Instead of a basic numeric input for distance filtering, we implemented an interactive range slider with live textual feedback:

- A value of zero clearly indicates that no distance filter is applied.

- The displayed distance updates dynamically while the user moves the slider.

The user stories mention distance-based filtering but do not define this level of interaction or feedback. This implementation therefore represents an additional usability-focused extension.