Badger Specification

Badger will be a social media application for Android devices. Using existing Facebook accounts (performed by using the Facebook SDK), users will be able to log in without the need for creating a new account for the service. Users will have the ability view and edit their own profile. This app centers around the concept of users giving “badges” to other users. Badges will be awarded for any reason a user sees fit. Some examples are: a team captain can give a player a badge for an outstanding play; Teachers can give badges for high marks on tests; A group of friends at a party give badges to each other for feats of drinking.

The possibilities for badges are endless. Companies can take advantage of Badger by having the ability to reward loyal customers with badges. Users can display whichever badges they are most proud of on their profile, in addition to displaying the total badges earned and badges sent to other users. All badges that have been earned by a user can be viewed in a “trophy case” screen. Badges will contain information on who awarded it, why it was awarded and when it was earned.

Badge designs can be selected from an array of stock graphics. Users will be able to create as many badges as they want. However, there should be a limit to the number they can award in a certain time period, as the value of a badge would be diminished from an over-abundance of badges. A large aspect of the platform will be the ability to form groups. The group creator can add friends to the group, and use it to organize events, activities, clubs, teams, and more.

A key trait that every user would hold is their “level”. This is a numerical representation of his/her experience with Badger, and this number is raised after a sufficient amount of “experience points”. These points can be earned through giving badges and earning badges.

Badger would face a couple limitations. Storage could end up being an issue if a user has earned too many badges. Also, inappropriate badges will not be easily filtered through an automated check. Parsing through a badge description is possible, but if a user created a vulgar image for a badge, the app would not be able to judge if the image is appropriate or not without a decision by a human.

There are several special features that will hopefully be added into the application, but only after the app’s basic features have been correctly integrated. These stretch goals include: a chat feature for users to converse with each other via Badger; log-in to Badger using other social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram; create badges through freehand drawing; convert images from the device’s image gallery into badges; a “report badge” button to notify administrators to remove vulgar badges from the service, and group leaders creating earnable badges for their groups.

Our group’s github repository can be visited at the following address: <https://github.com/BadgerGroup/Badger>.