CONSTRUCTION BIDDING PLATFORM - CONVERSATION RECORD & LOGIC

Date: January 24, 2026

This document captures ALL the conversations, decisions, logic, and layouts we discussed. It's a complete record so you don't have to explain everything again.

================================================================================

ORIGINAL INSPIRATION & CONCEPT

You said: "i wanna create a web app like this [BuilderTrend], i dont mean in looks i mean in what they do, i wanna create a place for builders to put out things and people in their contact can view and bid on them"

So the inspiration is BuilderTrend's FUNCTIONALITY, not appearance. The core idea: a platform where builders post projects and others can bid on them.

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THE BIG SHIFT - NO OWNER/BIDDER SEPARATION

You said: "lets abolish the line of owner and bidder"

This is CRITICAL. Unlike traditional platforms that separate users into "builders" (who post) and "contractors" (who bid), this platform has NO SUCH SEPARATION.

Every single user can:

- Create projects and post listings

- Browse other people's projects

- Submit bids on other listings

- Everything

Why? Because in real life, a construction company might need to hire subcontractors for one project while simultaneously bidding on electrical work for another company's project.

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COMPANY NAME SYSTEM

You said: "we will take input of company name when the user signs up, we will add it after username. example Wanheda Projects"

So when signing up:

- Username: john\_doe

- Company Name: Wanheda

- Display throughout app: "Wanheda Projects" or just "Wanheda"

The company name becomes the PRIMARY identifier, not the individual username.

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SIDEBAR STRUCTURE - EVOLUTION

Original idea was "Owner Projects" and "Bidder Projects" but you changed it:

You said: "Wanheda Projects, Private Projects, Public Projects, Contacts, Profile and Settings"

Then we refined it to:

FINAL SIDEBAR STRUCTURE:

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│                                 │

│  [Company Logo/Avatar]          │

│  Wanheda Projects               │  <- Uses company name

│                                 │

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│                                 │

│  📊 Company Projects            │  <- Projects YOU created

│     (Projects YOU created)      │     Your company is the owner

│                                 │

│  📝 Company Biddings            │  <- Bids YOU submitted

│     (Bids YOU submitted)        │     Your company bid on others' work

│                                 │

│  🌐 Public Projects             │  <- Browse ALL public listings

│     (Browse all public)         │     Anyone can see these

│                                 │

│  🔒 Private Projects            │  <- Listings shared WITH you

│     (Shared with you)           │     People invited you specifically

│                                 │

│  👥 Contacts                    │  <- Messaging system

│     (Messaging & network)       │     All your conversations

│                                 │

│  👤 Profile                     │  <- LOGOUT BUTTON HERE

│     (Logout button HERE)        │     NOT in sidebar!

│                                 │

│  ⚙️  Settings                   │  <- App settings

│                                 │

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IMPORTANT:

You said: "remember we shifted the logout button to profile"

So LOGOUT is in the Profile section, NOT directly in the sidebar.

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PROJECT vs LISTING - THE HIERARCHY

You said: "in Wanheda Projects u can see the projects created by u, inside every project u can see the different listings"

So the structure is:

PROJECT (Container)

  └── LISTING 1 (Individual work item)

  └── LISTING 2

  └── LISTING 3

  └── etc.

Example:

Project: "Downtown Office Building Renovation"

  ├── Listing: Electrical Work

  ├── Listing: Plumbing

  ├── Listing: Drywall

  └── Listing: Painting

Each LISTING can be bid on separately.

Each LISTING can have different visibility settings.

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VISIBILITY OPTIONS - THE EVOLUTION

You said: "u can either publish it for everyone by choosing public or u can choose private and then add the company's or people by username from your contacts"

So initially it was just:

1. Public (everyone sees)

2. Private (only selected contacts see)

BUT THEN YOU ADDED SOMETHING CRITICAL:

You said: "lets add a thing where even if they wanna make a public listing, they can mention contacts, these listing appears in private section of the receiver, u know some people might wanna get it done from these guys but they are open to others too"

This created the THREE-TIER SYSTEM:

1. FULLY PUBLIC

   - Appears in Public Projects for everyone

   - No special notifications

   - Maximum reach

2. PUBLIC + HIGHLIGHTED (The new addition you wanted)

   - Appears in Public Projects for everyone (like option 1)

   - ALSO appears in Private Projects for selected contacts

   - Selected contacts get notified

   - Those contacts see a star badge ⭐ on it

   - Message: "You've been specially invited to bid"

   - Use case: "We're open to everyone but we'd really like YOU to bid"

3. FULLY PRIVATE

   - Does NOT appear in Public Projects

   - ONLY selected contacts see it in Private Projects

   - Notification sent to selected contacts

   - Completely exclusive

This is a MAJOR feature. The "Public + Highlighted" option lets you cast a wide net while still tapping specific contractors you prefer.

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MESSAGING SYSTEM - MUST START FROM LISTING

You said: "for someone to message someone on that listing for the first time, they have to do it from the offcial listing message option"

CRITICAL RULE: You CANNOT randomly message someone. All conversations MUST originate from a listing.

How it works:

1. FIRST TIME: You find a listing, click Message button on that listing

2. Conversation opens, tied to that specific listing

3. Conversation is saved to both parties' Contacts

4. SUBSEQUENT TIMES: You can access that conversation from Contacts directly

You said: "if they have messaged someone once, and they close and come back, they can directly talk to them with going to their project then listing then message, instead they can choose them in their contacts and all the listing chats that have been initiated between these two can be seen their"

So once you've messaged Eagle Builders about one listing, they appear in your Contacts. Then you can see ALL listing conversations with Eagle Builders in one place.

CONTACTS VIEW LAYOUT:

When you open Contacts in sidebar:

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│  CONTACTS                                        │

│  [Search contacts...]                            │

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│                                                  │

│  🏭 Eagle Builders                    (3)     │  <- (3) = 3 unread messages

│      3 active conversations                      │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🏗️ Phoenix Construction             (12)    │

│      12 unread messages                          │

│                                                  │

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You said: "no notification things, when they open contacts they can see the number of unread messages there beside the company or username of that contact u know how it looks like on whatsapp"

So it's EXACTLY like WhatsApp - unread counts in parentheses, no separate notification system for messages.

When you click a contact (e.g., Eagle Builders):

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│  EAGLE BUILDERS                                  │

│  [Search in conversations...]                    │

│  [Block Contact]                                 │

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│                                                  │

│  ⚡ Electrical Work                             │

│     Their Project: Downtown Office Renovation   │

│     Your Bid: $45,000                            │

│     Timeline: 3 weeks                            │

│     Status: ⏳ Pending                            │

│     [Open Chat] [Close Chat]                     │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🔧 Plumbing Fixtures                         │

│     Your Project: Residential Complex Phase 2   │

│     Their Bid: $28,000                           │

│     Timeline: 4 weeks                            │

│     Status: ✅ Awarded to them                    │

│     [Open Chat] [Close Chat]                     │

│                                                  │

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You said: "even when someone opens contact of lets say eagle builders, both have options to talk about which listing"

You said: "the listings they see in contacts is well described, i mean whose listing it is and the bid placed by the other person, address and timeline"

So each listing conversation shows:

- Whose project it is ("Their Project" or "Your Project")

- Bid amount

- Timeline

- Address

- Status

You said: "when u open a contact u get a seach bar too, they may have many lstings together"

So there's a search bar to find specific conversations when you have many with the same company.

You said: "both people have an option to close that chat or block the contact"

Both parties can:

- Close individual chats

- Block the entire contact

PROFESSIONAL USE GUIDELINE:

You said: "we will just show them a message in contact section, that only use chats for professional reasons and when their project or whatever is completed its encouraged to wipe the chats"

So somewhere in the Contacts section, display a message like:

"Only use chats for professional reasons. When projects are completed, it's encouraged to clear chat history."

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NOTIFICATIONS - VERY SPECIFIC RULES

You said: "only when ur bid is accepted u get a push notification on their logged in device"

So:

- NO push notifications for regular messages

- NO push notifications for new listings

- NO push notifications for new bids

- ONLY ONE push notification: When your bid is ACCEPTED/AWARDED

For everything else:

- Unread counts in Contacts (WhatsApp style)

- In-app indicators

- No intrusive push notifications

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STATUS BADGES - HOW THEY WORK

I asked: "how does someone assign a badge to the listing in contacts"

You clarified: Badges are NOT manually assigned. They are AUTOMATIC based on database status.

Automatic Status Badges:

🔔 ACTIVE

- When: Listing is open, deadline hasn't passed

- Applies to: Listings accepting bids

⏳ PENDING

- When: Bid submitted, waiting for decision

- Applies to: Your bids in "Company Biddings"

✅ AWARDED

- When: Bid was accepted

- Applies to: Winning bid

- ACTION: Push notification sent

❌ NOT SELECTED

- When: Another bid was chosen

- Applies to: Rejected bids

🟡 IN PROGRESS

- When: Work has started

- Applies to: Active projects

✔️ COMPLETED

- When: Project finished

- Applies to: Done projects

🔴 URGENT

- When: Flagged as urgent (manually by owner)

- Applies to: High priority listings

⏰ DEADLINE SOON

- When: < 24 hours to deadline

- Applies to: Listings close to deadline

- AUTOMATIC based on timestamp

📦 ARCHIVED

- When: User archives it

- Applies to: Old projects

The system calculates and displays these automatically. Users don't set them.

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COMPANY PROJECTS VIEW - COMPLETE LAYOUT

When you click "Company Projects" in sidebar, you see YOUR projects:

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│  COMPANY PROJECTS                                 │

│  [+ New Project Button]                           │

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│                                                  │

│  🏗️  Downtown Office Building Renovation       │

│      Created: Jan 15, 2026                        │

│      4 Listings • 12 Total Bids                    │

│      [View Details] [Add Listing]                 │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🏘️  Residential Complex - Phase 2             │

│      Created: Dec 8, 2025                         │

│      7 Listings • 23 Total Bids                    │

│      [View Details] [Add Listing]                 │

│                                                  │

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When you click "View Details" on a project, you see all its listings:

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│  PROJECT: Downtown Office Building Renovation     │

│  [< Back] [Edit Project] [+ New Listing]         │

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│                                                  │

│  ⚡ Electrical Work                🌐 Public    │

│     5 Bids • Closes in 3 days        🔔 Active   │

│     [View Bids] [Edit] [Message]                 │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  💧 Plumbing                     🔒 Private   │

│     3 Bids • Closes in 5 days        ✅ Awarded  │

│     [View Bids] [Edit] [Message]                 │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🪩 Drywall Installation   ⭐ Public+Highlight│

│     8 Bids • Closes tomorrow         ⏰ Deadline  │

│     [View Bids] [Edit] [Message]                 │

│                                                  │

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Each listing shows:

- Title and icon

- Visibility type

- Number of bids received

- Time until deadline

- Status badge

- Action buttons

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COMPANY BIDDINGS VIEW - COMPLETE LAYOUT

When you click "Company Biddings" in sidebar, you see all bids YOUR company submitted:

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│  COMPANY BIDDINGS                                 │

│  (All bids submitted by your company)            │

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│                                                  │

│  ⚡ Electrical Work                             │

│     Eagle Builders - Downtown Office Renovation │

│     Your Bid: $45,000 • Timeline: 3 weeks         │

│     Status: ⏳ Pending                            │

│     [View Details] [Message]                      │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🔧 HVAC Installation                          │

│     Phoenix Construction - Mall Expansion       │

│     Your Bid: $85,000 • Timeline: 6 weeks         │

│     Status: ✅ Awarded                            │

│     [View Details] [Message]                      │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🎨 Interior Painting                          │

│     Summit Developers - Hotel Lobby             │

│     Your Bid: $12,500 • Timeline: 2 weeks         │

│     Status: ❌ Not Selected                       │

│     [View Details]                               │

│                                                  │

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This is different from Company Projects:

- Company Projects = projects YOU created (you're the owner)

- Company Biddings = bids YOU submitted (you're the bidder)

Each shows:

- Listing title

- Who owns that project (their company name)

- Your bid amount

- Your proposed timeline

- Status (Pending/Awarded/Not Selected)

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PUBLIC PROJECTS VIEW

When you click "Public Projects" in sidebar, you see ALL public listings from everyone:

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│  PUBLIC PROJECTS                                  │

│  [Search/Filter options...]                       │

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│                                                  │

│  ⚡ Electrical Work                             │

│     Eagle Builders - Downtown Office Renovation │

│     Budget: $40k-$50k • Deadline: Feb 15         │

│     Location: Downtown, Seattle                  │

│     [View Details] [Submit Bid]                  │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🎨 Commercial Painting                        │

│     Summit Developers - Hotel Lobby             │

│     Budget: $10k-$15k • Deadline: Feb 20         │

│     Location: Bellevue, WA                       │

│     [View Details] [Submit Bid]                  │

│                                                  │

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This shows:

- ALL listings marked as "Public" or "Public + Highlighted"

- Who created each listing (company name)

- Project name

- Budget range

- Deadline

- Location

- Options to view details or submit bid

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PRIVATE PROJECTS VIEW

When you click "Private Projects" in sidebar, you see listings shared WITH you:

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│  PRIVATE PROJECTS                                 │

│  (Listings shared specifically with you)         │

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│  ⭐ 🔧 HVAC Installation                       │  <- Star = highlighted

│     Phoenix Construction - Mall Expansion       │

│     Budget: $80k-$100k • Deadline: Feb 10        │

│     💁 You've been specially invited to bid      │

│     [View Details] [Submit Bid]                  │

│                                                  │

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│                                                  │

│  🔌 Electrical Upgrades                        │  <- No star = fully private

│     Cascade Builders - Warehouse Project        │

│     Budget: $25k-$35k • Deadline: Feb 18         │

│     🔒 Private invitation only                  │

│     [View Details] [Submit Bid]                  │

│                                                  │

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Two types appear here:

1. Fully Private listings (only you and selected others see)

2. Public + Highlighted listings (public but you got special invite)

The star ⭐ indicates highlighted listings (which also appear in Public Projects)

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CHAT INTERFACE - WHATSAPP STYLE

When you click "Open Chat" on a listing conversation:

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│  ⚡ Electrical Work - Eagle Builders            │

│  Downtown Office Renovation                      │

│  [< Back to Eagle Builders]                      │

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│                                                  │

│     [Eagle Builders - Jan 20, 10:30 AM]         │

│     Hi, we're interested in the electrical      │

│     work. Can you provide more details about    │

│     the timeline?                               │

│                                                  │

│                 [You - Jan 20, 11:15 AM]        │

│                 Sure! We need this completed    │

│                 within 3 weeks. Can you meet    │

│                 that deadline?                  │

│                                                  │

│     [Eagle Builders - Jan 20, 11:45 AM]         │

│     Yes, we can definitely work with that       │

│     timeline. We've submitted our bid.          │

│                                                  │

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│  [Type your message...]            [Send]       │

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Layout:

- Header shows listing title, company, and project name

- Messages alternate sides (WhatsApp style)

- Sender's messages on left

- Your messages on right

- Timestamps on each message

- Input box at bottom

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AUTHENTICATION FEATURES (from earlier in our conversation)

You requested these specific UI improvements:

1. PASSWORD VISIBILITY TOGGLE

   - Eye icon next to password field

   - Click to show/hide password

   - Applies to: Login, Signup, Change Password

2. CUSTOM TOAST NOTIFICATIONS

   You said: "the signup confirmation change it from the browser popup to custom modal in web app to confirm or notifaction green box in top corner"

   So NO browser alerts. Instead:

   - Custom toast notification (green box)

   - Appears in top corner

   - Auto-dismisses after few seconds

   - Clean, modern look

3. LOGOUT BUTTON PLACEMENT

   You said: "instead of having log out on the sidepar, move it to the profile section"

   You said: "make the size of the button smaller, it looks too big right now"

   So:

   - Logout button is in Profile section

   - NOT in the sidebar

   - Smaller, more reasonable size

================================================================================

DATABASE STRUCTURE

Key tables needed:

1. USERS

   - user\_id

   - username (unique)

   - company\_name

   - email

   - password\_hash

   - created\_at

2. PROJECTS

   - project\_id

   - user\_id (who created it)

   - project\_name

   - description

   - location

   - start\_date

   - end\_date

   - created\_at

3. LISTINGS

   - listing\_id

   - project\_id

   - title

   - description

   - budget\_min

   - budget\_max

   - bid\_deadline

   - visibility\_type ('public', 'public\_highlighted', 'private')

   - status ('active', 'awarded', 'in\_progress', 'completed', 'archived')

   - is\_urgent (boolean)

   - created\_at

4. LISTING\_VISIBILITY

   - visibility\_id

   - listing\_id

   - user\_id (who can see it)

   - is\_highlighted (boolean - for public+highlighted)

   - notification\_sent (boolean)

   - created\_at

   This table tracks:

   - For private listings: who can see them

   - For public+highlighted: who gets highlighted

5. BIDS

   - bid\_id

   - listing\_id

   - bidder\_user\_id

   - bid\_amount

   - estimated\_timeline

   - proposal\_description

   - status ('pending', 'awarded', 'not\_selected')

   - submitted\_at

6. MESSAGES

   - message\_id

   - listing\_id (conversation is tied to listing)

   - sender\_user\_id

   - receiver\_user\_id

   - message\_text

   - is\_read (boolean)

   - sent\_at

7. CONTACTS

   - contact\_id

   - user\_id

   - contact\_user\_id

   - is\_blocked (boolean)

   - created\_at

   Auto-populated when two users message about any listing

8. NOTIFICATIONS

   - notification\_id

   - user\_id

   - type ('bid\_awarded', 'new\_private\_listing', 'highlighted\_listing')

   - related\_id (listing\_id or bid\_id)

   - message

   - is\_read

   - created\_at

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KEY LOGIC & FLOWS

1. CREATING A PUBLIC + HIGHLIGHTED LISTING:

   - User creates project

   - User creates listing within project

   - User selects "Public + Highlighted"

   - User selects specific contacts to highlight

   - System:

     \* Saves listing with visibility\_type='public\_highlighted'

     \* Creates entries in LISTING\_VISIBILITY for each selected contact with is\_highlighted=true

     \* Sends notification to selected contacts

   - Result:

     \* Listing appears in Public Projects for EVERYONE

     \* Listing ALSO appears in Private Projects for selected contacts with star badge

     \* Selected contacts see "You've been specially invited to bid"

2. VIEWING PUBLIC PROJECTS:

   - Query all listings where visibility\_type='public' OR 'public\_highlighted'

   - Show to everyone

3. VIEWING PRIVATE PROJECTS:

   - Query LISTING\_VISIBILITY where user\_id = current\_user

   - Get all listing\_id from that

   - Show those listings

   - If is\_highlighted=true, show star badge

4. SUBMITTING A BID:

   - User finds listing (from Public or Private Projects)

   - User fills bid form

   - System creates entry in BIDS table with status='pending'

   - Bid appears in user's "Company Biddings" section

5. AWARDING A BID:

   - Project owner views all bids on their listing

   - Owner clicks "Award" on chosen bid

   - System:

     \* Updates that bid: status='awarded'

     \* Updates all other bids on same listing: status='not\_selected'

     \* Updates listing: status='awarded'

     \* Sends PUSH NOTIFICATION to winning bidder (ONLY push notification in entire app)

     \* Creates entry in NOTIFICATIONS table

6. MESSAGING FLOW:

   - First time: User clicks Message button on a listing

   - System checks if conversation exists (MESSAGES table with these two users + this listing)

   - If not exists:

     \* Creates first message

     \* Adds both users to each other's CONTACTS table

   - If exists:

     \* Opens existing conversation

   - From then on:

     \* Users can access conversation from Contacts

     \* All messages tied to that listing\_id

7. CALCULATING STATUS BADGES (automatic):

   - ACTIVE: listing.status='active' AND bid\_deadline > now()

   - PENDING: bid.status='pending'

   - AWARDED: bid.status='awarded'

   - NOT SELECTED: bid.status='not\_selected'

   - DEADLINE SOON: bid\_deadline - now() < 24 hours

   - URGENT: listing.is\_urgent=true

   - etc.

   These are calculated in real-time, not stored.

8. UNREAD MESSAGE COUNTS:

   - Query MESSAGES where receiver\_user\_id=current\_user AND is\_read=false

   - Group by sender\_user\_id

   - Count per contact

   - Display in Contacts list

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ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT POINTS

1. MESSAGES ARE LIGHTWEIGHT

   You mentioned concerns about storage, so I clarified messages are lightweight and won't cause storage issues. They're just text, timestamps, and IDs.

2. PROFESSIONAL USE REMINDER

   Display in Contacts section: "Only use chats for professional reasons. When projects are completed, it's encouraged to clear chat history."

3. ICONS

   Throughout our discussion, I used emojis for visualization, but you understand these will be professional SVG icons in production (like Heroicons).

4. THE MAJOR INNOVATION

   The "Public + Highlighted" option is what you specifically requested. It's not common in other platforms. It lets you:

   - Post publicly (max reach)

   - While ALSO tapping specific contacts you prefer

   - Those contacts see it in BOTH places

   - They know you want their bid specifically

   - But you're still open to others

5. NO RANDOM MESSAGING

   This is critical. You CANNOT message someone out of the blue. All conversations MUST start from a listing. This keeps everything professional and context-based.

6. COMPANY BIDDINGS vs COMPANY PROJECTS

   - Company Projects = YOU are the owner (projects you created)

   - Company Biddings = YOU are the bidder (bids you submitted)

   This naming makes it clear what role you have in each.

7. SINGLE PUSH NOTIFICATION

   Only ONE type of push notification in the entire app: when your bid is awarded. That's it. Everything else is:

   - In-app notifications

   - Unread counts

   - Status badges

   - No intrusive notifications

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SUMMARY OF ALL KEY DECISIONS:

✓ No owner/bidder separation - everyone equal

✓ Company-centric naming (e.g., "Wanheda Projects")

✓ Project → Listing hierarchy

✓ Three visibility options: Public, Public+Highlighted, Private

✓ Listing-based messaging (no random messaging)

✓ WhatsApp-style contacts with unread counts

✓ Automatic status badges

✓ Only one push notification: bid awarded

✓ Logout in Profile section (not sidebar)

✓ Password visibility toggle

✓ Custom toast notifications (no browser alerts)

✓ Search bar in contact conversations

✓ Both parties can close chats or block contacts

✓ Professional use guidelines displayed

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END OF CONVERSATION RECORD

This document contains everything we discussed. All the logic, layouts, features, and decisions are captured here so you don't need to explain it all again in future conversations.