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**CSC3600**   
ICT Professional Project  
**web based image organiser**

FINAL PROJECT REPORT **supervisor:** a/prof stijn dekeyser

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| VERSION | COMMENTS | DATE |
| 0.1 | Initial template created | 3 Oct 18 |
| 0.2 | Costs Analysis Added | 9 Oct 18 |
| 0.3 | Added Annex Docluments | 14 Oct 18 |
| 0.4 | Adjusted Cost Analysis | 16 Oct 18 |

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mark IV Tech is developing a Web Based Image Organiser to allow for users to search, edit and view images metadata. The team consists of 4 developers all using online collaboration tools to communicate and develop. The client specified requirements for the project that had to be met. Mark IV Tech has delivered a prototype on time and below budget.

An agile software development process was used with the scrum methodology. This was beneficial for the online team as they could work on functions individually and then test them straight away. The team leader assigned tasks to the members based on their skills they could contribute to the project. For development the team was split into front-end and back-end developers. For the report writing all members contributed and reviewed each others work.

Communication throughout the project was excellent. The main form was Facebook Messenger which all members would usually reply within 24 hours. Zoom was also used and email communication with the client. One downside was that the Messenger chats could become unstructured and disjointed. Answers to questions became drawn out and not succint. Going forward this could be resolved by setting out clear rules to communication platforms.

Actual development on the prototype consisted of using GitHub for collaboration and version management. Then all members used the ‘XAMPP’ software package to test the website on their own computers. The front-end design utilises the Bootstrap framework, jQuery, CSS and JavaScript in order to present a clear and concise webpage to the user. SQLite 3 was chosen as the preferred method of storing and querying database information along with PHP and AJAX for the back-end. This stack of software proved successful without any limitations being found.

The project was originally budgeted for $70,199.75, however this was later found to be an error. The corrected amount is $20,129.00. Total expenditure has been $17,445.79 which results in a budget saving of $2683.21. Analysis on the costing has found for future purposes, less time should be allocated to programming and more labour resources to discuss and develop designs. Additionally, estimated costings should be triple checked to ensure the calculations are correct. This was further exacerbated by the team not having any prior experience on the usual costs of developing software.

The prototype created is best used in a non-commercial environment, as there are limitations present in the prototype. These include:

* The size of each image directory.
* Using larger image directories may take the software significantly longer to scan through.
* Images must be stored in JPEG/JPG format.

If further funding is approved these limitations could be fixed with additional time.

Key recommendations found throughout this report include:

* Clearer rules for Messenger conversations
* More set video conferencing times with the team as well as agendas being set out.
* Triple checking of budgets and labour required to ensure estimations are closer to actual costs

The key findings in this report will help with future project management and development by the company. As the first project Mark IV Tech has taken on, it has delivered the prototype on time and to budget. Going forward, the company will be able to take on bigger projects for clients with team members learning from their experiences.

# METHODOLOGY

## METHODOLOGY STATEMENT

Mark IV Tech implemented an agile software development model to carry out this project. The methodology chosen was scrum.

The user made a list containing must have functionality and desirable functionality. The team leader then selected a system requirement for each member to develop and then implement it. Progress of each backlog task was discussed in daily scrums. The team leader kept the team focused and informed throughout the whole project. Once the component was implemented and tested by the group and was completed and working the team leader would delegate the next lot of tasks.

## JUSTIFICTIONS

The scrum methodology was chosen for the agile software development model because it was adaptive to changing user requirements and wishes. Team members lived in different states and some had jobs and therefore the waterfall method was not an option and the software completion date was too short. A negative is due to the lack of documentation there were a couple of occurrences where two team members carried out the same task.

This methodology allowed the team to create a modularized piece of software that could be easily tested, and components could be easily re-developed to a point it met the user’s expectations. A negative throughout the project some members spent too much time on specific tasks.

The team leader kept the team focused on the goal he set each team member throughout the whole project cycle. A minor negative was in some instances feedback took a period of time due to each member being in different states and team work hours weren’t in unison.

## DISCUSSIONS

The team had an initial meeting with the user (Stijn) to get a starting point for user requirements. The team leader broke the project down into task and assigned each team member a task, this document was loaded onto google docs for all members to see. Each team member completed the component and loaded it onto GitHub for all members to test and give feedback. The team leader was constantly on messenger chatting with team members discussing progress and if assistance was required. Once all members were happy with the component the next set of tasks or system requirements were then assigned by the team leader.

The results we achieved was exceptional but in future phone and video chat as the main communication tool would be far more efficient when dealing with complex tasks.

# PROJECT PROCESS

## TEAM ORGANISATION

All forms of team work were organised by utilising Facebook Messenger, Google Docs and via email. Members would discuss availability, proficiencies and weaknesses in terms of coding, report writing and software experience which would provide vital information when organising teamwork.

The team leader Mr Hertweck was an essential figure in ensuring team work was consistently applied throughout the whole project cycle. He would assign two members to a task if there were time constraints or felt a task required skills from two different members that exhibited them.

If a member needed help with a task they would use Messenger to ask a member with the required skills to help. This assistance could have been verbal, providing previous study material or collaborating via GitHub.

A negative to this was when the Messenger chat became cluttered or a member was busy for the day. The member would check the group chat only to find a lot of missed messages that could have been collated into one or two succinct messages. Going forward, the group could be cognisant of this problem and have stricter rules in place.

## TEAM STRUCTURE AND ROLES

Mark IV Tech is made up for 4 team members forming a virtual team. There was a team leader, a front-end department and a back-end department for development. The team leader ran the whole project ensuring all member knew each deadline, assigned tasks to members and kept the team focussed and morale high.

The front-end department was responsible for developing a user interface and the flow of the web application. The back-end department was responsible for ensuring the application talks to the database, saves, retrieves and uses data according to user specifications. For report writing all members were assigned different parts. Then by utilising track changes, another member could check their work and offer suggestions.

This method worked well as early in the process members were selected for either front or back end development based on their strengths in coding. However due to the project requiring more back-end development the workload was not equal during development. This was mitigated by the team leader assigning the front-end members more ancillary tasks and report writing.

## COMMUNICATION AND MEETINGS

Communication throughout the whole project was exceptional because of the democratic management style adopted. All members were encouraged to communicate and use multiple platforms to achieve this. However, in some instances, due to the complexity of the issue or task the platforms used were not adequate. The length of time to discuss an issue or explain a view took longer than it should have. Finally, availability of each member was mixed as members had to balance work-life and family along with development.

For future collaboration, phone calls or regular video conferencing could have provided live discussion and would have been far easier to discuss complex issues and tasks. As half of the team were in a different state, face-to-face meetings were not possible. In future it would have been beneficial to be located within travelling distance.

All team meeting was organised 3 to 4 day in advance and the video conference would be run on the zoom platform. These meetings were extremely successful because every member was able to easily discuss or bring up any difficulties they were having. Furthermore, it was far easier to discuss project direction and tasks requiring help through verbal communication than instant messaging.

To keep meetings on topic, an agenda could have been loaded onto Google Docs where each member could have added to. That would have given the team an approximation of meeting length and ensure all required topics were discussed. The team meetings were short and concise due to time constraints. For these, meeting minutes were taken and scribed for future reference.

## DOCUMENTATION

The group benefited from the platforms used supporting full history of conversations and changes. This allowed members to read through the chat history before re-asking similar questions. GitHub also allowed members to see committed changes and the version history. Thus, allowing them to know exactly what stage of development it was up to. Design documents such as the Database schema and the outstanding requirements list were centrally stored and shared using Google Documents.

All meeting minutes and summaries of fortnightly conversations have been attached to this document as Appendix A.

## PROCESS

Other processes that were employed by this team include the following.

* Task management
* Quality management
* Change management

Project Quality Management was ensured by adopting an open work culture as well as using a peer review system. This system worked well as it ensured that all members were aware of each other’s work, enhancing consistency as well as fostering a peer learning environment.

Change Management was governed by group discussions within the scrum and using files on Google Docs to identify and record proposed changes. GIT hub’s desktop application was also used to track and monitor changes through its “History” function. This desktop application was very easy to use and gave good visibility of changes that had been made to the project. Any undesired changes could be easily found and undone. The use of GitHub branches further assisted change management as new features could be developed and then be tested in isolation before being merged into the active branch.

Document configuration management was achieved using an embedded version table. This table was included at the beginning of the document and was updated when any changes are made to the document. This seemed to work ok, however there would be no way to know if an old version was saved over a newer version. An improvement to this document version control would be to also have a separate version control register. This was if a new version was replaced, it could be identified and

Task management was maintained through the use of an Excel based task tracking tool. This tool was used to by the project manager to assign and monitor task status. The tool displayed who was assigned to a task, when the task was expected to be completed, who was to review the task and the current status of the task. This tool was effective as it was very easy to read and provided feedback to the project manager as well as team members to the current state of the project.

# PROJECT REPORT

## PROJECT OUTCOME

Mark IV Tech was recently assigned the task of creating a web-based image organiser in the wake of Google Picasa, a similar service that was discontinued in March 2016. A number of software requirements were specified by the client in the original project plan. These requirements included but were not limited to:

* Read/Write SQLite database.
* Ability to set a root directory according to user selection.
* Extract all metadata from user selected root directory.
* Save edited metadata back to the image.
* Default view to display all thumbnail images within the repository.
* Sort thumbnail images according to date (newest to oldest).
* Perform a simple single field search for images according to user input.
* Responsive GUI.
* User-friendly interface.
* Maintain data integrity.
* Operate across multiple platforms and devices.

Using an agile methodology for our development cycle, we are happy to report that we have successfully fulfilled the requirements of the client, as well as including some additional features throughout the development cycle. We believe that the final product delivered is both high in quality and user-friendly. Some of the additional features included are:

* Re-sort images by date (oldest to newest).
* Perform complex multiple field search for images according to user input.
* Allow user to update fields of image metadata.
* File system metadata synchronised with database data for each user request.
* Dynamic scanning of image directories.
* Additional database information.

The web-based image organiser was designed with usability and functionality in mind. The front-end design utilises the Bootstrap framework in order to present a clear and concise webpage to the user. SQLite 3 was chosen as the preferred method of storing and querying database information, due to the nature of the project. This allows the user to run the software solely using an Apache server.

It is recommended that users take advantage of the “XAMPP” software package when using the web-based image organiser, as it is available on multiple platforms and was primarily used by the development team when creating the software.

### LIMITATIONS

The software we have created is best used in a non-commercial environment, as there are limitations to the size of each image directory. Images must be stored in JPEG/JPG format, otherwise they will not be scanned and updated by the software. Using larger image directories may take the software significantly longer to scan through, depending on the size of each directory.

### SCANNING IMAGES

Users can select multiple directories to scan images from, and can later remove the stored database, effectively removing all image directories used by the software. If entering a drive letter to locate your image directories, be sure to include the colon after the drive letter e.g. “C:”. Please note that the “Browse Images” page, simple search, and “Advanced Search” page will redirect the user to the scan page until at least one directory has been added to the software. The application also stores the last scan time so only images that have been modified since this scan will have their metadata read-in. This ensures a more efficient scanning algorithm with less wait time for the user.

### BROWSING IMAGES

Users can view their image library in this section, and can modify image metadata by clicking on an image and changing information stored in the metadata fields. The default image library view is sorted by year (newest-oldest), but can be changed to sort between (newest-oldest) or (oldest-newest) by using the “Sort Images” button at the top of the page. Any metadata changed within the information fields must be saved first in order to be used by the search functions. This user saved metadata is stored directly onto the image, with a new file scan subsequently run to ensure the database remains synchronised. This allows the data to persist after the database is deleted.

### DATABASE INFORMATION

This section of the software allows the user to view information about the database, such as the path of their image directories, the number of images are stored in the library, and the size of the database. Users can also delete their current database on this page, which will remove all photos from the image library on the software. If multiple directories are stored, they can also be individually removed by clicking the “Remove” button next to the corresponding directory path.

### SIMPLE SEARCH FUNCTION

Users can search for metadata keywords stored within the image library by using the simple search function located on the top-right of each page (*Note: simple search function is not available on the advanced search page*). Parts of keywords will also return results e.g. searching “fire” returns results with stored metadata “firetruck”.

### ADVANCED SEARCH PAGE

Users can search specific metadata fields using this page. Please note that if multiple fields are used, any results returned will be exclusive, not inclusive. Dynamic dropdown fields are used to select specific camera manufacturers and/or camera models. If a manufacturer is chosen first, the camera model field will be updated with the respective models for that manufacturer. If a model is chosen first, the manufacturer’s field will update to that model’s respective maker. These fields can be reset by using the reset button located directly below the dropdown fields.

### OTHER FEATURES

If individual images are removed from a root directory (outside of the software), they will also no longer show up on the image library. On the contrary, if an image is added to a root directory, they will also be added to the image library. If no directories have been selected, the user will be prompted to add a directory and will be taken to the “Scan Images” page where they can add one.

### FUTURE UPDATES

Mark IV Tech uses GitHub in order to collaborate on their projects. Future updates to the web-based image organiser can be found online at <https://github.com/Gregory1999/CSC3600>. Most of the source code has been commented on and structured properly so that it can be built upon and easily understood by other developers.

## COST OF THE PROJECT

This project has had a total project expenditure of $19,851.79. The initial plan anticipated an outlay of $70,199.75, this total however was caused by an uncaught error in which the total labour costs were incorrectly multiplied by four; the corrected estimated expenditure was $20,129.00. The project has therefore underspent anticipated (corrected) costs by $277.21. The cost of each project is broken down and displayed in the below tables. The Labour table sources its data from the task log summary shown in appendix B.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **Phase** | **Hours(4)** | **Cost (Business Analyst Rate(1))** | **Cost (Programmer Rate(2))** | **Cost (Project Manager Rate(3))** | **Total Phase Cost** |
| **1** | **Initialising** | 29.25 | $1,118.95 | $0.00 | $505.81 | $3,403.20 |
| **2** | **Discover and understand the details of the problem** | 31.5 | $1,191.93 | $0.00 | $566.51 | $4,537.60 |
| **3** | **Create the project plan.** | 41.5 | $1,654.10 | $0.00 | $606.98 | $7,260.16 |
| **4** | **Design Components** | 70 | $0.00 | $1,855.00 | $1,375.81 | $1,680.00 |
| **5** | **Build all the program components, integrate and test.** | 114.5 | $0.00 | $3,710.00 | $687.91 | $25,200.00 |
| **6** | **Monitoring and Controlling** | 25 | $583.80 | $0.00 | $1,052.09 | $4,764.48 |
| **7** | **Deploy** | 24.25 | $632.45 | $0.00 | $910.46 | $8,394.56 |
| **Totals** | | **336** | **$5,181.23** | **$5,565.00** | **$5,705.57** | **$16,451.79** |
| **Notes:** | | | | | | |
| 1. Business Analyst Hourly Rate-$48.65 (PayScale 2018). | | | | | | |
| 2. Programmer Hourly Rate-$35(PayScale 2018). | | | | | | |
| 3. Project Manager Hourly Rate-$80.93(PayScale 2018). | | | | | | |
| 4. Phase hours sourced from Task Log Summary, refer Appendix B. | | | | | | |

**Table 01: Labour- Time and Cost Estimation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Resources | Cost |
| Software | Virtualisation | $0.00 |
| GitHub | $0.00 |
| PHP/MySQL/AJAX | $0.00 |
| Hardware | Desktop PCs x 4 | $2,400.00 |
| Internet Access (Project Duration) | $1,000.00 |
| Total Cost | | **$3,400.00** |

**Table 02: Resource Cost Estimation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title | Cost |
| Total Resource Cost | $3,400.00 |
| Total Labour Cost | $16,451.79 |
| Total Project Cost | $19,851.79 |

**Table 03: Total Project Expenditure**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title | Cost |
| Planned Expenditure (Corrected) | $20,129.00 |
| Actual Expenditure | $19,851.79 |
| Expenditure Delta | - $277.21 |

**Table 04: Project Expenditure Comparison**

The below graph displays a comparison of the planned lobour hours (in red) and the actual hours carried out during the project (shown in blue). From the graph it is shown that there are two phases which where inaccurately forecasted. The project team only required 43% of the anticpated programing and testing hours and exceeded the design phase hours by almost 6 times.

**Figure 01: Planned vs Actual Labour Comparison**

The above graph highlights the first costings lesson learnt, which is to not underestimate the time required to carry out the projects design, especially when working within a team. Most university assignments have been individual activities, so less time is required to create and communicate design details, with more time spent coding. It was noted through this project that extra time is required when working in a team environment, to discuss and specify the proposed design. In future projects this team would actively proportion less time to programming and allocate more labour resources to develop designs.

The final costings lesson learnt during this project was to be more diligent with the financial calculations. The accounting error within the initial plan was caused by miscommunications during the early phases of the project, before communication paths and norms had matured, and was compounded by the dispersed structure of the project team. The error was then not identified as the team had not had experience in software projects so had little idea of the expected scale of the expenditure. To mitigate this error in future projects the team would employ additional Independent checks and validation for all critical financial calculations.

# CONTRIBUTION DISTRIBUTION

Notes:

* Fill the table with approximate percentage of effort each team member contributed to each part of the project. (Team member names go along the top row.)
* Tasks include all activities in the project, such as research, discussions, documentation, meetings, and implementation.
* Comment on how you distributed the workload within the team.
* Comment on how well your distribution of tasks worked

Tasks distribution was managed by the team leader who took responsibility for assigning and distributing the team’s workload. All tasks were documented within the team’s central task tracking tool. This tool gave members visibility of allocated work and task status. As each member had different skills and knowledge, the jobs could not be simply divided. Instead the project lead had to assess the task and balance workloads based on competency and experience. The combination of this tool and a diligent project leader resulted in a fair and even allotment of work. The distribution of tasks are shown in the below table.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MAIN  TASKS | RYAN  GEORGE | ISAAC  HERTWECK | ANDREW JOHNSTON | GREGORY  JONES |
| Project Management |  |  |  |  |
| Research |  |  |  |  |
| Discussions |  |  |  |  |
| Meetings |  |  |  |  |
| Design |  |  |  |  |
| Documentation |  |  |  |  |
| Implementation |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |  |

**Table 05: Project Expenditure Comparison**

# CONCLUSION

Notes:

• Summarize the information presented in the document

• Summarize your team's project experience.

• What did you learn?

• How do you plan to run your next project?

# REFERENCES

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# APPENDIX A: MEETING MINUTES and Correspondence

## Zoom Meeting Minutes

Minutes-1/18

**MINUTES OF MARK IV TECH INITIAL PROJECT CLIENT MEETING 1/18**

**ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE 30 JUL 2018 6:30PM**

**Attendees:**

Mr I. Hertweck    PROJECT MANAGER (Chair)

Mr R. George    PROJECT TEAM (Secretary)

Mr G. Jones    PROJECT TEAM

Mr A Johnston    PROJECT TEAM

Mr S. Dekeyser    PROJECT SPONSOR

**Project Introduction**

1. Mr Dekeyser commenced the meeting with a brief introduced of the project. The project was summarised as follows:
2. The team must create an image indexer and searcher to replace the now defunct google Picasa tool. This tool had the following features:

It was very good at indexing images stored locally on disk and would organise them in hierarchical folders.

The folder names were used by Picasa to extract keywords.

It would also show all images on a time-line with the most recent first and group the images by date.

It had the ability to do searching- Could do simple searching such as looking for a simple tag and could also do more complex searches too.

1. The project team is to create a photo organiser for personal use. Instead of being a self-contained application, it is to be a web-based application, using the browser as the interface and a local host server.
2. It is intended that when the user first installs and runs the program, the user will set a directory path at the top of the tree. The application will scan all of the images in that directory and the subdirectories and extract the metadata from the images. This data is then uploaded into a Database and is used for searching the repository.
3. The application should use standard technologies that it will be portable across Operating Systems.
4. The specific technology choices are up to the team- the team can choose to swap out any component within the web-based application.

**Project Development Tools**

1. Mr Dekeyser was asked how he would recommend the team set up their development servers in order to collaborate while developing their code. Mr Dekeyser recommended the following in regards to project development tools:
   1. Mr Dekeyser recommended using a local host and packaging the source code so that it can be dropped into a similar environment and run. He stated that the team will have to tell instructor what the environment is and how to set it up.
   2. In terms of project management Mr Dekeyser highly Recommend using GIT to manage the source code repository. He also encouraged the team to use it in conjunction with Bit Pocket or GIT Hub.
   3. Mr Dekeyser identified that there is a server at USQ for GIT but he recommends using the current popular tools.
   4. The team was told that they are to share a link with the instructor with read only access so he could view the team’s repository of code. Mr Dekeser wanted the ability to check who has been active in submitting code.
   5. Mr Dekeyser also recommend that the team look into other popular software development tools to use with GIT for collaboration of our project work.

**Organising work**

1. Mr Dekeyser recommended that in terms of organising work, this project has three big components. These components included:
   1. The first section was the Filesystem component. This component is to consist of scripts that efficiently index the photos in the directory structure, making sure to only index new photos. The team is to develop an algorithm that keeps track of filesystem changes. Metadata that can be changed, should be able to be modified in the user interface.
   2. The second major component was the database. The team would be required to design the Database Schema and then implement it.
   3. The final component was the Web browser (GUI), which would consist of HTML and JavaScript. This component needs to be responsive, using AJAX so not always refreshing the entire page. It needs to be viewable in both mobile and full browser and can use open source libraries; The team just needs to mention which libraries are used in the projects documentation.
   4. These three components could be split amongst the team or could be worked on together.

**Communication**

1. Mr Dekeyser identified the following remarks in regards to team communication with the instructor:
   1. The number of meetings with the instructor is entirely up to the project team. He simple asked to have an email at least once a fortnight, listing the teams progress.
   2. Mr Dekeyser is happy for anyone from the team to contact him directly via email so long as the whole team is included on the email. However Mr Dekeyser stated that for the purposes of the project management aspects of the course it is probably best if the team leader is the principle contact person.

**Requirements**

1. Mr Dekeyser identified the following points in regards to the project requirements:
   1. Mr Dekeyser stated that clients generally want everything, however the project team obviously cannot implement everything. Collectively the team needs to figure out which features set will included in the final program. The team must intelligently select from the clients wish list and create something that is logically consistent and usable on its own.
   2. Mr Dekeyser stated that he will be able to indicate priority of features, but it is up to the team to decide on the features to include in the program.
   3. A firm requirement of the project is that the program must have, as a minimum, a simple search box. This would be a text box that the user inputs a tag. The tool then finds images using that tag. Typically, the search will use the words that are stored in the file path but could also search other DB fields.
   4. A client wish would be to have a complex search that would allow the user to specify complicated search queries. The challenge with this functionality would be to create a user interface that would allow the complex query to be specified and have code that translates it into DB query.
   5. The program is to be tested using the team’s own images. It is only required to work with around 20 – 30 images.
   6. The program needs to be able to store and index JPEG images and doesn’t need to deal with RAW images.
   7. One client wish is to be able to synchronise the metadata between the database and the photo.
   8. The team is not to use commercial Database software.

**Summation/Close**

1. Project Sponsor closed the meeting by stating if anything was unclear, as a group try get to the heart of what was unclear and then request further clarification. The meeting concluded at 7:00PM

Minutes-2/18

**MINUTES OF MARK IV TECH PROJECT TEAM MEETING 2/18**

**ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE 07 SEP 2018 6:30PM**

**Attendees:**

Mr I. Hertweck    PROJECT MANAGER (Chair)

Mr R. George    PROJECT TEAM (Secretary)

Mr G. Jones    PROJECT TEAM

Mr A Johnston    PROJECT TEAM

**Discussions**

The Project manager commenced the meeting and explained that this was a quick team meeting to identify the strategies and requirements to successfully complete the project. The following points were made:

1. Advanced Search feature: include a form for each field that a user can fill in –
2. database search on each field.
3. Start developing the advance search by using general search parameters, then move onto more advanced parameters. (Incremental development).
4. Continue communicating with Stijn via email.
5. Use one global css file is to be used to hold all site style code.
6. The team would split development into branches on GitHub.

**Summation/Close**

1. Project Manager closed the meeting which concluded at 7:00PM

## Messenger Minutes

As the team was distributed across three states with varying family and work commitments the team used Facebook messenger to conduct the majority of their team meetings. A central log of these meeting was maintained which summarised the topics discussed and decisions made. This log is shown below.

**16th - 30th July 2018**

We began communicating via a Facebook Messenger group chat to talk about the criteria of our first group assignment; the project planning report to present to the client. Our team leader, Isaac, scheduled a meeting with the project supervisor so that we could get a better grasp of the criteria and the requirements the client was after in relation to the project software. Our team brainstormed questions to ask the supervisor during the meeting and wrote them down on a document shared between everyone in the group.

**31st July – 14th August 2018**

After gathering more information about the project from our supervisor, we began working on the project report due in mid-August. For this assignment we shared our documents and timetables on Google Drive, where we could comment on each other’s work and provide constructive feedback. The group chat was used to discuss what each person was working on and where they were up to, what times we would be able to work on the assignment, and to discuss the assignment criteria. All assigned tasks were recorded on the central task management sheet.

**15th -29th August 2018**

Throughout the month of August, we as a team had begun discussing which local server software we wanted use for the development and testing phase of the web-based image organiser. After trying different options such as LAMP on Linux, XAMPP on Mac, and XAMPP on Windows, and seeing what worked best with the majority of the team, we decided that XAMPP would be used for the development of the software. The messenger chat was primarily made of up conversations on how to fix issues were we experiencing with certain operating systems or software we had considered using.

**30th August – 13th September 2018**

Our team begun developing the software by the end of August, with Gregory laying the main foundations of the website so that it would be easier to implement the project requirements further down the track. We all acknowledged any emails that were sent to the supervisor, and discussed any replies that we received. We also decided to use GitHub to collaborate on the software development and testing side of the project. This made it easier to track our progress, and we could let each other know via Messenger when we were about to commit changes to the master branch. After more than a week of development, we decided to schedule a Zoom meeting among ourselves, and choose which areas we would focus on. It was decided that since Andrew and Gregory were more experienced in backend development, that they would keep a heavier focus on the backend side of the software development. Isaac and Ryan agreed to primarily work on the frontend code, and so we began dividing our work into multiple branches, so as to not overwrite each other’s progress.

**14th -28th September 2018**

Most of our messenger conversations during this time were about troubleshooting code and helping each other with bugs and errors. We had contacted our supervisor again to get some feedback on how the project development was going, as he had access to our GitHub repository.

**27th September - 11th October 2018**

With the critical requirements of the project completed, most of our chat was focused on error checking and talk about how we would begin writing our final report and presentation of the developed software. We scheduled another meeting with our supervisor to demonstrate the work that we had done. As all critical criteria were completed a new list of possible improvements was created and shared on google drive.

**11th - 19th October 2018**

Ryan created a video demonstration which was provided to the project sponsor who provided prompt feedback. All new client specified requirements were discussed and assigned. Once these features were implemented, the team leader assigned project report roles as per the task tracker. The team also discussed how to execute the project presentation. The presentation content was divided as below:

* Isaac - project management topics,
* Greg - browse and edit pages,
* Ryan – front-end and search features,
* Andrew – filesystem browser(including multi-directory support) and nerd page

It was decided that the team would create a video to submit, with Ryan combining all individual videos for submission.

## Email Correspondence

**29 Aug 2018**

Good Afternoon Mr Dekeyser,

I am emailing you to provide an update on how Mark IV Tech is progressing with your project you have tasked us.

Over the last couple of weeks, the team has drafted up a full project plan and began development of the Web Based Image Organiser.

In the project plan, the project specifications and requirements have been developed from meetings and communication with you.

From this a work breakdown structure has been developed which has allowed us to develop a task schedule and cost estimations. These are important as it allows key milestones to be managed by the company and delivered on time and to the budget set.

The team has estimated that this project will require a total of 377 work hours with a planned expenditure of $70,199.75.

Following the estimations, the project risks have been identified and measured using a risk matrix.

By identifying possible risks early, it will allow the company to put in mitigation techniques in the hope of preventing project delays.

Now that the project plan has been completed, development has also begun. So far Mark IV Tech has chosen the following technologies to develop with...

* SQLite 3
* PHP
* JavaScript
* JQuery
* Bootstrap

A prototype site structure has been developed and tested on our machines and is so far running well. We are currently in the process of creating a schema for the metadata search functions which we will update you on once complete.

We will advise you on any planned changes to the architecture of the program if we run into any problems.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to email me.

Regards,

Isaac (Team Leader)

Mark IV Tech.

**30 Aug 2018**

Thank you very much for this informative update, team. You have communicated appropriate project management issues and provided an update of the current status of a number of the implementation issues such as database schema design.

I look forward to your next update.

Best regards,

--Stijn.

**13 Sep 2018**

Good Afternoon Mr Dekeyser,

I am emailing you to provide an update on how Mark IV Tech is progressing with your project you have tasked us.

Over the last couple of weeks, the team has shifted into the development phase and is tracking well as per our team schedule.

So far we have achieved the following.

* Ongoing development of the front-end of the website including a consistent layout using CSS, HTML and bootstrap.
* We have successfully started reading and writing to the database all of the metadata for the images.
* The database schema is fully developed and tweaks are being made as we find any problems with functionality.
* Currently working on implementing a browse button that will allow the user to select images from a directory on their computer.

We are using Git Hub to keep track of all changes made to the website. If you like you can have a look at our repository so that you can see what has been achieved so far.

https://github.com/Gregory1999/CSC3600

We will advise you on any planned changes to the architecture of the program if we run into any problems.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to email me.

Regards,

Isaac (Team Leader)

Mark IV Tech.

**13 Sept 2018**

Thank you for the report, Isaac and team.  I confirm that I can see the git repo and am able to see commit history and the "Insights" page on Github.  
You seem to be tracking well overall. I assume the distribution of commits over team members will change, but if not please make sure that your reporting (course assignments) covers that aspect.  
  
Best regards,  
--Stijn.

**03 Oct 2018**

Good Afternoon Mr Dekeyser,

I am emailing you to provide an update on how Mark IV Tech is progressing with your project you have tasked us.

Over the last couple of weeks the team has fully developed a working prototype website to the specifications provided.

So far we have achieved the following.

* Developed an easy to use front-end layout that remains consistent across the site and responsive over multiple devices by using bootstrap.
* We have successfully created a browse button that allows the user to navigate a specified drive on their computer and load a folder as a root directory which the website then scans and provides the images.
* The metadata can be edited on the website and the changes are saved to the user's original image file.
* A simple search feature is present that allows the user to search via keywords in the metadata
* An advanced search function has also been created that allows a user to search via specific metadata tags.
* Documentation has been provided on each page of the site advising the user what that page is for.

As the prototype is complete we are now in the final stages of testing and tweaking and can provide you with a version to run if you would like. If you would like to look at the development of the site, here is the link to our GitHub.

https://github.com/Gregory1999/CSC3600

From here we have started the final project report and will also be recording the usage of the website and showing the features it has so that we can present this recording to yourself thus allowing you to see the project and let us know if there is any final changes you want to make.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to email me.

Regards,

Isaac (Team Leader)

Mark IV Tech.

**04 Oct 2018**

Thank you for the report, Isaac and team. As before, I confirm that I can see the git repo and am able to see commit history and the "Insights" page on Github.

Could you let me know please what your plans are (ie. date) regarding a Zoom meeting to demonstrate the prototype, or sending through the recording that you refer to?

Compared to your previous report, I note that the distribution of git commits over team members has not changed as much as expected. Hence in your final report you will need to address the issue of \*other\* work (non git commits) done by team members, and the general distribution of contributions.

Best regards,

--Stijn.

**05 Oct 2018**

Hi Mr Dekeyser

We can demonstrate the prototype over zoom on Monday/Tuesday evening if that works for you. 5 or 5:30pm AEST? Or even this afternoon around 5pm AEST if available.

Regards

Isaac

Mark IV Tech.

**05Oct 2018**

Those times don't work well for me.  If you were originally planning to send me a (link to a) recording, then I can look at that and provide feedback if necessary.  Otherwise we will need to find a time slot that works for all.  
Best regards,  
--Stijn.

**05Oct 2018**

Hi Mr Dekeyser,

Thanks for the prompt reply, we have created a video of the prototype website outlining all the functions for your review.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9B7dSwnBdMY&feature=youtu.be

Please note: For the final release product, on the advanced search page, the simple search toolbar won't be included as it isn't necessary on that page.

Any feedback would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Isaac

Mark IV Tech.

**08 Oct 2018**

Hi all, thanks for the link to the video recording. I believe it demonstrates the functionality of your application well. From what I can see, I also believe the set of features that you've chosen to implement, form a logical coherent whole and hence you have a usable product.

Some minor feedback:

\* searching on dates should probably pop up a date picker

\* often users are interested in searching a date range, rather than 1 specific date

\* Question: is the altered metadata only saved to the database, or also to the file? Do I lose the metadata I entered when I delete the database?

\* Question: how does your algorithm notice whether the images in a directory have changed? Is it a complete re-scan, or is there some efficiency built in skipping existing images?

Best regards,

--Stijn.

**09 Oct 2018**

Good Evening Mr. Dekeyser,

In response to your questions,

Is the altered metadata only saved to the database, or also to the file? Do I lose the metadata I entered when I delete the database?

The metadata is saved directly to the image and then a rescan saves the changes into the database. Therefore there is no loss of metadata when the database is deleted.

How does your algorithm notice whether the images in a directory have changed? Is it a complete re-scan, or is there some efficiency built in skipping existing images?

The database stores the last scan date-time, the scanning algorithm will get all image paths in the root directory and then loop over each file. If a file is already in the db the algorithm will check if it has been modified since the last scan. If it has been modified, the program will read in the files metadata, if not it will skip the image and go onto the next path.

We took your feedback on board and implemented your recommendations successfully. We have also added multi-directory support as well.

Regards,

Isaac

Mark IV Tech.

# APPENDIX B: ACTIVITY LOG SHEETS

## Group Summary of Activity Log Sheets

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week Number | Initialising | Discover and understand the details of the problem | Create the project plan. | Design Components | Implement and Test | Monitoring and Controlling | Deploy | Weekly Total |
| Week 1 | 9.75 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13.75 |
| Week 2 | 6 | 5.5 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 0.25 | 0 | 21.75 |
| Week 3 | 3 | 4.5 | 16.5 | 0 | 0 | 0.25 | 0 | 24.25 |
| Week 4 | 0.5 | 0.25 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 4.25 | 0 | 25 |
| Week 5 | 4 | 0.25 | 6 | 0 | 12 | 0.25 | 0 | 22.5 |
| Week 6 | 4 | 2.25 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 0.25 | 0 | 17.5 |
| Week 7 | 2 | 4.75 | 0 | 19 | 9 | 1.75 | 0 | 36.5 |
| Week 8 | 0 | 4.25 | 0 | 12 | 11 | 1.75 | 0 | 29 |
| Week 9 | 0 | 2.25 | 0 | 13 | 11.5 | 1.75 | 0 | 28.5 |
| Week 10 | 0 | 2.25 | 0 | 8 | 17 | 1.25 | 0 | 28.5 |
| Week 11 | 0 | 0.25 | 0 | 7.5 | 14.5 | 0.75 | 1 | 24 |
| Week 12 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3.5 | 17 | 5.5 | 0 | 27 |
| Week 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 12.5 | 18.5 |
| Week 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.5 | 4 | 10.75 | 19.25 |
| Total | **29.25** | **31.5** | **41.5** | **70** | **114.5** | **25** | **24.25** | **336** |

## Gregory’s Log Sheets



























