

Project Overview

The goal of this project was to create a job management dashboard with a Node.js backend and a React frontend. The project requirements included creating a REST API for managing job data and a frontend to interact with the API.

Key Decisions and Approach

Backend Development

1. **Technology Stack:**
 - **Node.js:** Chosen for its scalability and ease of use in building RESTful APIs.
 - **Express:** A lightweight framework for setting up the server and routing.
 - **TypeScript:** Used for type safety and better code quality.
 - **JSON File Storage:** Used to simulate a database for simplicity.
2. **Folder Structure:**
 - **src/models.ts:** Contains the data model and functions to read/write jobs from/to a JSON file.
 - **src/controllers.ts:** Contains the logic for handling API requests (CRUD operations).
 - **src/routes.ts:** Defines the API endpoints and links them to the corresponding controllers.
 - **src/index.ts:** Sets up the Express server and middleware.
3. **Data Handling:**
 - **Date Format:** Ensured all dates are stored and returned in the `2024-06-15T09:00:00Z` format for consistency.
 - **JSON Storage:** Used a JSON file (`data/jobs.json`) to store job data, making it easy to read and write job records.
4. **Security and Error Handling:**
 - Implemented basic error handling for operations like getting a job by ID, updating, and deleting jobs.
 - Used `cors` to handle cross-origin requests, allowing the frontend to communicate with the backend.

Frontend Development

1. **Technology Stack:**
 - **React:** Chosen for its component-based architecture and ease of building interactive UIs.
 - **TypeScript:** Used for type safety and better code quality.
 - **React Router:** Used for navigation between different views (job list, job details, add/edit job).
2. **Component Structure:**
 - **JobList:** Displays a list of all jobs with options to edit and delete each job.
 - **JobDetail:** Displays detailed information about a selected job with an option to edit the job.

- **JobForm:** Used for both adding new jobs and editing existing jobs, ensuring form data is consistent with the backend's requirements.
- **Header:** Used for Showing the top header with the associated ProfitFill Logo.
- 3. **Styling:**
 - Used CSS for styling components, ensuring a consistent and responsive design.
 - Ensured buttons and form elements are aligned and properly styled for a better user experience.
- 4. **Date Handling:**
 - Ensured date inputs in forms are compatible with the `datetime-local` format required by the backend.
 - Converted dates to the correct format before sending them to the backend.

Implementation Steps

Backend

1. **Initialize Project:**
 - Set up a Node.js project with TypeScript, Express, and necessary dependencies.
 - Configured TypeScript and created basic folder structure.
2. **Create Models and Controllers:**
 - Defined job data model and functions for reading/writing JSON data.
 - Implemented CRUD operations in the controllers.
3. **Set Up Routing:**
 - Defined API routes and linked them to the appropriate controller functions.
4. **Handle Date Format:**
 - Ensured all dates are stored in the `2024-06-15T09:00:00Z` format.
 - Used `toISOString` for date conversions.

Frontend

1. **Initialize Project:**
 - Set up a React project with TypeScript and necessary dependencies.
 - Configured React Router for navigation.
2. **Create Components:**
 - Implemented `JobList`, `JobDetail`, and `JobForm` components.
 - Ensured components handle CRUD operations correctly and communicate with the backend.
3. **Styling:**
 - Applied CSS styles to ensure a consistent and user-friendly design.
 - Used Flexbox for layout and alignment of buttons and form elements.
4. **Date Handling:**
 - Ensured date inputs and outputs are compatible with the backend's requirements.