**SSW 555 Agile Methods for Software Development**

**Homework 11**

**The Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) describes goals and plans at several levels of abstraction:**

* **Investment Themes**
* **Epics**
* **Features**
* **Stories**
* **Tasks**

**Describe examples of each of these for a company like MyHeritage that produces software and services for genealogy research. That is, give specific examples of themes, epics, features, stories and tasks that might be used in planning and developing software that allows users to record and analyze their family trees.**

**-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Answer:**

MyHeritage allows users to record and analyze their family trees. The Portfolio management of MyHeritage team surveyed its active users and has decided following plans:

**1. Investment Themes:**

* Existing offerings (enhancements, support and maintenance)
  + Enhance the existing software to add usability features like color coding, interactive tooltips and help menu.
  + Also, try to eliminate bugs, improve efficiency of generating the family tree based on the data.
* New offerings

The Product Management team has decided to roll out some new releases this year like:

* + Taking user’s DNA records and matching with the people in their database to find if there exist long lost relatives or any ancestry data of that person.
  + Adding features to share the family trees on social media like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp.
  + Adding feature to invite your friends and relatives to try out the application.
* Futures
  + Move the infrastructure to cloud based system that has scalability and security features.
* Sunset
  + It is observed that some features of the system are not that used such as making data public. End support for features that need to be removed or are not that used.

**2. Epics**

Some examples of Epics:

1. Improve User Experience through feature enhancements.
2. Make the application Scalable and Secure.
3. Come up with Marketing strategies for the application. (Link with Social Media)
4. Improve algorithm efficiency.

**3. Features**

The Epics to be implemented span the releases planned by the company for this year. The Product management team and the Release management team plan the releases for the company. The releases are then divided into features.

1. New Feature for finding Relations

Taking user’s DNA records and matching with the people in their database to find if there exist long lost relatives or any ancestry data of that person.

1. Social Media Linking

Adding features to share the family trees on social media like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp.

1. Adding Invite Feature

Adding feature to invite your friends and relatives to try out the application.

1. Add Usability Enhancements

Add enhancements that improve the usability of the system like color coding, interactive tooltips.

1. Improve Efficiency

Improve efficiency of the algorithm that generates the family tree.

1. Move System to Cloud to make it scalable and secure.

Use Cloud models like IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service – for company) and SaaS (Software as a Service – for Users) and move the infrastructure to cloud based system that has scalability and security features.

**4. Stories**

Following are the examples of stories:

* Authentication and payment system development.
* Invite feature for sending invites to friends and people of a person through Google+, FB.
* Usability Enhancements features for setting color codes for same generation people.
* Test the application after enhancements are applied.
* Interactive Tooltips for helping the user to give information of how the application should be used.
* Test the application from User perspective or with real users and evaluate if user finds it easy to start using the application.

**5. Tasks**

Following are task examples:

* Authentication:
  + Set up login and signup pages.
  + Register users into the system.
  + Give a 30-day free trial period.
* Payment System.
  + Take User credentials.
  + Setup payment gateway.
  + Register company to accepts credit cards of some set of recognized banks.
  + Confirm payment module.
  + Grant access for a specified period.
* Invite feature
  + Set up invite requests page.
  + Setup OAuth to allow sign-ins through Google+, Gmail, Facebook account.
  + Use verification and check in system database.
  + Grant Access.