Product vision - Group 21

IRC client application for Android

Introduction:
IRC or Internet Relay Chat is a messaging protocol for communication with groups or individuals over the internet. It was created in 1988 and has been used ever since. Therefore there are a plethora of clients with 20th century thinking. The demand for a new, 21st century client, for 21st century devices is dire.

Product vision:
For IRC users who are using their Android phones to connect to IRC, the ircSEX messenger is the client that will revolutionize the way we communicate on mobile devices. Drawing upon modern messaging platforms and idioms, with our product, we show that IRC can be more than a terminal or look like a hacker chat. The world of IRC clients for Android is in dire need for change - and we're here to do it!

User segment:
The primary user segment is people who want to chat casually over the IRC protocol. We hope to bring a renaissance to the protocol through an amazing client with great usability to attract new users.

Build information:
Build target: API 16 - Android 4.1
Minimum version: API 15 - Android 4.0.3
The build target is set to API 16 to utilize the new features introduced in Android 4.1, among them expandable notifications. Allowing devices with API level above 15 allows the app to run on two thirds of all Android devices according to data from the Google Play store. In addition, this allows us to adhere to Android design guidelines and specifications, with native Holo support.

Features listed in probable order of introduction over eight iterations:
- Connect to server
- Disconnect from server
- Join channels
- Leave channels
- Send messages to the server
- See received messages in realtime
- Search backlog
- List connected channels
- List users in connected channels
- See join/leave messages in those channels
- Search users and channels
- Change nickname

- Query users
- Invite users to channels
- See embedded media in messages
- Configure highlights for messages
- Get notifications when something is highlighted
- Check user information
- SSL-support
- Connect through SSH-tunnel
- Support for "NickServ" authorization
- Set away message
- Detect if a user is away
- Kick users
- Ban users
- Set users OP to users
- Set channel topic
- Voice users
- Devoice users
- Set channel modes
- IRC-Bouncer integration
- Client-to-Client-Protocol communication
- File transfers through DCC (Direct Client-to-Client)
- Announce messages (amsg)
- Announce actions (ame)
- Operator notices (onotice)
- Support for restart command (restarts the irc server)
- Share channel URI through standard Android share feature