Milestone Four Narrative

Noah Jeleniewski

Southern New Hampshire University

A. *Briefly describe the artifact. What is it? When was it created?*

This artifact was originally my final project in the course *DAD 220: Introduction to SQL,* and was created about a year ago. This project involves the MESSAGING database, which has tables referring to people, contact lists, images, etc. The idea with this database is that the user can perform select queries that display how many messages a person has sent, an associated image to the message, etc. This refinement focused on making the select queries more efficient and expanding the database as well.

B. *Justify the inclusion of the artifact in your ePortfolio. Why did you select this item? What specific components of the artifact showcase your skills and abilities in software development? How was the artifact improved?*

This was a great inclusion in my ePortfolio because it really shows off my comfortability with core SQL concepts. I specifically chose this project because of how in depth and expansive it is. The specific components of the artifact that show my skills and abilities include my ability to concisely perform specific SQL tasks, the ability to expand upon a finished project in order to show off more functionality, and my skills in logically pairing different tables together within select queries in order to show my competence within this aspect of Computer Science. I improved this artifact by making my select queries more efficient, and by adding a brand new table into the database entirely (the advanced\_info table) which is used to reference other tables and display key info for people within the tables (someone’s phone number, zip code, etc). I also improved this artifact by expanding upon my explanation for each SQL task I performed within the artifact, to make my thought process absolutely clear.

C. *Did you meet the course objectives you planned to meet with this enhancement in Module One? Do you have any updates to your outcome-coverage plans?*

I did meet the course objectives that I planned to meet with this enhancement. Specifically, I met the outcome “Demonstrate an ability to use well-founded and innovative techniques, skills, and tools in computing practices for the purpose of implementing computer solutions that deliver value and accomplish industry-specific goals”, because these SQL concepts are constantly used within the industry to achieve real-world objectives, and demonstrating the ability to be comfortable with executing those concepts is a key part of nailing this outcome. I also met the outcome “Employ strategies for building collaborative environments that enable diverse audiences to support organizational decision making in the field of computer science.” I met this outcome because of the SQL Milestone Document I created for this enhancement, which clearly describes my thought process and methods for each task I completed, which can be really important within any industry/profession, as it’s important to explain to your team/project manager HOW you made a certain improvement/change, and WHY you made it. I feel the most confident about this enhancement and don’t plan to update it before posting it to my ePortfolio.

D. *Reflect on the process of enhancing and/or modifying the artifact. What did you learn as you were creating it and improving it? What challenges did you face?*

To be honest, I just had a blast refining this artifact and improving it. SQL is my favorite thing to work with in the field of Computer Science, and learning new things about it genuinely gets me giddy. The biggest thing I learned is that even when something is already efficient, it can ALWAYS be expanded upon and improved upon. Even when improving it, though, it should be noted that this is the only enhancement that I literally had zero challenges with. It felt really natural to come back to this project and to enhance it, and even though I originally completed this project a year ago, it felt like I was just working on it yesterday, as seemingly none of the core SQL concepts have left my head since the last time I worked on this. This genuinely felt like a really successful and product enhancement.