Summer Training Report

By

Rayan Saleh   444810902

Supervised by

Dr. Mohammed Nadeem

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1.   Organization Brief

InnovationTeam is a technology company specializing in delivering advanced digital transformation solutions for both government and enterprise sectors. The company's mission is to help organizations improve efficiency, enhance user experiences, and make better decisions through innovative and secure systems. By aligning with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, InnovationTeam ensures that its work supports the country's strategic goals for digitalization and innovation.

The company offers a wide range of services designed to meet diverse technological needs:

- **Enterprise Solutions:** Implementing platforms like Pega and Microsoft Dynamics CRM to streamline operations and automate workflows.
- **API & Integration:** Providing secure, advanced API management to connect systems seamlessly and enable smooth data exchange.
- **Digital Experience:** Creating personalized and engaging user interfaces with tools like dotCMS and Contentsquare.
- **Business & Operations Monitoring:** Offering real-time performance tracking and proactive issue detection.
- **Digital Transformation Services:** Redefining processes to improve efficiency and adopt modern practices.
- **Data & AI:** Using cloud-powered AI and machine learning to turn data into actionable insights.
- **Application Development:** Building secure, scalable web and mobile applications aligned with business goals.

InnovationTeam has worked with a variety of high-profile clients such as STC, the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority, Al-Ahwal Al-Madania, NeoLeap, and Sirar by STC. These partnerships demonstrate the company's ability to deliver complex and high-impact projects successfully.

What makes InnovationTeam stand out is its investment in people. The company believes that its employees are its greatest asset, encouraging continuous learning, certification, and skill development. This ensures that the team remains up-to-date with the latest technologies and best practices, enabling them to deliver top-quality results.

In short, InnovationTeam is more than a service provider — it is a strategic partner dedicated to achieving measurable results for its clients. Through a mix of innovation, technical expertise, and client-focused delivery, the company continues to contribute significantly to digital transformation in Saudi Arabia and beyond.

2.   Training Plan

The summer training at InnovationTeam was designed to provide a combination of practical, hands-on development experience and exposure to professional software engineering practices. The core focus of the training was the development of the **Land Use Permit Management System**, a real-world application aimed at streamlining the process of applying for, reviewing, and managing land use permits for different purposes, such as building, agriculture, and commercial events.

The training program was organized into a structured **week-by-week plan** to ensure steady progress and systematic skill development:

- **Week 1 – Project Setup & Basic Authentication**

  The first week focused on setting up the development environment and laying the foundation for the project. This included creating the Spring Boot backend, setting up the PostgreSQL database, and initializing the React frontend. Basic Authentication using Spring Security was implemented to secure the system, along with the creation of core entities such as User, Role, and Permit.

- **Week 2 – Role-Based Navigation**

  The second week introduced role-based access control. A dedicated endpoint (/me) was created to fetch logged-in user information and determine the correct dashboard view (User or Admin). On the frontend, navigation logic was implemented to route users based on their assigned roles.

- **Week 3 – Permit Submission (User)**

  Development of the permit submission form began in week three. The form included all required fields such as applicant details, permit type, purpose, land area, and contact information. Field validation was added to ensure data integrity before submission.

- **Week 4 – File Upload Functionality**

  File upload capabilities were implemented, allowing users to attach necessary documents (e.g., ID copy, land ownership proof, and site map). The system supported multiple file uploads per permit, and the frontend included a preview function for uploaded documents.

- **Week 5 – User Dashboard: View My Permits**

  A dedicated dashboard was created for users to track all submitted permits, their statuses, and any administrative comments. The dashboard displayed permits in a structured table format with status indicators for easy navigation.

- **Week 6 – Admin Actions**

  Functionality for administrative roles was implemented, including the ability to approve, reject, or request edits on permit applications. Admins could also view and download attached documents directly from the dashboard.

This structured plan allowed for a smooth workflow, ensuring that each feature was built, tested, and integrated before moving to the next stage. The training provided an end-to-end development experience, covering everything from initial setup and authentication to deployment and reporting.

3.   Achievements/Tasks Accomplished

During my training at InnovationTeam, I was able to achieve several key milestones in the development of the **Land Use Permit Management System**. Each achievement reflected both technical skill and an understanding of real-world software development processes. Below is a breakdown of the major accomplishments throughout the training period:

1.   Backend Development with Spring Boot

One of my primary tasks was to design and develop the backend using **Spring Boot**, ensuring it was clean, modular, and easy to maintain. I implemented a layered architecture (Controller, Service, Repository, Entity, DTO) to keep the code organized. Key backend achievements included:

- Creating secure REST APIs for permit management, user authentication, and file handling.
- Designing entity relationships with **JPA/Hibernate** to map database tables for Users, Roles, Permits, and Attachments.
- Implementing **Basic Authentication** with **Spring Security** and role-based authorization.

2.   Database Design with PostgreSQL

I designed and optimized the **PostgreSQL** database schema to store all relevant data for the system. Key achievements in database work included:

- Defining proper constraints and indexing to improve query performance.
- Writing queries to fetch permit data filtered by status and role.
- Ensuring data integrity by using validation rules and correct data types for each field.

3.   Frontend Development with React

I developed the frontend interface using **React.js**, focusing on a clean, user-friendly design. Major tasks included:

- Implementing a **role-based dashboard** system for Users and Admins.
- Creating a fully functional **permit submission form** with validation.
- Designing an **upload interface** that supports multiple documents with previews.
- Integrating frontend components with backend APIs using **fetch/axios**.

4.   File Upload and Management

A major feature was the ability to upload and manage files related to permit applications. This involved:

- Creating a **multipart file upload API** in the backend.
- Allowing multiple file uploads per permit with storage on the server.
- Implementing frontend previews for uploaded files.
- Enabling Admins to view and download attached documents.

5.   User and Admin Dashboards

I implemented dynamic dashboards that provided different views depending on the logged-in user's role:

- **User Dashboard:** Showed all permits submitted by the logged-in user, their status, and any comments from admins.
- **Admin Dashboard:** Displayed all permits in the system with filtering options and action buttons for approving, rejecting, or requesting edits.

6.   Reporting System

In the final stages, I developed an **Admin Reporting Page** that displayed the total count of permits by status (Pending, Approved, Rejected, Edit Requested). This gave admins a quick overview of application activity in the system.

7.   Docker Deployment

To make the application portable and easier to deploy, I containerized both the backend and frontend using **Docker**. This ensured that the system could run consistently across different environments without dependency issues.

8.   Code Quality and Optimization

Throughout the project, I applied **clean code practices**:

- Refactored repetitive code into reusable methods.
- Applied proper exception handling for better error management.
- Used **Lombok** annotations to reduce boilerplate code.
- Documented important classes and methods for maintainability.

These achievements demonstrate a complete end-to-end development experience — from designing a secure backend and optimized database, to creating a functional, user-friendly frontend and deploying the system in a containerized environment.

4.   Software / Hardware Used

The development of the **Land Use Permit Management System** required the use of multiple software tools, frameworks, and hardware resources. The combination of these technologies ensured that the system was secure, scalable, and maintainable while providing a smooth development workflow.

1.   Backend Development Tools

- **Spring Boot:** The core framework for building the backend. It provided a simplified setup, built-in dependency management with Maven, and integrations for JPA/Hibernate, Spring Security, and REST APIs.
- **Spring Security:** Used for implementing Basic Authentication and role-based access control, ensuring that users only had access to authorized sections of the application.
- **Lombok:** A Java library that reduces boilerplate code by automatically generating getters, setters, constructors, and equals/hashCode methods.
- **Postman:** Used for testing APIs during development to ensure that all endpoints worked correctly before integration with the frontend.

2.   Database Tools

- **PostgreSQL:** The database system chosen for its reliability, scalability, and strong SQL standards compliance. It was used to store all application data, including user details, permit applications, and file metadata.
- **pgAdmin:** The GUI tool used to interact with the PostgreSQL database, run SQL queries, and manage database schema.

3.   Frontend Development Tools

- **React.js:** The JavaScript library used for building the user interface. It allowed the creation of reusable components and efficient state management for dynamic pages.
- **Axios:** Used for making HTTP requests from the frontend to the backend APIs.
- **Bootstrap & Custom CSS:** Used for styling the UI to make it visually appealing and responsive across different devices.

4.   Development & Collaboration Tools

- **IntelliJ IDEA:** The main IDE for backend development, offering powerful debugging, code completion, and Spring integration features.
- **Visual Studio Code (VS Code):** Used for frontend development, offering a lightweight environment with React-specific extensions.

- **GitHub:** Used for version control, collaboration, and tracking project changes over time.

5. Deployment Tools

- **Docker:** Used to containerize both the backend and frontend, ensuring consistent execution across different machines and environments.
- **Docker Compose:** Managed multi-container setup for backend, frontend, and database.

5. Lessons Learned

The summer training at InnovationTeam was not just a technical exercise, but also a valuable learning experience that improved my skills as a software developer. Throughout the eight weeks of training, I gained both technical knowledge and professional development insights that will benefit me in my future career.

1. Technical Skills Development

- **Spring Security Configuration:**

  I learned how to set up and configure Basic Authentication and role-based access control in Spring Boot. This included managing roles (USER, ADMIN), securing endpoints, and ensuring that only authorized users could perform certain actions.

- **REST API Design and Integration:**

  I improved my understanding of how to design clean and consistent RESTful APIs, including defining endpoints, handling request/response objects, and managing HTTP status codes. I also practiced integrating these APIs with a frontend React application.

- **Database Design and Optimization:**

  Working with PostgreSQL taught me how to create efficient schemas, set constraints, and use indexes to improve query performance. I also learned to ensure data integrity and handle relationships between entities using JPA/Hibernate.

- **React State Management and Routing:**

  I deepened my skills in managing application state using React hooks and routing users based on their roles. This was essential for building role-specific dashboards and navigation flows.

- **File Upload Handling:**

  Implementing secure file uploads taught me about multipart requests, backend storage management, and how to safely allow users to re-upload documents when necessary.

- **Docker Containerization:**

  I learned how to package both backend and frontend into Docker containers, making deployment faster and more consistent. I also understood the importance of containerization in modern software development.

2.   Clean Code and Best Practices

I learned the importance of keeping the codebase organized and easy to maintain:

- Using a **layered architecture** (Controller, Service, Repository, DTO, Entity).
- Writing **meaningful variable/method names** and keeping functions short.
- Using **Lombok** to reduce repetitive code.
- Implementing **exception handling** to make the system more robust and user-friendly.

3.   Problem-Solving and Debugging Skills

Some challenges required creative solutions:

- Debugging **authentication errors** when the frontend could not connect to protected backend endpoints.
- Solving **CORS issues** between the backend and frontend.
- Handling **state synchronization problems** in React when updating permit statuses.

Through these issues, I developed a structured approach to debugging: identify the problem, isolate it, test possible solutions, and document the fix.

4.   Professional Skills

- **Time Management:**

  Following the week-by-week plan improved my ability to manage deadlines and break down large tasks into smaller, achievable goals.

- **Collaboration and Communication:**

  I learned how to explain my work clearly to my supervisor, report progress, and ask for clarification when needed.

- **Adaptability:**

  When unexpected technical issues occurred, I adapted the plan and adjusted my approach to keep the project moving forward.

In summary, this training helped me grow as both a **technical developer** and a **professional team member**. The combination of backend, frontend, database, and deployment work gave me an end-to-end understanding of how modern applications are built and delivered.

6. Training Challenges

While the training was highly productive, there were several challenges that required patience, problem-solving skills, and close communication with my supervisor. These challenges provided valuable lessons for future projects.

1.   Backend–Frontend Integration

Integrating the React frontend with the Spring Boot backend was one of the most consistent challenges. Issues such as CORS errors, incorrect API endpoint mapping, and mismatched request/response formats caused delays. I learned to use debugging tools and API testing (Postman) to quickly identify and resolve integration problems.

2.   Authentication and Authorization Issues

Implementing Basic Authentication with role-based access sometimes caused unexpected behavior, especially when certain frontend requests failed due to missing or incorrect headers. This required a deeper understanding of how authentication data flows between client and server.

3.   File Upload Security and Management

Allowing users to upload multiple files presented security concerns such as file type validation, storage organization, and prevention of malicious uploads. I learned to implement backend-side validation and safe storage practices to ensure data security.

4.   React State Management

Managing state across multiple components (especially in dashboards and edit flows) became complex. I learned how to structure state handling better, use React hooks effectively, and ensure UI updates were consistent with backend data.

5.   Time Management and Task Overlap

There were moments when multiple features needed attention at the same time. For example, while working on file uploads, I also had to debug permit status updates. This required prioritizing critical tasks and breaking down work into smaller, manageable parts.

These challenges not only tested my technical skills but also helped me develop resilience and adaptability when facing complex problems.

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

The summer training at InnovationTeam was an invaluable experience that provided a complete understanding of **full-stack development** — from backend APIs and database design to frontend interfaces and deployment. Working on the **Land Use Permit Management System** allowed me to apply my academic knowledge to a real-world project with practical use cases in government and enterprise environments.

1. Key Takeaways:

- Gained practical experience in building secure, role-based applications.
- Improved my ability to design clean, maintainable, and scalable systems.
- Learned how to containerize applications for deployment using Docker.

2. Recommendations for Future Trainees:

1. **Learn the basics early:** Have a strong foundation in both backend and frontend before starting.
2. **Understand security:** Study authentication, authorization, and secure coding practices before implementation.
3. **Practice Docker:** Containerization should be learned early to avoid last-minute deployment problems.
4. **Communicate regularly:** Keep your supervisor updated on progress and obstacles.
5. **Document everything:** Maintain proper documentation for easier debugging and handover.

In conclusion, this training has significantly improved my technical and professional skills, preparing me for more advanced roles in software development and future projects in **full-stack development, and enterprise systems**.

Joining Form:

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السادة/ جامعة الملك خالد   المحترمين

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

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وتفضلوا بقبول فائق الاحترام،

مدير الموارد البشرية
malnajran
محمد النجران