

Information Gathering Assignment

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1 Interview Questions

1.1 Types of Questions

We are going to use all the types of interview Questions

1. Funnel Type
2. Pyramid Type
3. Diamond Type

1.2 Funnel type questions

The funnel type questions are going to be used for the first interview with the users as it gives the user the freedom to express their opinions about the proposed system and then expand by close-ended questions which shall give more information about our requirements.

Users:

1. What do you expect the system to output in the generated reports?
2. How do you think the system will help you to solve current managerial problems?
3. To what degree would you assess the sensitivity of the data used?
4. What additional features would you like to see in the system?
5. Should the interface contain a dashboard of the most important data?

1.3 Pyramid type questions

The Pyramid type questions are going to be suitable for an admin interview as we need to identify intended usage of the systems by the admin, and the interview expands by asking questions about expected usage of the system.

Admin:

1. Should the system include a data management subsystem?
2. Should the system include a review capability of the reports produced before being finalized?
3. What is your main concern about the analysis of data in the system?
4. What are the possible issues that you might face during the administration of the system?
5. What are your thoughts about the interface that is going to be used in the data management subsystem?

1.4 Diamond type questions

The diamond type questions are going to be used for the third and last interview with the head of Finance department. This Type shall give more information about the head of Finance department expectations of the contents of the system as well as any performance metrics not thought about beforehand.

Head of Finance department

1. Should the reports produced by the system include projection of revenue gain and possible losses?
2. What financial performance metrics do you expect to be included in produced reports?
3. Do you think the systems might help with identifying financial trends?
4. How often should the financial reports be produced or updated in the system?
5. Should the ability to display different currencies and conversion capability?

2 Structure of the interview

The Interview is going to be semi-Structured to allow follow-up questions that elaborate more on the answers.

3 Report of The Simulated Interviews

3.1 The First interview (Users)

3.1.1 Interviewee

Users: Mid to Higher management

3.1.2 Interviewer

Shahd Ahmed

3.1.3 Purpose of the Interview

The purpose of it is the collection of more information about the requirements of the interface subsystem as well as the reporting subsystem in the aspects of clarity and simplicity.

3.1.4 Interview

Question: What do you expect the system to output in the generated reports?

Answer: I expect the reports to contain a breakdown of data, giving useful information that I can use to make different decision, as well as a visual breakdown as that is going to be more beneficial. Moreover, A more detailed external report document.

Question: How do you think the system will help you to solve current managerial problems?

Answer: As discussed before a visual breakdown of the data will be useful for making informed decision.

Follow up Question: Might there be other ways that can help you make such informed decisions?

Answer: Maybe if I can choose different visualizations of the data that can give a better idea of what's happening.

Question: To what degree would you assess the sensitivity of the data used?

Answer: The data we are dealing with is not extremely sensitive.

Follow-up Question: Since the data is not sensitive, does storing the data externally or using a cloud computing solution seem like an issue to you?

Answer: No, It's not going to be an issue.

Question: What additional features would you like to see in the system?

Answer: I would like to be able to filter the data myself and produce different visuals from the filtered data.

Question: Should the interface contain a dashboard of the most important data?

Answer: Yes, it should.

3.1.5 Summary

After asking the main five question, we found that since the sensitivity of data is not extremely high a cloud computing solution is going to be used, as well as the inclusion filtering capability of the data to able to exploratory analysis on the filtered knowledge-base. The dashboard shall include the ability to produce different visualizations of the data based on the filtering and the needed visual outlook. The report documents shall include a detailed outlook on the company finical state as well as projected revenue gains and loss compared to the competitors.

3.1.6 Action Items

- The development of dashboard that highlights important information and that it differs from dashboard used for Finance
- Determination of the best cloud solution for the company
- development of the filtering capability

- development of the different visualizations for the filtered according to the exploratory analysis

3.2 The second Interview (Admin)

3.2.1 Interviewee

Admin

3.2.2 Interviewer

Shahd Ahmed

3.2.3 Purpose Of The Interview

The purpose of it is to identify the possible management issues that the admin might face during the supervision of the system, express his opinions about the inclusion of the data management subsystem, and his concerns about analysis done.

3.2.4 Interview

Question: Should the system include a data management subsystem?

Answer: Yes, It should.

Question: Should the system include a review capability of the reports produced before being finalized?

Answer: Yes, It should

Question: What is your main concern about the analysis of data in the system?

Answer: My concern is the speed of compiling the data and the time needed for the analysis process that if the if it's not fast enough it going to cause some issues.

Question: What are the possible issues that you might face during the administration of the system?

Answer: The breadth of data might cause some issues when it's handled.

Question: What are your thoughts about the interface that is going to be used in the data management subsystem?

Answer: The interface of the data management section should be more like spreadsheet to facilitate the editing of the data.

3.2.5 Summary

The main concerns of the admin are the performance of the exploratory analysis that is going to be done by the system, as well as the management of the data and the ease of modification. The data shall go through a preprocessing stage (i.e. turned in information). There should be a review capability of the reports to make it more comprehensible.

3.2.6 Action Items

- Assessment of the exploratory analysis performance and possible improvements
- Being provided the data that is going to be used in the system.
- Preprocessing of data subsystem that is supervised by the admin.
- Modifications of data management subsystem to enable easier editing of the data

3.3 The Third Interview

3.3.1 Interviewee

Head of finical department

3.3.2 Interviewer

Shahd Ahmed

3.3.3 Purpose of The Interview

The purpose is to clarify the information that is going to be included in the finical report of the system as well as identify the rate at which the report is going to be produced.

3.3.4 Interview

Question: Should the reports produced by the system include projection of revenue gain and possible losses?

Answer: Yes, It should as that will be beneficial for more informed decisions

Question: What finical performance metrics do you expect to be included in produced reports?

Answer: It should contain more in-detail metrics like: Gross profit Margin, Net Profit Margin, Quick Ratio, Current Ratio, Working capital, and Debt-to-equity ratio.

Question: Do you think the systems might help with identifying finical trends?

Answer: With visual presentation of the finical data we have, It might be useful for identify trends inside the company, but It should contain market data so that I can identify market trends.

Question: How often should the finical reports be produced or updated in the system?

Answer: The detailed report documents should be produced monthly.

Question: Should the ability to display different currencies and conversion capability?

Answer: Yes, It should.

3.3.5 Summary

After asking the main questions, we have found that including a projection of Net profit and Debt Asset ratio is going to be more beneficial, as well as identifying that the following performance metrics should be included (current state and not predictions): Gross profit Margin, Net Profit Margin, Quick Ratio, Current Ratio, Working capital, and Debt-to-equity ratio. The final reports should be produced monthly, moreover developing an internal currency conversions.

3.3.6 Action Items

- Inclusion of predictions of net profit and debt asset ratio.
- Inclusion of more detailed performance metrics in the reports.
- making the interface easier to use to able to sift through the data.
- adding capability to display different currencies as well as automatic conversions.
- The system shall produce the reports monthly.

4 Interviewer Data

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