Software Developer Recruitment
Interview Process Exercise Specification

December 2021

Dear Applicant

Thanks for applying for the software developer position at Platinum Life within the Actuarial team. We look forward to your interview.

In order to facilitate the interview, we require a small exercise be completed to be showcased by yourself in the interview. The specification of this exercise is detailed below. We have left the exact look and feel and functionality of this exercise vague intentionally – we want you to apply your own judgement.

This hypothetical scenario would match at a very basic level some of the work you could expect to do within our team; taking a time consuming and manual process currently in place and replacing this with a brand new optimised way of doing the same thing. You will have an opportunity to apply your own judgement and have the freedom to develop new platforms and systems that have the potential of streamlining processes and making a big impact on the business.

Outline:

The hypothetical exercise to be completed involves a payment processing platform.

Currently this is done manually that consists of the 3 items:

1. A cover sheet detailing:
   a. Name and Surname of person submitting the payment
   b. Department within the company that the payment is being submitted for
   c. Date of invoice
   d. Date of payment requested
   e. Details of who the payment is being made to – name, surname / company name and details, bank details.
   f. Description of payment
   g. Name and surname of the manager signing the payment requisition
   h. Signature of manager
2. Supplier Invoice
   This is usually a pdf that contains the invoice from the supplier – no manipulation is needed here other than storing this invoice in conjunction with the payment requisition.
3. Proof of Payment
   This is an optional extra when submitting a payment requisition – generally only applies when the invoice was paid for already and the payment requested is to be refunded to the employee/person that paid for this.

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All 3 of these items are then merged together into a single pdf and sent to the manager specified in 1.g. to sign and send back to the person in 1.a. The entire process is manual and time consuming.

We have identified that the above process to be an easy opportunity to streamline and optimise this process and at the same time start capturing and storing this data in a database to allow for checks, balances and stats to be done. This has a significant potential to spot duplicate payments and prevent fraud.

Specification:

Design a platform to complete this process at a very simplistic level. This should contain a form / page whereby a user can capture all the information in 1., upload 2 and 3 and save. All the information saved should be stored in a database allowing the manager to access a separate form/page once saved to review the payment requisition and sign off on this. By pressing sign the cover page should be created in pdf reflecting all the captured information together with manager's pre-stored signature.