PingMe – Usability Engineering Informed Consent

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Before you give your consent to volunteer, it is important that you read the following information to be sure you understand what you will be asked to do.

Investigators

The research will be conducted by Adrian Arredondo and Cole Hopkins.

Purpose of the Research

This research study is designed to study the ease of use of PingMe. The data from this research will be used to improve the usability and satisfaction of the app.

Procedures

If you volunteer to participate in this study, you will be asked to participate in an interview that will include interacting with a prototype of PingMe. The prototype is a work-in-progress, and you will be asked to attempt to complete tasks using it. You will also be asked questions about your experience with the prototype.

Keep in mind that the purpose of this research is to analyze PingMe and not to evaluate you. We are using this research to help improve the interaction of PingMe and your feedback will be valuable in making it more user-friendly.

Your participation will take approximately thirty minutes. During your participation, you will be asked to think out loud. That is, you should explain what you are thinking, what you are doing, and why.

Potential Risks or Discomforts

There are only minimal foreseeable risks associated with the study. PingMe's main purpose is to keep track of users, but the prototype you will be interacting with will not keep track of your location in any way, shape, or form. If you feel uncomfortable at any time in the interview, you may remove yourself from participating.

Potential Benefits of the Research

There are no direct benefits to you from this study. By participating in the study, you may help improve PingMe, which may help users keep track of their close ones and help make people feel safe by having a friend or family member know their precise location.

Confidentiality and Data Storage

All the information that I obtain from you during the research will be kept confidential. All data that is collected will be anonymous and will be kept secure from unauthorized users via password protection and will only be shared between the researchers and our mentor.

Participation and Withdrawal

Your participation in this research study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate or stop participation at any time without penalty. To stop participation, inform either of the researchers that you want to stop taking part. The program is voluntary and choosing not to be in the program is your choice without any repercussions.

Questions about the Research

If you have any questions about the research, you may contact Adrian Arredondo at aarredondo03@mail.csuchico.edu or Cole Hopkins at chopkins1@mail.csuchico.edu. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research participant, please contact the CSU, Chico Human Subjects in Research Committee at 530-898-5413.

I have read the information provided above. I understand that by signing this form I agree to take part in the research.

PLEASE SIGN HERE: