

ALPINE EDGE: SKI MARKETPLACE PLATFORM

Project Report - Team 16-1

TEAM MEMBERS

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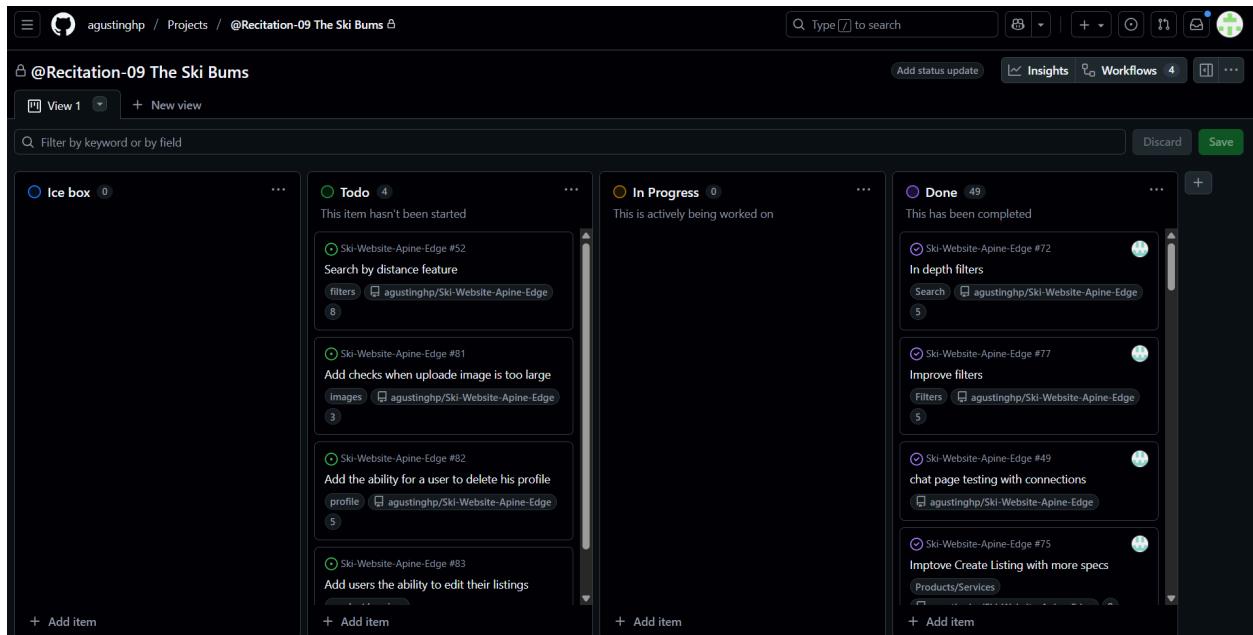
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Alpine Edge is a comprehensive ski marketplace platform designed to connect ski equipment buyers, sellers, and service providers. The application enables users to list and search for ski products (equipment, gear) and services (ski tuning, lessons, rentals) in a centralized marketplace. Key features include user authentication, real-time messaging between buyers and sellers, advanced search with filtering capabilities, image upload for listings, location-based services, and a responsive design optimized for both desktop and mobile devices. The platform facilitates secure transactions and communications within the skiing community, making it easier for enthusiasts to find quality equipment and trusted service providers.

PROJECT TRACKER - GITHUB PROJECT BOARD

GitHub Repository Link:
<https://github.com/agustinghp/Ski-Website-Apine-Edge>
Project Board Link:
<https://github.com/users/agustinghp/projects/1>

Screenshot:



DEMO VIDEO

Video Link:

<https://github.com/agustinghp/Ski-Website-Apine-Edge/blob/main/Milestone%20Submissions/Video%20Demo.mp4>

The demo video showcases the complete user journey including registration, product/service listing creation, search functionality, messaging between users, and the overall user experience.

VERSION CONTROL SYSTEM (VCS)

Git Repository:

<https://github.com/agustinghp/Ski-Website-Apine-Edge>

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

David Poston:

Implemented the image storage system for product listings and user profiles using Multer and Sharp libraries. Developed the complete product and service implementation including database schema design, CRUD operations, and integration with the front end. Created the product detail pages with dynamic rendering of images, specifications, and seller information. Worked on the file upload middleware and image optimization to ensure fast loading times.

Technologies Used:

- Node.js
- PostgreSQL
- Multer
- Sharp
- Express.js

Features Contributed:

- Image storage and upload system
- Product CRUD operations
- Service CRUD operations
- Product detail pages
- Database schema design

Charlie Kasic:

Developed the pages and partials for the handlebars HTML front end design. Used CSS to create a style and theme for the page. Implemented the javascript middleware for registration, login and path navigation. Integrated unique search by location features into search and advanced search pages with precise location and rounding. Integrated database and user interface. Fixed important bugs with database indexing for uploading images to posts properly.

Technologies Used:

- HTML/Bootstrap/Handlebars
- Javascript authentication middleware.
- SQL indexing

- Haversine formula for distance in JS
- Google API integration with search

Features Contributed:

- Front end design pages and partials
- Login/registration middleware
- Authentication checking
- Distance filter/ search by radius

Agustin Garcia-Huidobro:

Implemented the real-time chat messaging system using Socket.io for bidirectional communication between connected users, saving the chat messages using PostgreSQL. Developed the advanced search functionality with filtering by product type, price range, brand, and category-specific attributes (dimensions, sizes, etc.), enabling users to search products, services, and users with multiple filter combinations. Enhanced the product listing page, with support for a variety of products (skis, snowboards, helmets, boots, poles, goggles, gloves, jackets, pants and other), with form fields that update based on the selected category. Also added robust error handling for the page for things like image size being too large or bound checking for numerical inputs and more. Integrated Google Maps Places API for the location autocomplete on the registration page, which allows users to select their location with automatic coordinate extraction, while making sure other users can only see other people's cities but not exact coordinates. Built and implemented the connections feature with the database, and the html pages using the handlebars. Users can send requests, reject them, or send them again after they reject someone. A connection unlocks the ability to chat with the connected user.

Technologies Used:

- Node.js
- PostgreSQL
- [Socket.io](#)
- [Express.js](#)
- JavaScript
- Handlebars
- Google Maps API

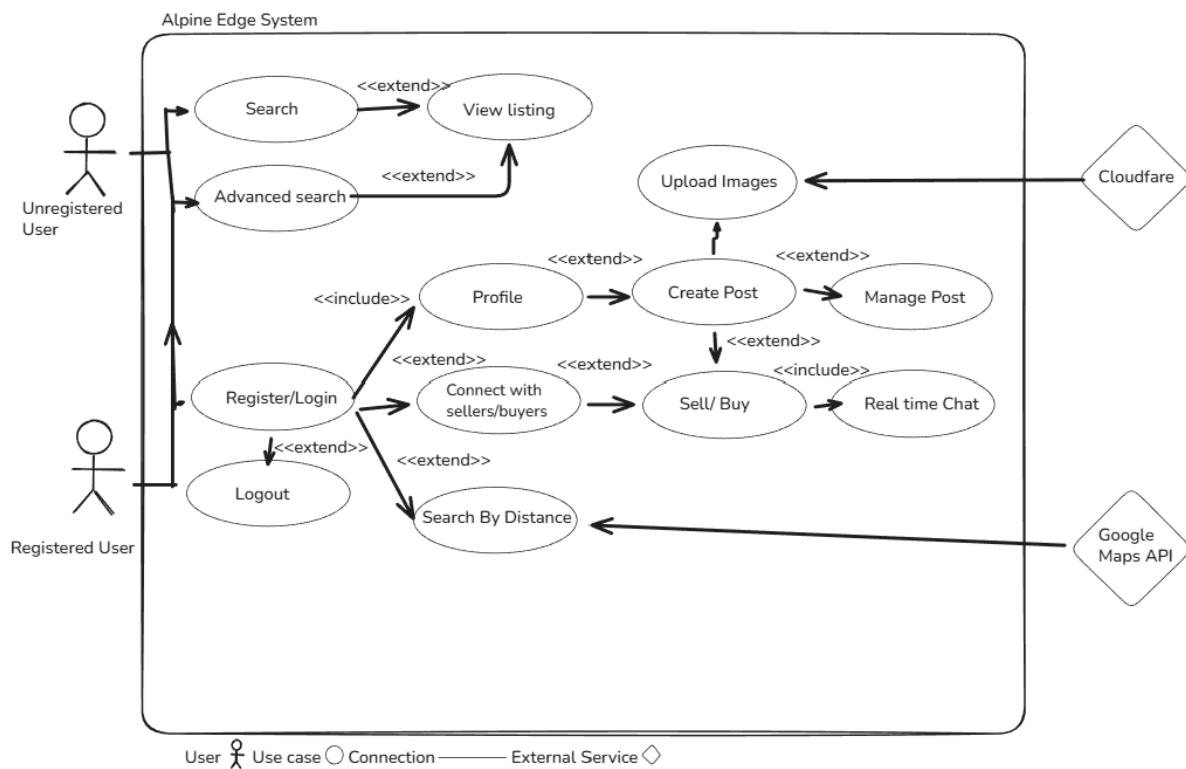
Features Contributed:

- Real-time chat messaging system
- Advanced search with multi-filter functionality
- Product listing form with dynamic fields for multiple product types
- Location autocomplete for user registration

- Connections/friend request system
- Database schema for products, services, users, connections and messages
- Other users profile page (Not your own but when you are viewing someone else's profile)

USE CASE DIAGRAM

The following use case diagram illustrates the interactions between different actors (Buyers, Sellers, Service Providers, Guests) and the system Functionalities.



ACTORS:

- Guest User: Can browse listings, view product/service details, search and filter
- Registered User: All guest capabilities plus create listings, message other users, manage profile
- Seller: List products, manage inventory, respond to inquiries, update listings

- Service Provider: List services, manage bookings, communicate with clients

MAIN USE CASES:

1. User Registration & Authentication

- Login
- Register
- Logout

2. Browse & Search Products/Services

- Search by keywords
- Filter by price, length, width, location
- View search results
- Sort results

3. Create Listings

- Add product with specifications
- Add service offering
- Upload images
- Set pricing

4. Manage Listings

- Delete listings
- View own listings
- View other listings

5. Real-time Messaging

- Send messages to other users
- Receive messages instantly
- View chat history

7. View Detailed Listings

- View product specifications
- View seller information
- Contact seller/provider option

WIREFRAMES

The following wireframes were created during the design phase of the project, **ALL WIREFRAMES IN GITHUB REPO:**

1. Home Page

Home Page to introduce the user, with a button to start searching

Home page

Alpine Edge Home Search Advanced Search My Profile Chat Create Listing Logout

Welcome to Alpine Edge!

Start Searching ~>

2. Login Page

In the login user can log in with username and password, and redirect to the home page.

Login Page

Alpine Edge Home Search Advanced Search Login Register

Login

Username

Password

Register here

3. Register Page

Users can register with a Username, Email, their location and password. The location field is with autocomplete help from Google Maps API. page redirects to the home page once registered successfully.

Register

Alpine Edge	Home	Search	Advanced Search	<input type="button" value="Login"/>	<input type="button" value="Register"/>
Register Username <input type="text"/> Email <input type="text"/> Location <input type="text"/> Password <input type="text"/> <div style="float: right; margin-top: -100px;"> <u>Login here</u> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <input type="button" value="Create account"/> </div>					

4. Search Page

Search interface with location filter, and type filter (Services, products and users), and a search bar.

Search Page

Alpine Edge	Home	Search	Advanced Search	My Profile	Chat	Create Listing	<input type="button" value="Logout"/>
Search Results input for search * <input type="text"/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> All types t Products Services Users </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Within 10 mi Within 25 mi Within 50 mi Within 100 mi Anywhere </div> <div><input type="button" value="Search"/></div> </div> Products <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Picture </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 15%;"> Product name <input type="text"/> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 15%;"> Place <input type="text"/> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 15%;"> User name <input type="text"/> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 15%;"> Price <input type="text"/> </div> </div>							

5. Advanced Search Page

Page with more advanced search features to specify different products and their dimensions, can filter by brands, size and width/length for skis and snowboards, and different options depending on the product selected. Also has a search bar.

Advanced Search

Alpine Edge Home Search Advanced Search My Profile Chat Create Listing Logout

* input box *

Filters

Product type Search location Use my ⚡

Radius
 miles

Brand
 Andora Atomic DPS K2 . - - - - - - - -

Add brand to filter

Price Range Sort by filters
 min max Ascend Length width

Search

 (Products from search)

6. Product/Service Detail Page

Comprehensive view of listing details, images, seller information, and contact Options.

A hand-drawn wireframe diagram of a product listing page. At the top left is the logo "Alpine Edge". To its right are navigation links: Home, Search, Advanced Search, My Profile, Chat, Create Listing, and Logout. Below the header, the page is divided into two main sections: "Product Name" and "Seller information". The "Product Name" section contains a large rectangular box labeled "(Pictures)" with arrows pointing to it from the left and right. Inside this box are three smaller boxes: "ski", "Brand", and "Model". Below these is another rectangular box labeled "Price: ---". Underneath the "Price" box is the word "Specifications". The "Seller information" section includes a circular icon with a user profile, followed by the labels "Username" and "location". It also shows a timestamp "Member since ---". A large button at the bottom right is labeled "View seller profile". At the very bottom, there is a note about dimensions: "Length: --- Width: ---".

7. Create Listing Page

Form interface for adding new products or services with image upload Capability.

Create Listings

Alpine Edge Home Search Advanced Search My Profile Chat Create Listing Logout

Create a Listing

Product Listings Service Listings

Product type

Ski Snowboard ... - - - - -

Brand

Model

Product Name

Description

Sti length

Sti Width

Price

images (Max 5)

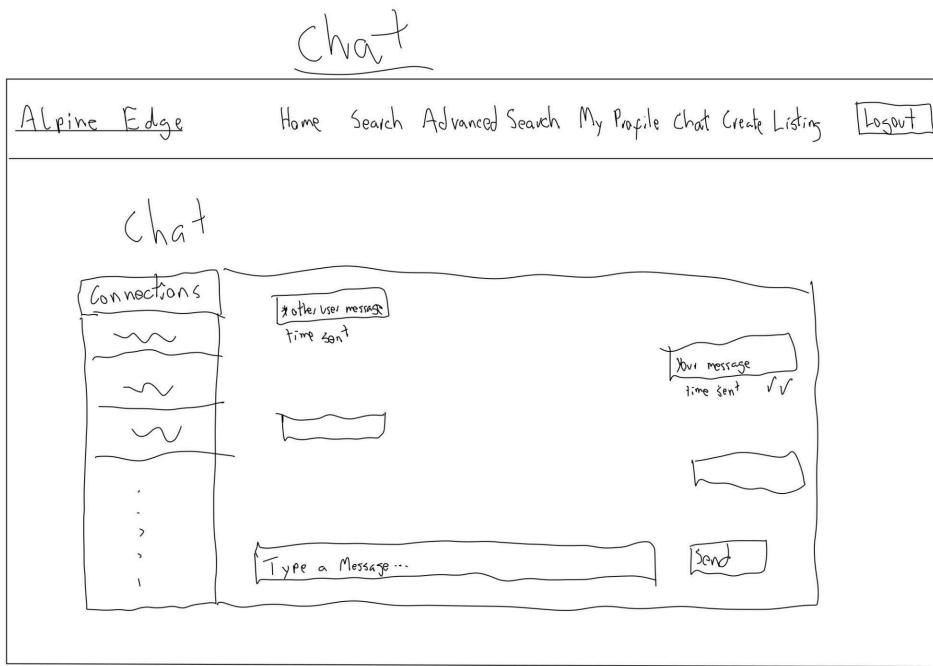
8. User Profile Page

Dashboard showing user's own listings, account information, and management Options, such as changing profile image.

A hand-drawn wireframe of a user profile page. At the top left is the logo 'Alpine Edge'. To its right are navigation links: Home, Search, Advanced Search, My Profile, Chat, Create Listing, and Logout. Below the header is a large circular profile picture placeholder with a stylized 'Y' inside. To the right of the profile picture are two sections: 'My Products' with an 'Add Product' button and 'My Services' with an 'Add Service' button. Underneath these sections are three rectangular buttons: 'connection requests', 'create listing', and 'Connections'. The 'Connections' section includes a small icon of a person and three downward-pointing arrows.

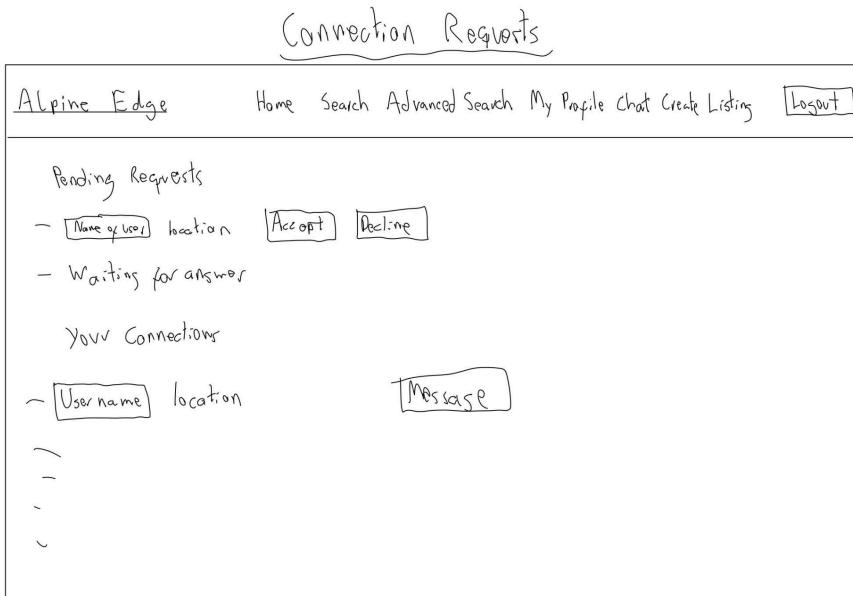
9. Chat/Messaging Page

Real-time messaging interface with conversation history and contact list.



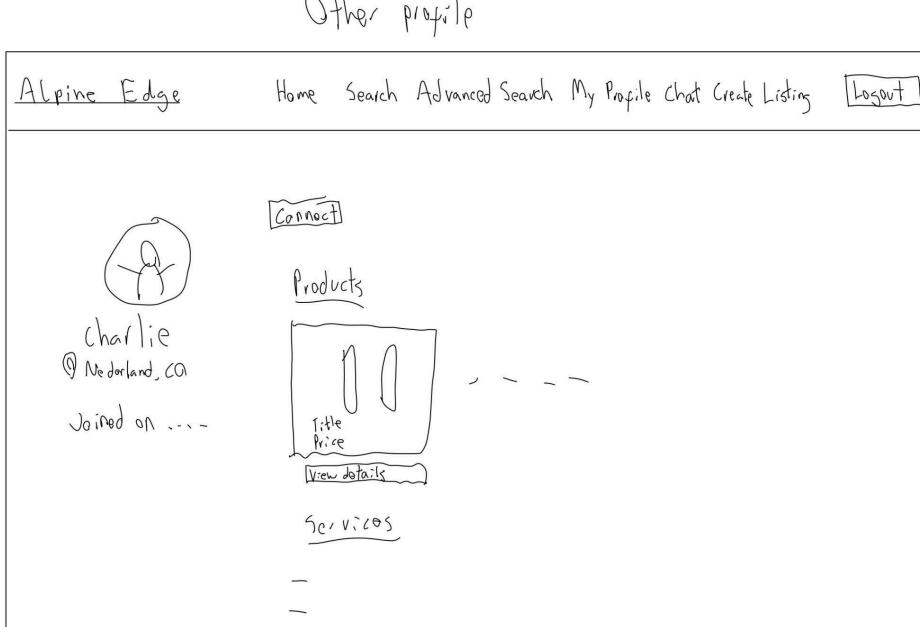
10. Connections Page

List of all current, pending and incoming connection requests.



11. Other Users Profile Page

Dashboard showing this user's listing, connection status and information if available. Shows more information if a connection is set



USER ACCEPTANCE TEST RESULTS

Based on the User Acceptance Test Plan from Lab 10, the following tests were conducted.

Test cases:

1. User registration and login
2. Product Posting
3. Chat testing

KEY OBSERVATIONS FROM USER TESTING:

For all the testing, the application worked as expected:

They were able to create a user, and it automatically logged them in their account.

They were able to post a ski product, and it appeared in the search results.

They were also able to chat with other users in real time.

Upon further testing we received feedback that our search page was lacking some clarity and the ability to do more filtering. So we added the advanced search page with a lot more filtering and better styled the regular search page.

DEPLOYMENT

Live Application URL:

<https://alpineedge-web.onrender.com/>

TECHNOLOGY STACK:

Backend:

- Node.js with Express.js framework

Database:

- PostgreSQL 15

Template Engine:

- Handlebars.js

Real-time Communication:

- Socket.io

Image Processing:

- Multer + Sharp

Frontend:

- Bootstrap 5, CSS3, JavaScript ES6+

Containerization:

- Docker & Docker Compose

Session Management:

- Express-session with connect-pg-simple