



Evaluation Report

ReadySetResource.com

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# Introduction

ReadySetResource is a website that helps members of staff stay informed and connected to their workplace from the convenience of being anywhere in the world. The project was originally conceived on December of 2016 as I was getting frustrated that there was a poor back-end logistical system in my place of work which is a multi-national coffee franchise. That was put to the back of my mind until summer of 2017 where I decided to pitch the idea to my District and Regional managers. They said that they were enthusiastic to implement the website, but they could not authorise monetary transactions as they did not have the authority.

I decided to continue in my search to find a better way to connect and inform employees and bought a small online file server a few days later. For a few months, I copied the rota of weekly employee shifts and uploaded it to the server and in the summer of 2017, it was evident that the solution provided by myself was not good enough. After some brainstorming I came up with ReadySetResource and started thinking of how I can help employees and managers throughout the world that have the same issues that I did at my workplace. In March of this year, I started my project as part of my Graded Unit and this report is the final stage to assess if I have managed to complete what I set out to achieve.

(Find the link to my initial proposal [here](Cloud%20Storage%20Facility%20Plan.pdf))

# Purpose of This Report

This report will assess my progress and development throughout the project’s lifespan and will conclude by stating if I believe I have achieved my task, how I have managed myself thought the process and what I have taken from this experience. I used the Kanban methodology and its boards to progress throughout this project: from the planning to the output, all stages will be analysed to find their merits, flaws and what can be taken from what was done. I will start with an overview of the project in which I will discuss all stages of the program, then dive into each one describing what I did, difficulties I had, how I overcame them and finally how I gained from the experience.

# Project Overview

I decided to break down my project in to five different sections:

* Setup & Analysis - Containing the Project Brief, Task Board, Updated Task Board, Planning Report and thee Software Requirements Specification.
* Design - Containing the Design Specification
* Implementation - Containing my program
* Testing - Containing the Test Plan, Test Strategy, Test Procedure and Test Cases
* Legal, Manuals & Evaluation - Containing the legal documentation, the Requirements Verification and the Evaluation Report.

These five sections are further broken down below to describe what occurred during the stage, the difficulties I had and how I managed to resolve them.

# Analysis

# Design

# Implementation

# Testing

# Installation

**Introduction**

I used GoDaddy for my domain and my hosting and before this project, I did not know how to deploy a web application. Through many hours of YouTube videos (see appendix: 1 - 7), and many tests, I then published the website online and it can now be viewed at readysetresource.com. I encountered several problems when installing the website, the first being that I could not connect to the server. Through much debugging, I found the problem was due to an insecure connection which lead me to find out that the server was rejecting my VPN connection, so I turned it off. Another issue I had was that when I uploaded the files, they could not be seen by the browser. I solved this by changing my Linux server to a Windows server. I felt as if these were simple mistakes but never the less, I have learnt from these experiences and hope to develop the system further.

**Merits**

As I mentioned above, I never knew how to publish a website but thanks to much perseverance and YouTube tutorials, I finally achieved it. This installation process has taught me many of the fundamentals of website development, how servers function and API integration which will benefit me tenfold in the years to come.

**Flaws**

Security flaws are of top priority and my worry is that my testing has not been extensive enough for the live website, so I have deployed the website in beta form with a select group of testers. They will be using the website on a three-month beta programme and provide weekly feedback on any errors that arise. In the programme, they will be testing all functionality, including:

* Anonymous user failing to access the /apps/ area of the website
* Secure log in to the site
* Navigating different sections and areas of the site
* Adding, editing, deleting and updating shifts
* Adding, editing, deleting and updating holidays
* Using the Google API to export shifts
* Using the print button to export the calendar to a PDF
* Adding, editing, deleting and updating employees
* Adding, editing, deleting and updating employee types
* Ensuring that users with certain user types cannot access areas of the site for which they do not have authorisation.

**Future Benefits**

Learning how to deploy the website has helped me a huge amount and will make it easier for myself in the future to be able to publish web applications.

# User Requirements

To see a list of all my requirements and if they were completed, please refer to the Requirements Specification Document. Alternatively, they are also displayed below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Functional Requirements | Met Conditions? |
| Display the website to provide information on the web app | Yes |
| Allow the user of the system to contact a member of staff in a contact form | No |
| Allow a forum or ‘community’ to be created to connect users with the same issues | No |
| Display a clear and informative FAQ section | No |
| Sign a company or a business up to the service easily | Yes |
| Allow users to report abusive behaviour | No |
| Allow for future discount codes | Partially |
| Allow users to view any relevant legalities and information | Yes |
| Allow users to view all credits and sources | Yes |
| Charge a customer on a monthly/yearly basis | Partially |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to make basic administrative tasks | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to add, delete and modify users’ details | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to view requested holidays | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to set a limit on number of holidays a year | Partially |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to set holidays | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to Form analytical reports on their employees | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to create rotas with ease | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to message members of staff | No |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to create updates for employees and/or stores | No |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to add, delete and modify their details | Yes |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to upload ‘items’ (clothes/aprons/headwear/etc...) to an online store for employees | No |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to set the pricing structure for said ‘items’ | No |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to create and set meetings | No |
| Allow the ‘administrator’ of a company to receive ideas from their employees | No |
| Allow employees of a company to view their rotas | Yes |
| Allow employees of a company to view their holidays | Yes |
| Allow employees of a company to request a permitted amount of holidays | Partially |
| Allow employees of a company to message other members of staff | No |
| Allow employees of a company to order ‘items’ on the online store | No |
| Allow employees of a company to share ideas | No |
| Allow employees of a company to view updates | No |
| Allow employees of a company to view meetings | No |
| Allow experts to add, delete and modify users’ details | No |
| Allow experts to add, delete and modify companies’ details | No |
| Allow experts to query a database of questions | No |
| Allow experts to respond to questions | No |
| Allow experts to Close questions | No |
| Allow developers to analyse errors on the system | No |
| Allow developers to analyse data transfer rates | No |
| Allow developers to Shut down and start up the system | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on average screen time per day | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on user interests | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on company size | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on volume of data per company over time | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on Community answered and unanswered questions | No |
| Allow systems analysts to create analytical reports on Contact Us opened and closed questions | No |
| Allow head of the system to track, modify and add business incomes | No |
| Allow head of the system to track, modify and add business expenditures | No |
| Allow head of the system to create an analytical report on incomes and expenditures | No |
| Allow head of the system to add, delete and modify employees’ details | No |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Non-Functional Requirements | Met Conditions? |
| Performance | Yes |
| Capacity | Yes |
| Availability | Yes |
| Fault Tolerance | Yes |
| Quality of Service | Yes |
| Portability | Yes |

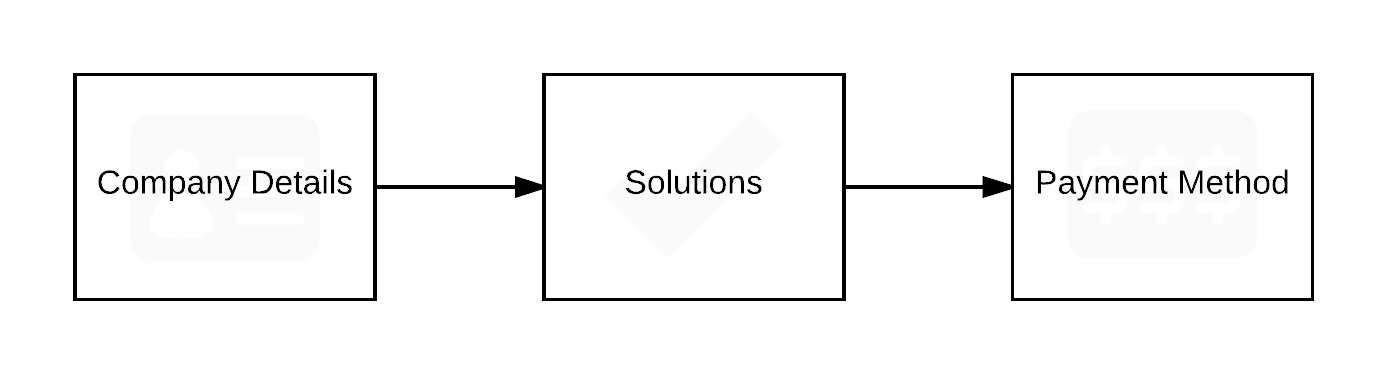
For this section I will talk about how I went about completing them or decided not to, what I learned from the experience and how I felt during the process of the requirement. Any requirements that were not completed were due to a being overambitious with the timescale provided.

**Requirement**: Display the website to provide information on the web app

I completed this requirement easily as all I had to do was create a new MVC project and the text on the screen. The one part I found difficult was changing the CSS to my liking. This took many hours and was frustrating at times so in the future (perhaps over summer) I will enrol in an online CSS course and develop my skills to increase my productivity and effectiveness when writing CSS.

**Requirement**: Sign a company or a business up to the service easily

This requirement took a lot of planning and modifications. To start off with I decided to create various accounts in many different websites such as Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Apple to see how tech giants take a user though the process of signing them up. I then thought about what was getting registered to the site: the business. With this I set up the linear section of the website as shown below:



After some reflection, I realised that the user also must sign up to the service to create other users. Using my knowledge of registering to a service, whenever inputting an email, it must be verified by the customer and thus prompted my second version of the section in the website:

This resulted in a speedy and safe sign up process which will get all details necessary for the company and the first user. I

Looking back, I understand I had a naïve and unrealistic list of requirements for the timespan provided. I originally hoped to start the project in October and I believe I would have been able to complete most, if not all the requirements, but after much deliberation the project was not started until March. Retrospectively, this was very beneficial as in October I did not have the knowledge required to undertake the project.

# Ease of Maintenance

**Introduction**

Making a program easy to maintain is crucial for future development. This does not matter whether the project will be deployed once or will have multiple releases. I used several methods to improve my project’s ease of maintenance which include white space, breaking down methods in to sub-methods and commenting code.

**Merits**

I found the code much easier to navigate using #regions to hide code that was irrelevant to the task at hand. This helped me by not having to scroll thousands of lines of code and only being able to see the code snipped made sure I didn’t get distracted with other sections of code.

**Flaws**

Sometimes the code could be cluttered with comments and I didn’t read the comments sufficiently while debugging. I believe that sometimes I commented on simple code that didn’t need commenting and will need to focus on restricting my comments to the areas of code which require them to make the document more readable.

**Future Benefits**

I believe that my practices are of a good standard and should keep up the level displayed, but I should make more meaningful code that does not clutter the document but still provides useful insights on how the code works.

Did you apply clean coding principles, or other widely used development principles – DRY/KISS/SOLID?

# Usefulness of Project Schedule

**Introduction**

The project was managed by a Kanban Board on GitHub which was updated regularly throughout the project’s lifecycle. I took advantage of multiple boards, milestones and labels which helped me manage my time efficiently and effectively ensuring that I made submissions on time.

**Merits**

The use of labels was incredibly useful to me as when I was stretched for time I could easily filter my tasks so that I could concentrate on the most important ones. I also believe that milestones were crucial for me to keep time management and found the board to be intuitive and fun to interact with as you could see your progress throughout the lifespan of the project which made it satisfying to close tasks and kept morale high.

**Flaws**

I decided at the start of my project to break down all the stages and create the tasks specific to each of them resulting in over forty Kanban Boards and over two hundred tasks. As I went through the project, I realised that I was having to delete many obsolete tasks which I thought were crucial at the start and I had to create many new tasks. Looking back, I now realise that this resulted in wasted time and effort.

**Future Benefits**

I believe that in the future I should not micromanage and create all tasks at the analysis stage as the constant evolution of the project made it tedious and time consuming to change tasks, instead the addition of tasks should be ongoing throughout the project’s lifespan. This may make time management harder but will overall save valuable time.

# Recommendations

For anyone creating this project again, I would recommend several factors that could have improved my progress throughout the duration of the progress:

* Be ambitious, but not overambitious: Being ambitious and wanting to create valuable pieces of software is great, but I had the idea to create many applications over multiple platforms, host the website, create an API for the website, create a marketing strategy and sell the website for a monthly subscription fee. I was overambitious. Although I still want to complete all these tasks, I should have realised earlier that I was overstretching and should have focused on one objective. Objective dreams and aspirations.
* You can always scale up: The reason that big tech companies are always releasing new software or upgrading previous software is because there aren’t enough hours in the day time consuming requires high man power hours resources. As the classic quote goes: “Rome wasn’t built in a day”. I took on a huge work load that I could not fulfil in the timescale provided and I should have been more realistic.

The above could be applied to many projects, be specific, relate to your project, give examples!!

# Conclusion

These past few months have been intense, but I wouldn’t have been where I am now having learnt all that I have without this project. I believe that even though I was being overambitious in the beginning, I developed myself and my project and I am proud with what I have achieved. Looking forward I need to keep learning more as that will ensure I can provide the best product for any user of a system built by myself.

Need to reflect on what you know now, compared to what you knew about developing software at the outset!!

# Appendix

1. YouTube (2018) How to Upload MVC Project On Shared Hosting (Plesk) GoDaddy Server [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lIOueavo1GI> [accessed 3 June 2018]
2. YouTube (2018) How to upload my website on GoDaddy server [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMkjRWtbCAg> [accessed 3 June 2018]
3. YouTube (2018) How to upload website on GoDaddy without using FTP [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3Odpj5xLoc> [accessed 3 June 2018]
4. YouTube (2018) publish/deploy asp.net MVC website from visual studio 2017 GoDaddy [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjViwgZLpYk&t=84s> [accessed 3 June 2018]
5. YouTube (2018) How to hosting asp.net MVC website using GoDaddy best method and full security handle [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4sBbnws9MY&t=31s> [accessed 3 June 2018]
6. YouTube (2018) How to set up a domain and hosting with GoDaddy [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FigImM7yMM> [accessed 3 June 2018]
7. YouTube (2018) How to set up a domain and hosting with GoDaddy [online]. Available from the World Wide Web: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS0LhO4rcLw&t=521s> [accessed 3 June 2018]

Remember the purpose of an Evaluation Report is not just to tell us what has been done but to comment on what was done. Why? How? Problems encountered!! How this were resolved!! Lessons for the future!! Knowledge gained!!

# Evaluation Report Work Log

| Entry | Description | Person | Date | Mins Spent |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Formatted the document | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 13 |
| 2 | Wrote the usefulness of project schedule | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 48 |
| 3 | Computer crashed | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 3 |
| 4 | Wrote the usefulness of project schedule | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 48 |
| 5 | Started my recommendations | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 28 |
| 6 | Started my ease of maintenance | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 34 |
| 7 | Wrote the conclusion | Aidan Marshall | 31/3/18 | 23 |
| 8 |  |  |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |  |  |
| 12 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |