

## **PicReport**

The objective of this project is to develop a mobile application called PicReport (PR) that will run on Android devices. The goal is to have a functioning prototype version with limited features by the end of the semester. The purpose of the application is to help first-responders, police, and military personnel to quickly gather descriptive information with the use of images. The application is useful in situations where a witness cannot describe what he or she saw because of language and/or other barriers.

The functionality of the application is not clearly and specifically explained. The way it works, from what I understood, is that the application will have a series of screens. In the first screen the user will select what type of description or report that they are gathering. If it is vehicle description then on the next screen there will be images of different types of vehicles such as van, truck, sedan, etc. The witness will then look at the images and select the car type that most closely resembles what he or she witnessed. The last screen will be a color selection screen. As one can see, as a result of this process the user was able to obtain a simple vehicle description about the type and color of the vehicle. I can see the usefulness this application in situations where the interviewer and the witness have trouble communicating because of language and/or physical barriers. There can be more added features, other than vehicle description, such as reporting a person (similar to vehicles having a color selection page, person reporting can have clothing and accessories page where the witness can point out the persons clothing, color, items that they were carrying such as bags or weapons), time and date of the event, objects that were present at the scene of the event, etc.

In terms of writing, it was well written with few grammatical and syntactic errors. The ideas were presented in a very logical form. I think the author did a good job in justifying why PR would be a useful tool by talking about the common difficulties in interviewing a person that cannot describe what they witnessed because of various reasons such as language barrier. The author also emphasizes that

the goal PR is not to replace the role of the interviewer, but rather aid the interviewer in critical situations. The paper also has the required 10 references and cites them to prove the authors stance that an image reporting tool such as PR is a useful tool that can expedite the collection of information. Examining the references, it is clear that the author did a considerable amount of research. For example, one of the references talks about how a mobile application that translates medical phrases into 15 languages helped break down the language barrier between doctors and patients, which certainly is a lesson that can be applied in PR.

There was no use of tables or figures in this paper. In any software development project, the use of diagrams and charts make things clearer and easily understandable. In a mobile application development, there can be flowcharts that explain the user experience, software logic, and function. Having these charts not only helps the author in understanding their work, it also helps in trying to explain the functions of the application to other people. I also think that the author should have a project schedule table (such as a Gantt chart), even if it is a simple table with few tasks. The paper is missing the "Work Performed by Others" section but I think it is acceptable since the author does not seem to be using any scripts or codes written by others. Other than that the format of the paper conforms to the guidelines in the course syllabus. The paper also meets the page requirements and each section was able to clearly explain the project.

Since the goal of the project is to develop a prototype with limited features (only vehicle reporting), I believe it can be completed in one semester. I think it will be relatively easy to code the functionality of this kind of application using the Android Studio IDE. The more challenging part might be design and user experience of the application. With the work experience and knowledge from course works the author has good understanding of the topic area and is capable of completing the project. I

am convinced that PR would definitely be a very useful tool to gather information from people who cannot communicate in one way or another.