

Walchand College Of Engineering, Sangli.

(An Autonomous Institute)

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Mini-Project I (6CS342)

Synopsis on

Project Title

TENDERbus - SMART TENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

by

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Semester Odd

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1. Problem statement:

Design and implement a Smart Tender Management System that automates the tendering process from creation to award, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and fairness. The system should include secure user registration and authentication, an easy-to-use interface for tender creation and publishing, secure bid submission, automated evaluation, and real-time notifications to reduce errors, delays, and the risk of fraud.

2. Abstract:

The main objective of the Smart Tender Management System project is to manage the details of obligations, Tenders Audit, and Authoring. The project is built for administrative use only, granting access exclusively to administrators. The purpose is to develop an application to reduce manual work in managing obligations, contracts, and tenders. It tracks all details regarding tenders, audits, and authoring.

Key Features and Benefits:

- Online Access for Suppliers: The Smart Tender Management System enables suppliers to access tender details online and bid on specific tenders.
- **Cost Reduction:** This system eliminates the additional costs associated with traditional tender processes, such as advertising, document processing, and confirmation results.
- **Streamlined Bidding Process:** Suppliers can register with the system to utilize bidding facilities.
- **Efficient Evaluation:** By eliminating the need for physical document handling and postal systems, the evaluation process can be completed faster.
- Client Information Management: The system manages client information and tender reports, notifying users about new tenders related to previous ones.
- **Enhanced Security:** The system ensures data security by restricting access to authorized personnel.

3. Problem Domain:

Requirements for secure user authentication, streamlined tender creation and publishing, secure bid submission and fair, automated evaluation processes. The domain further considers the need for real-time notifications, compliance with legal and regulatory standards, and ensuring equitable opportunities for all bidders.

4. Customer Identification:

The target customers for the Smart Tender Management System are government agencies, corporations, and organizations that regularly conduct tender processes. These entities require a secure and efficient way to manage tenders, ensuring transparency, fairness, and compliance with regulations.

Potential Customers:

- Government Agencies: Central and local government bodies responsible for procuring goods and services.
- Corporations: Large enterprises that engage in complex procurement processes.
- Non-Profit Organizations: Entities that rely on tenders to acquire resources and services.
- Educational Institutions: Universities and colleges that conduct research and development projects.
- Healthcare Organizations: Hospitals and medical facilities that procure medical supplies and equipment.
- Construction Companies: Firms involved in infrastructure development and construction projects.
- Financial Institutions: Banks and investment firms that manage tenders for financial services.

5. Literature Survey / Prior search carried out for problem identification :

Problem Identification

The manual tendering process is often inefficient, opaque, and prone to errors and fraud. This can lead to delays, disputes, and a lack of confidence in the tendering process.

Literature Review

A number of studies have identified the challenges of the manual tendering process. These studies have found that the manual process is often:

- Time-consuming and inefficient
- Lacking in transparency
- Prone to errors and fraud
- Not conducive to fair competition

Prior Search

A number of solutions have been proposed to address the challenges of the manual tendering process. These solutions include:

- Electronic tendering systems
- Centralized tendering portals
- Blockchain-based tendering systems

Conclusion:

The literature review and prior search have identified a number of challenges associated with the manual tendering process. These challenges can be addressed by implementing electronic tendering systems. Smart tendering systems can improve the efficiency, transparency, and fairness of the tendering process.

6. Objectives:

1. Efficiency and Automation:

 Streamline the tendering process by automating tasks such as tender creation, publishing, bid submission, and evaluation.

2. Transparency and Accountability:

 Ensure transparency and accountability throughout the tendering process by providing real-time notifications, audit trails, and secure documentation.

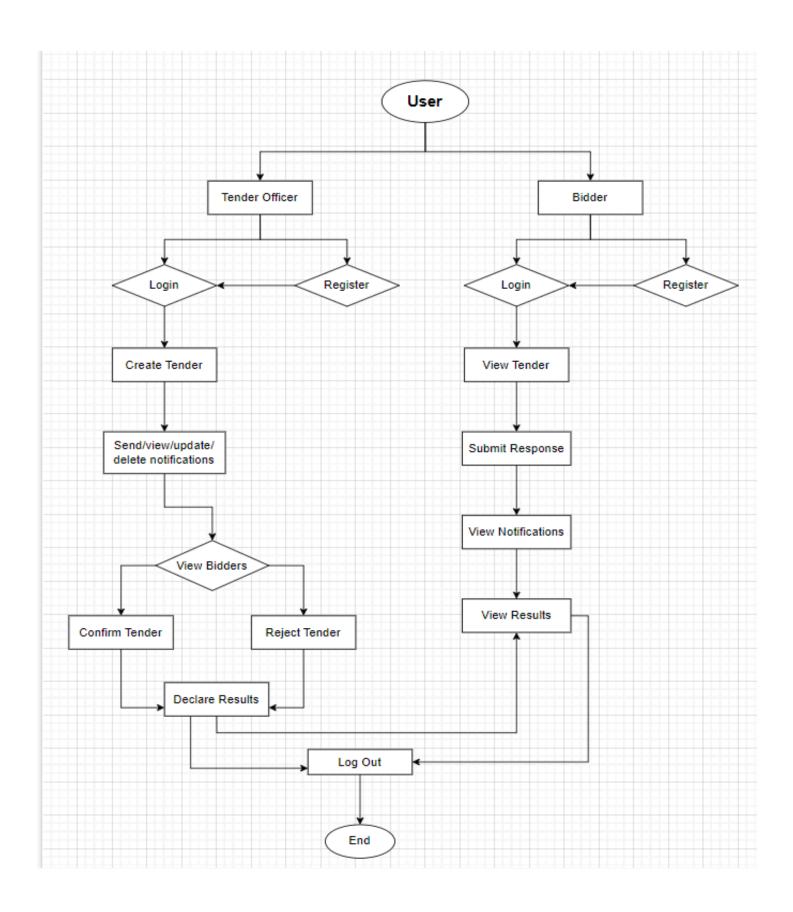
3. Fairness and Equity:

 Provide equitable opportunities for all bidders by ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory standards, preventing favoritism, and promoting ethical practices.

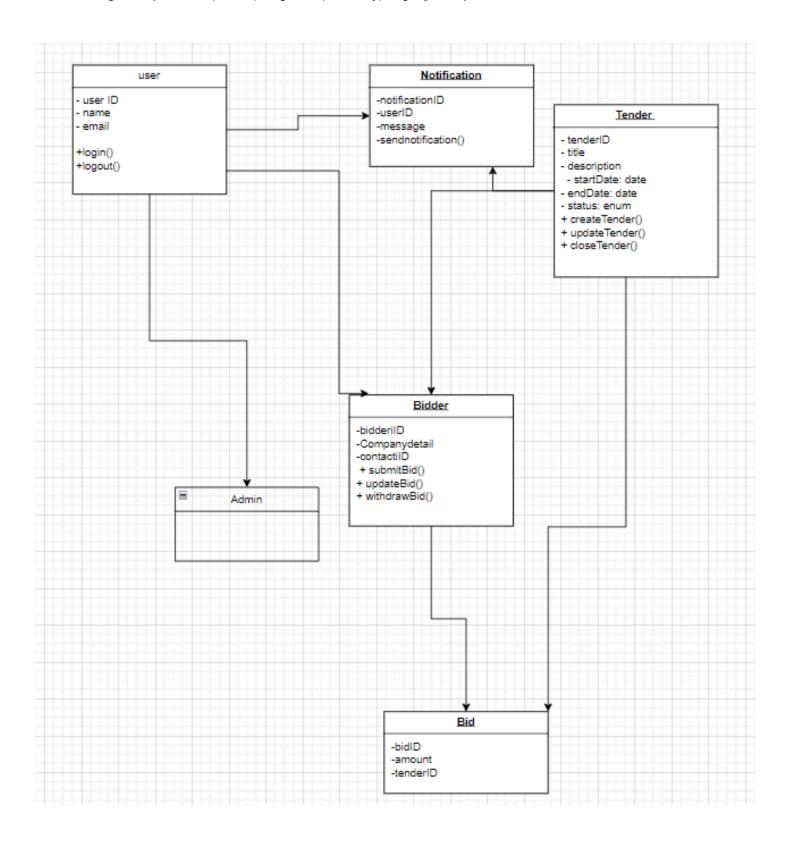
4. Security and Compliance:

 Implement robust security measures to protect sensitive data, ensure compliance with data protection regulations, and prevent unauthorized access to the system.

7. Functional Block Diagram



8. UML diagrams (Use-case, Class, Sequence, Activity, Deployment)



9. Methodology (tech stack, algorithms, techniques, services etc)

The development of the Smart Tender Management System (STMS) will follow an agile methodology, emphasizing iterative development, continuous feedback, and adaptability. The project will be divided into distinct phases:

1. Planning and Analysis:

- Define project scope, objectives, and user requirements.
- Create a system design and architecture blueprint.
- Select appropriate technologies (MERN stack) for development.

2. Development:

- Build the frontend interface using React, ensuring a user-friendly experience.
- Develop the backend API using Express.js and Node.js for handling data and logic.
- Implement the MongoDB database for storing tender data and user information.

3. Testing and Quality Assurance:

- Conduct thorough testing to identify and fix bugs and ensure system functionality.
- Perform user acceptance testing to gather feedback and make necessary improvements.

4. Deployment and Implementation:

- o Deploy the STMS on a suitable hosting platform (e.g., AWS).
- Provide training and support to users for smooth adoption.

5. Maintenance and Enhancement:

- o Regularly monitor the system's performance and address any issues.
- Continuously update and enhance the system based on user feedback and evolving needs.

10. Outcomes / Deliverables (deployment components such as portal, app, prototype, product etc)

For a comprehensive tender management system, the outcomes and deliverables can be categorized into several deployment components. Here's a detailed breakdown:

1. Tender Management Portal

- User Interface: A web-based portal accessible to all users (administrators, bidders, evaluators).
- Tender Creation Module: Interface for creating and publishing new tenders.
- Submission Module: Interface for bidders to submit their proposals.
- Evaluation Module: Tools for evaluators to review and score submissions.
- Notification System: Automated email/SMS notifications for important events (e.g., tender creation, submission deadlines, result announcements).
- Reporting Dashboard: Analytics and reports on tender activities, bidder participation, and evaluation outcomes.

2. Mobile Application

- User Access: Mobile website for bidders and evaluators to access tender information on-the-go.
- Push Notifications: Real-time alerts and updates related to tenders.
- Submission Capabilities: Allow bidders to submit proposals and required documents via mobile.
- Evaluation Features: Enable evaluators to review submissions and score them from their mobile devices.

3. Admin Dashboard

- User Management: Administration tools for managing user roles and permissions.
- Tender Management: Create, modify, and delete tenders.
- Audit Logs: Tracking user activities and system changes for security and compliance.
- Customizable Settings: Configure system settings, scoring criteria, and notification preferences.

4. Security Components

- Authentication and Authorization: Implementation of OAuth2, JWT, or other secure authentication methods.
- Encryption: Data encryption mechanisms for both at-rest and in-transit data.
- Access Control: Role-based access control (RBAC) or attribute-based access control (ABAC) systems.

5. Final Product

- Production-Ready System: Fully functional and tested tender management system deployed on the chosen infrastructure.
- Support and Maintenance Plan: Ongoing support and maintenance plans, including updates, bug fixes, and performance optimizations.

11. **Project Potentials** (scope/ benefits, patentability, startup, paper publication)

1.benefits:

E-tendering software offers you a full and easily accessible overview of all elements of the tendering process. By using one central cloud-hosted solution, all stakeholders have access to real-time information in a standardized, comparable and reportable format. Bids, questions, communications, and responses are all held in one place. This increases transparency. Automation reduces the time and resources required to manage the bid process for both vendor and buyer, meaning that both parties can concentrate on what they do best rather than unnecessary administration.

2. patentability:

Al-Driven Scoring Algorithms: Develop and patent unique Al algorithms tailored for evaluating complex tenders, ensuring high accuracy and adaptability.

Blockchain-Based Security Protocols: Patent innovative protocols for using blockchain

and smart contracts in tender management, ensuring data integrity and automating compliance.

AR Integration for Remote Inspections: Secure patents for the use of AR technology in conducting virtual site inspections and assessments.

3.Startup Opportunities

- **1.Specialized Industries**: Target markets such as construction, IT procurement, and public infrastructure, where tender management complexities are high.
- 1.Complex Projects: Construction projects often involve multiple stakeholders, extensive documentation, and complex compliance requirements. A tender management system tailored for this industry can streamline these processes.
- 2.Technical Specifications: Enable detailed and precise specifications for IT projects, ensuring clarity in requirements and expectations.
- 3. Vendor Performance Tracking: Develop systems to track and rate vendor performance based on past projects, helping in the evaluation of future tenders.
- **2.Global Expansion**: Develop localized versions of the system to cater to international markets, addressing regional regulatory and compliance requirements.
- 1.Regional Regulations: Customize the system to adhere to the regulatory and compliance requirements of different countries and regions. This includes data protection laws (e.g., GDPR in Europe), procurement standards, and local business practices.
- 2.User Experience: Design culturally sensitive user interfaces that consider local customs, behaviors, and preferences to enhance user adoption and satisfaction.

 3.Emerging Markets: Identify and target emerging markets where digital transformation
- in procurement is still developing, offering tailored solutions to meet the unique challenges and opportunities in these regions.

4.paper publication

Publishing papers on a tender management system with innovative features and specialized applications can significantly contribute to academic literature and industry knowledge

Theoretical Contributions

- Conceptual Models: Develop and propose new theoretical models or frameworks that advance the understanding of tender management processes, incorporating new technologies or methodologies.
- Innovative Methodologies: Introduce novel methodologies for tender management, such as advanced algorithmic approaches or new decision-support frameworks.
- Cross-Disciplinary Insights: Draw connections between tender management and other fields like AI, blockchain, or sustainability, enriching theoretical perspectives.

1. Project Overview

- Goal: Develop the Smart Tender Management System (STMS) to automate core tender processes within a 3-month timeframe.
- Objectives:
 - Implement essential modules for tender creation, bid submission, and basic evaluation.
 - Ensure a user-friendly interface for ease of use.
 - Establish a foundation for future expansion and feature enhancements.

2. Project Scope (Revised)

- Inclusions:
 - Tender creation and publication module (with basic templates).
 - Bid submission module (with document upload functionality).
 - Evaluation module (with basic scoring mechanisms).
 - User management and authentication.
 - Basic reporting (tender status, bid summaries).
- Exclusions:
 - Advanced contract management.
 - Complex vendor management.
 - In-depth analytics and reporting.
 - Integrations with external systems.

3. Project Timeline (3 Months)

- Week 1-2:
 - Requirement gathering and prioritization.
 - System design and architecture (scalable for future expansion).
 - o Initial setup of development environment.
- Week 3-6:
 - Development of tender creation and bid submission modules.
 - Implementation of user management and authentication.
 - Basic UI/UX design and frontend development.
- Week 7-9:
 - Development of evaluation module (with basic scoring).
 - Integration of modules and initial system testing.
 - Refinement of UI/UX based on early feedback.
- Week 10-12:
 - Rigorous testing and bug fixing.
 - Development of basic reporting features.
 - Finalization of user documentation and training materials.
 - Deployment to a staging environment for user acceptance testing (UAT).

4. Project Team (Streamlined)

- Project Manager: Oversees project, ensures timely delivery.
- Full-Stack Developers (2-3): Handle both backend and frontend development.
- QA Tester: Focuses on testing and quality assurance.
- pected expenses.

5. Risk Mitigation (Focused)

- Scope Creep: Strictly adhere features, postpone additional requirements.
- Technical Challenges: Choose familiar technologies and have backup solutions.
- Resource Constraints: Ensure clear task allocation and prioritize effectively.

6. Success Metrics (Initial)

- User Feedback: Positive initial response from early users during UAT.
- Technical Foundation: Scalable architecture for future development.

7. Communication (Efficient)

- Daily Standups: Brief team meetings to track progress and address issues.
- Weekly Demos: Showcase progress to stakeholders and gather feedback.
- Bi-Weekly Reports: Provide updates on milestones, risks, and budget.

8. Next Steps (Immediate)

- Finalize requirements with stakeholders.
- Secure project team members and define roles.
- Set up development environment and project management tools.

Important Considerations:

- This plan assumes a highly focused and agile approach.
- Flexibility is crucial to adapt to unforeseen challenges.
- Regular communication and collaboration are essential for success.

13. References (web resources, research papers, white papers, Company ideas)

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