Hey there, we’re THEM! No, not them, THEM!

(Intro Problem – Speaker 1)

The Typed HTML5 Evaluation Machine is a web application that allows users to easily check their HTML 5 websites for errors. Our client, Lorna Macdonald, is an instructor for the introductory web design course at the University of Queensland. She realized the need for an application to evaluate HTML 5 that would be accessible to those who are developing HTML 5 applications. Undoubtedly, past HTML languages like HTML 4 are no longer relevant or compatible with the new web standard. In addition, HTML 4 validators are incapable of assisting users in learning HTML 5 effectively. This tool needed to *guide* these new-comers through the new HTML 5 specifications.

(What is the solution? – Speaker 2)

In terms of design, we have leaned towards a more clean, simple and minimalistic design. There is a sense of unity throughout the website, but also a positive atmosphere for the users. Users are really able to focus on getting right into understanding their code, without feeling like they’ve failed or messed up. They can input their code right into the system itself for brief testing purposes, or upload full files and even entire websites! Since this is a learning tool, instead of fixing the errors for them, our tool will only give users feedback on the errors. They are the ones who have to fix it by themselves. Coding is best learned by doing!

(How did we approach the solution – Speaker 4)

Everything to do with evaluating the files is handled by background processes for the user, separate from the structure of the website. We felt this was the best method of approaching the solution, as it made the system infinitely more adaptable for future HTML 5 developments. Equivalent validators can be switched into the same website, allowing it the space in future developments to evaluate even more than just HTML 5.

(User Benefit – Speaker 5)

There is nothing like this out there at the moment. With this application, users are able to benefit from easy to understand responses to their coding problems, and are provided with almost instant feedback on their code. This provides better understanding of common coding problems, and better websites in the future, too!

(Testing – Speaker 6)

In the process of developing THEM, we tested several postgraduate and undergraduate students that came from different study fields. The tests were designed to answer typical questions and scenarios of use. Users seemed to really enjoy working with our program, and felt comfortable by the end of the session in using the application. The key question we asked for their feedback on was “how likely would you use this application in your studies?” From those who were using HTML 5 in their studies, it was clear that this application was relevant and well suited to their needs. Even those who had no experience with HTML 5 enjoyed the application and felt it met their expectations.

We feel that Typed HTML Evaluation Machine is new, innovative and unique. Try it out for yourself today!