Group 40 Project Step 5 (Portfolio Assignment)
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Service Request Management System

Website URL: http://classwork.engr.oregonstate.edu:24658/

1.1. Executive Summary

This section documents the major changes we made in each step of our project, affecting the overall database design and implementation.

Actions Based on Feedback

i. In Project Step 1, the key problem we had was the lack of context in our project and database outlines for the management of “service requests”. As service requests could exist in different domains such as logistics, healthcare, and facilities management, this made our problem statement very generic. From there, we defined our service requests to be technology focused, looking into areas like cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.
ii. In Project Step 2, we changed the Payments table to a standalone entity without any FKs and added the payment_id under the Requests entity as FK instead. We can think of the payment details as characteristics of each request made. Since payment can be optional (not yet paid), the value displayed will be NULL.
iii. In Project Step 3, the feedback was focused on the UI design. These will not be elaborated here as it was just a matter of time constraints for us during the draft.
iv. In Project Step 4, the main issues were failing to implement the .env file for reading credentials on the server (no issue faced locally) and intermittent lags when submitting the forms on the UI. The reading of .env files has been resolved (likely due to some errors we made unknowingly). For the intermittent lags, we tried changing the port number; the UI appears to work fine now, refreshing the page after each CRUD operation.

Upgrades from Previous Drafts

i. We removed service_price under Services and added quotation_price under RequestServices. Instead of tagging a fixed price to each service, this allows the price to be flexible in each request, depending on factors like the level of customization required.
ii. We used basic exception handling to direct users to an error page when trying to create or update a record that results in duplicates for certain columns following the schema.
iii. Following the example UI shared by James Coles (TA) on Ed Discussion (cited in our README.md), we thought it was a good idea to restrict the deletion of records on certain tables until the condition is met, which helps to improve data integrity on top of the constraints set in our schema. Besides this, we added a search filter on the Requested Services page to narrow down the results based on the specified Service, which would be of interest to identify trends and patterns related to that Service.

1.2. Project Outline

ProService Solutions is a well-established information technology (IT) service provider that prides itself on offering a wide range of 15 distinct Services, categorized into 3 different ServiceCategories: artificial intelligence, software development and cybersecurity. With more than 2,000 return Customers and 5,000 Requests handled annually, the company is planning to scale its business operations. The lack of a streamlined system may lead to lost Requests, delayed Services and frustrated Customers. As an IT company, it strives to stay at the forefront of technological advancements and keep up with industry standards. As such, the company is looking to adopt a database-driven website early to facilitate RequestServices tracking and process Payments smoothly. Overall, this helps to improve productivity and increase the satisfaction of Customers.

1.3. Database Outline

PK: Primary Key, FK: Foreign Key, NN: Not Null, UQ: Unique, AI: Auto-incremented

Customers

Records the details of Customers who interacted with ProService Solutions. The main details include contact information of the Customers for better communication.

- **Attributes:**
  - customer_id: INT, AI, UQ, NN, PK
  - first_name: VARCHAR(100), NN
  - last_name: VARCHAR(100), NN
  - address: VARCHAR(200), NN
  - phone: VARCHAR(20), UQ, NN
  - email: VARCHAR(50), UQ, NN
- **Relationship:**
  - An optional 1:M relationship between Customers and Requests is implemented with customer_id as a FK inside of Requests.
    - Each request must be associated with a customer, but each customer may have zero or many requests. The customer can be registered in the database but has yet to make a request.

Services

Records the details of Services offered by ProService Solutions. The main details include descriptive information of the Services provided and the distinct category they belong to.

- **Attributes:**
  - service_id: INT, AI, UQ, NN, PK
  - name: VARCHAR(100), UQ, NN
  - description: VARCHAR(200), NN
  - service_category_id: INT, FK
- **Relationship:**

    - An optional M:N relationship between Services and Requests is implemented with service_id and request_id as FKs inside of RequestServices.
        - Each request must consist of one or many services, but each service may be requested zero or many times. There can be a service which has never been requested before, an example being a service that is newly added.
    - A 1:M relationship between Services and RequestServices (intersection table).
    - A M:1 relationship between Services and ServiceCategories is implemented with service_category_id as a FK inside of Services.
        - Assume that each service can only belong to a category, but each category can contain one or many services.

ServiceCategories

Records the details of ServiceCategories available in ProService Solutions: artificial intelligence, software development and cybersecurity.

- **Attributes:**
    - service_category_id: INT, AI, UQ, NN, PK
    - name: VARCHAR(100), UQ, NN
    - description: VARCHAR(200), NN
- **Relationship:**
    - A 1:M relationship between ServiceCategories and Services is implemented with service_category_id as a FK inside of Services.
        - Assume that each service can only belong to a category, but each category can contain one or many services.

Requests

Records the details of Requests made by Customers. The main details include date of request and date of completion for better resource management and timely payment processing.

- **Attributes:**
    - request_id: INT, AI, UQ, NN, PK
    - request_date: DATETIME, UQ, NN
    - completion_date: DATETIME
    - customer_id: INT, FK
    - payment_id: INT, FK
- **Relationship:**
    - An optional M:1 relationship between Requests and Customers is implemented with customer_id as a FK inside of Requests.
        - Each request must be associated with a customer, but each customer may have zero or many requests. The customer can be registered in the database but has yet to make a request.
    - An 1:0 relationship between Requests and Payments is implemented with request_id as FK inside of Payments.

        - Assume that each payment only covers one specific request, and each request may have yet to be completed to process payment or paid in one lump sum.
    - An optional N:M relationship between Requests and Services is implemented with service_id and request_id as FKs inside of RequestServices.
        - Each request must consist of one or many services, but each service may be requested zero or many times. There can be a service which has never been requested before, an example being a service that is newly added.
    - A 1:N relationship between Requests and RequestServices (intersection table).

Payments

Records the details of Payments made for the corresponding Requests. The main details include the date of payment and total amount paid. By design, the payment_id will match the request_id in Requests for the corresponding Payments made. As such, payment_id will not have the AI constraint.

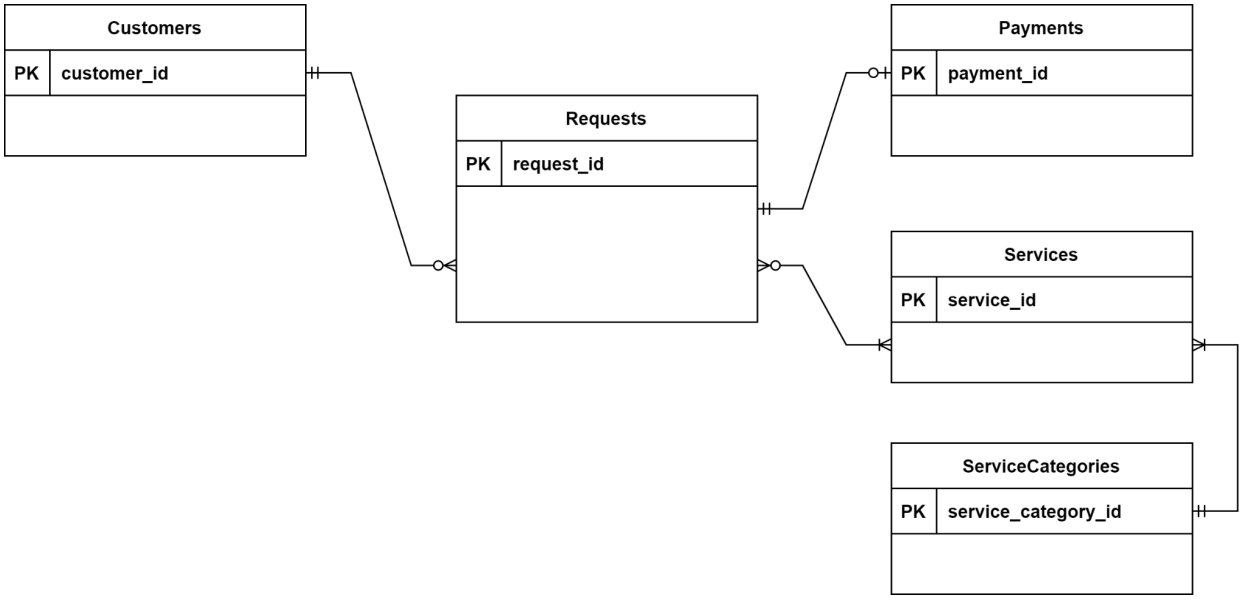
- **Attributes:**
    - payment_id: INT, UQ, NN, PK
    - date: DATETIME, UQ, NN
    - amount: DECIMAL(10, 2), NN
- **Relationship:**
    - An 0:1 relationship between Payments and Requests is implemented with request_id as FK inside of Payments.
        - Assume that each payment only covers one specific request, and each request may have yet to be completed to process payment or paid in one lump sum.

RequestServices

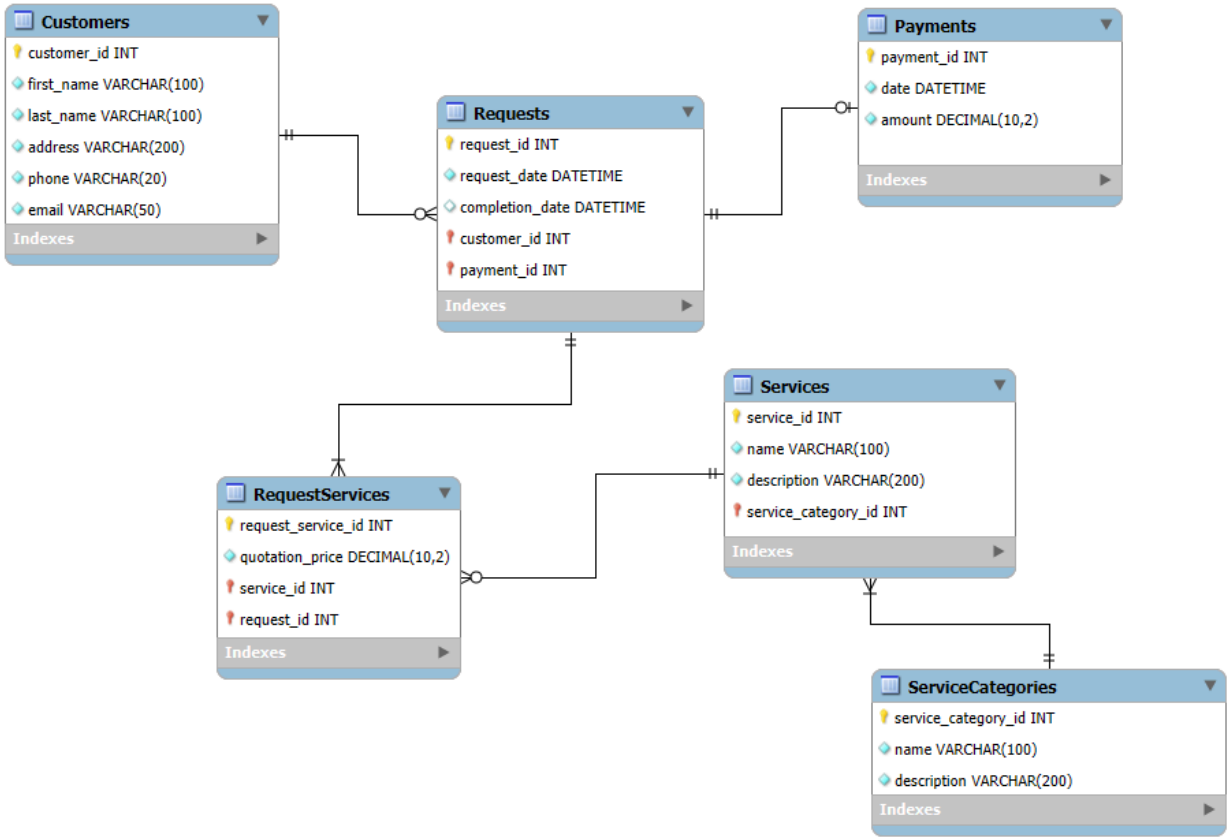
Records the Services involved in the corresponding Requests using an intersection table. The main details include the quotation price. The price of a service offered in each request may be different due to factors such as the size of the customer and the level of customization required.

- **Attributes:**
    - request_service_id: INT, AI, UQ, NN, PK
    - request_id: INT, NN, FK
    - service_id: INT, NN, FK
    - quotation_price: DECIMAL(10, 2), NN
- **Relationship:**
    - A N:1 relationship between RequestServices and Requests.
    - A M:1 relationship between RequestServices and Services.

1.4. Entity-Relationship Diagram



1.5. Schema



1.6. Sample Data

Customers					
customer_id	**first_name**	**last_name**	**address**	**phone**	**email**
1	'James'	'Wheels'	'123 Main St, Atown, USA'	'555-1234'	'james.wheels@gmail.com'
2	'Sam'	'Smith'	'456 Elm St, Btown, USA'	'555-5678'	'sam.smith@gmail.com'
3	'Wendy'	'Button'	'789 Oak St, Ctown, USA'	'555-9012'	'wendy.button@gmail.com'

Services			
service_id	**name**	**description**	**service_category_id**
1	'AI Chatbot Development'	'Develop AI-powered chatbots for customer support'	1
2	'Web Application Development'	'Build custom web applications tailored to client needs'	2
3	'Network Security Audit'	'Conduct audits to assess network security vulnerabilities'	3

ServiceCategories		
service_category_id	**name**	**description**
1	'Artificial Intelligence'	'Advanced AI solutions for businesses'
2	'Software Development'	'Custom software development services'
3	'Cybersecurity'	'Security solutions and services'

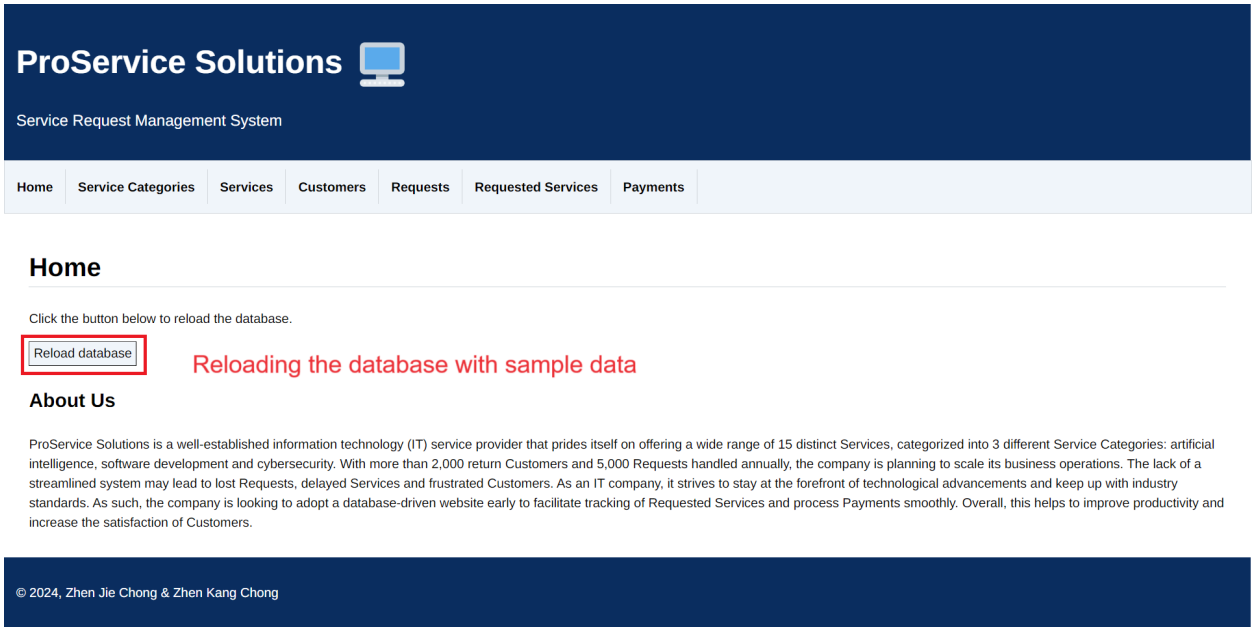
Requests				
request_id	**request_date**	**completion_date**	**customer_id**	**payment_id**
1	'2024-06-15 10:20:00'	'2024-06-17 12:45:30'	1	1
2	'2024-07-15 10:00:00'	'2024-07-18 13:00:00'	1	2
3	'2024-07-16 09:30:00'	'2024-07-23 15:00:00'	2	3
4	'2024-07-17 11:45:00'	NULL	3	NULL

Payments		
payment_id	**date**	**amount**
1	'2024-06-19 18:23:56'	780.25
2	'2024-07-19 11:30:00'	1000.75
3	'2024-07-24 14:00:00'	2300.50

RequestServices			
request_service_id	**request_id**	**service_id**	**quotation_price**
1	1	2	780.25
2	2	1	1000.75
3	3	2	1500.00
4	3	3	800.50
5	4	3	1200.00

1.7. UI Screenshots

Home page (reloading the database with sample data):



Service Categories page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):

Home | Service Categories | Services | Customers | Requests | Requested Services | Payments

Service Categories

This page records the details of Service Categories available in ProService Solutions.

READ

Service Category ID	Service Category	Category Description	Delete
1	Artificial Intelligence	Advanced AI solutions for businesses	Delete
2	Software Development	Custom software development services	Delete
3	Cybersecurity	Security solutions and services	Delete

DELETE

Note: Deleting a record here will set the Service Category to **None** for associated records on the Services page (if any).

Required fields for creating or updating a record are marked with an asterisk *.

Create Service Category

Service Category (unique):*

Category Description:*

Create Cancel

CREATE

Update Service Category

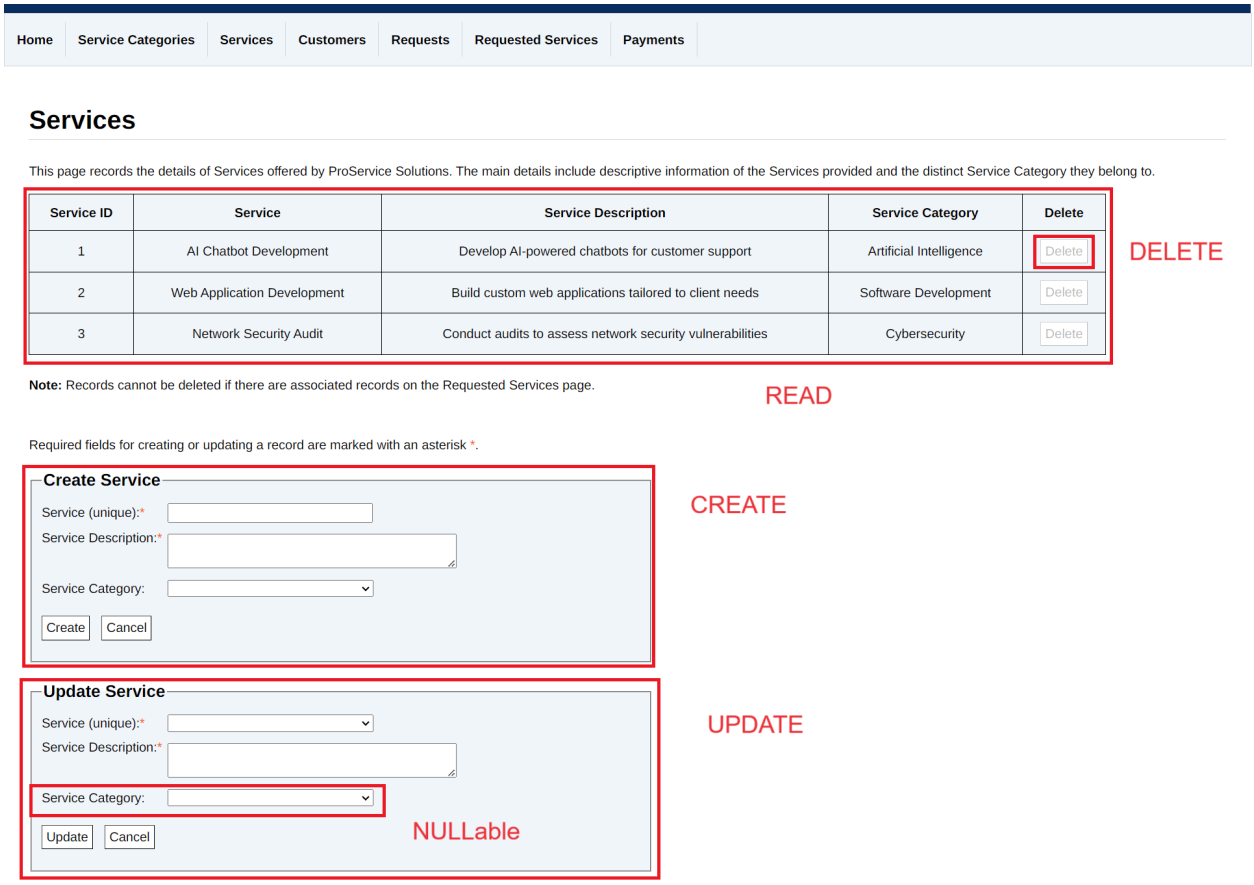
Service Category (unique):*

Category Description:*

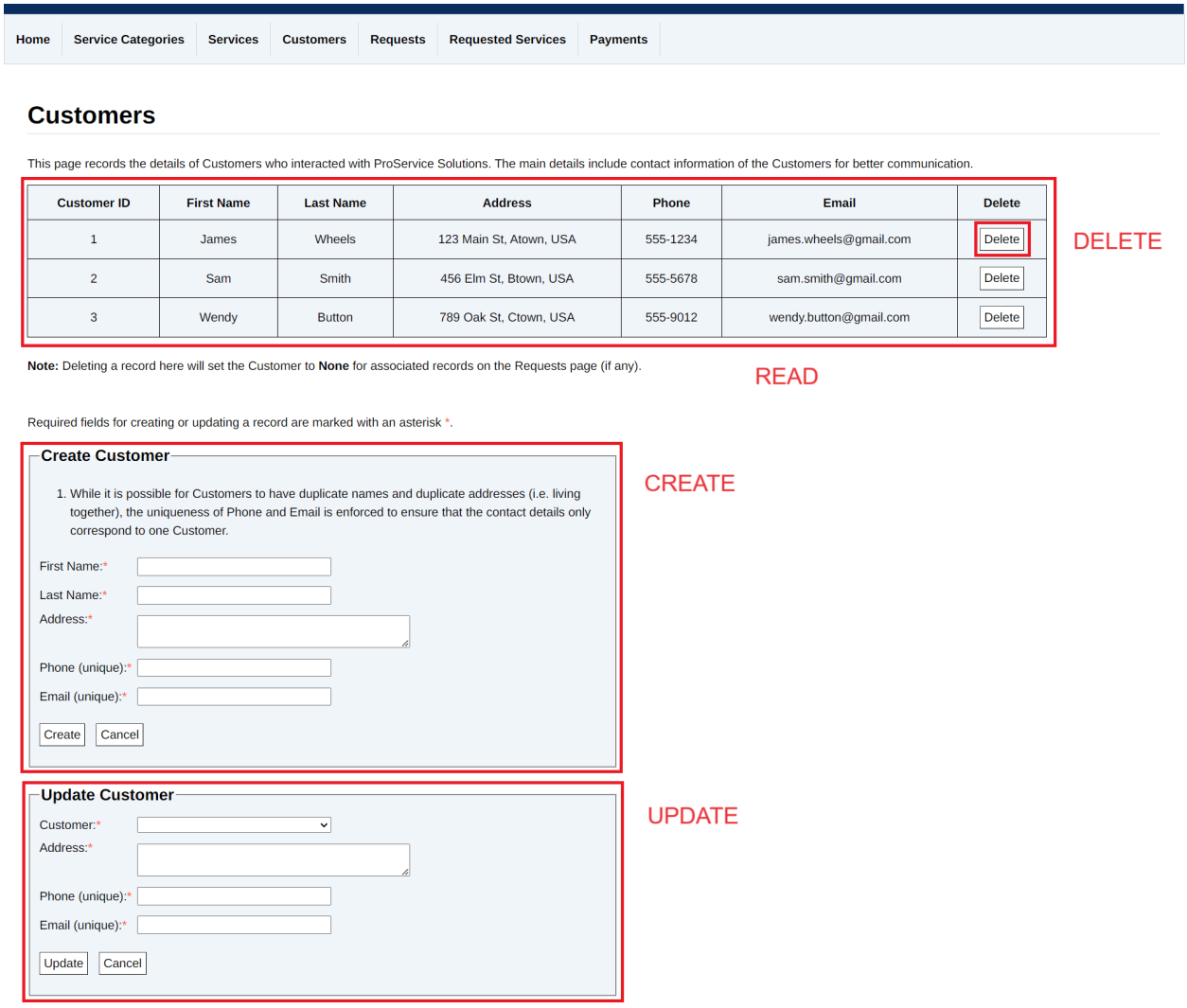
Update Cancel

UPDATE

Services page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):



Customers page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):



Requests page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):

Home | Service Categories | Services | Customers | Requests | Requested Services | Payments

Requests

This page records the details of Requests made by Customers. The main details include the various dates for better resource management.

Request ID	Request Date & Time	Completion Date & Time	Customer	Payment Date & Time	Delete
1	2024-06-15 10:20:00	2024-06-17 12:45:30	James Wheels	2024-06-19 18:23:56	Delete
2	2024-07-15 10:00:00	2024-07-18 13:00:00	James Wheels	2024-07-19 11:30:00	Delete
3	2024-07-16 09:30:00	2024-07-23 15:00:00	Sam Smith	2024-07-24 14:00:00	Delete
4	2024-07-17 11:45:00	None	Wendy Button	None	Delete

DELETE

Note: Records cannot be deleted if there are associated records on the Requested Services page.

READ

Required fields for creating or updating a record are marked with an asterisk *.

Create Request

1. By default, the Payment Date & Time is reflected as None; updates must be made on the Payments page to process the Payment.

Request Date & Time (assumed unique):* dd/mm/yyyy --:--:-- --

Completion Date & Time: dd/mm/yyyy --:--:-- --

Customer:

Create Cancel

CREATE

Update Request

Select a Request:*

Completion Date & Time: dd/mm/yyyy --:--:-- --

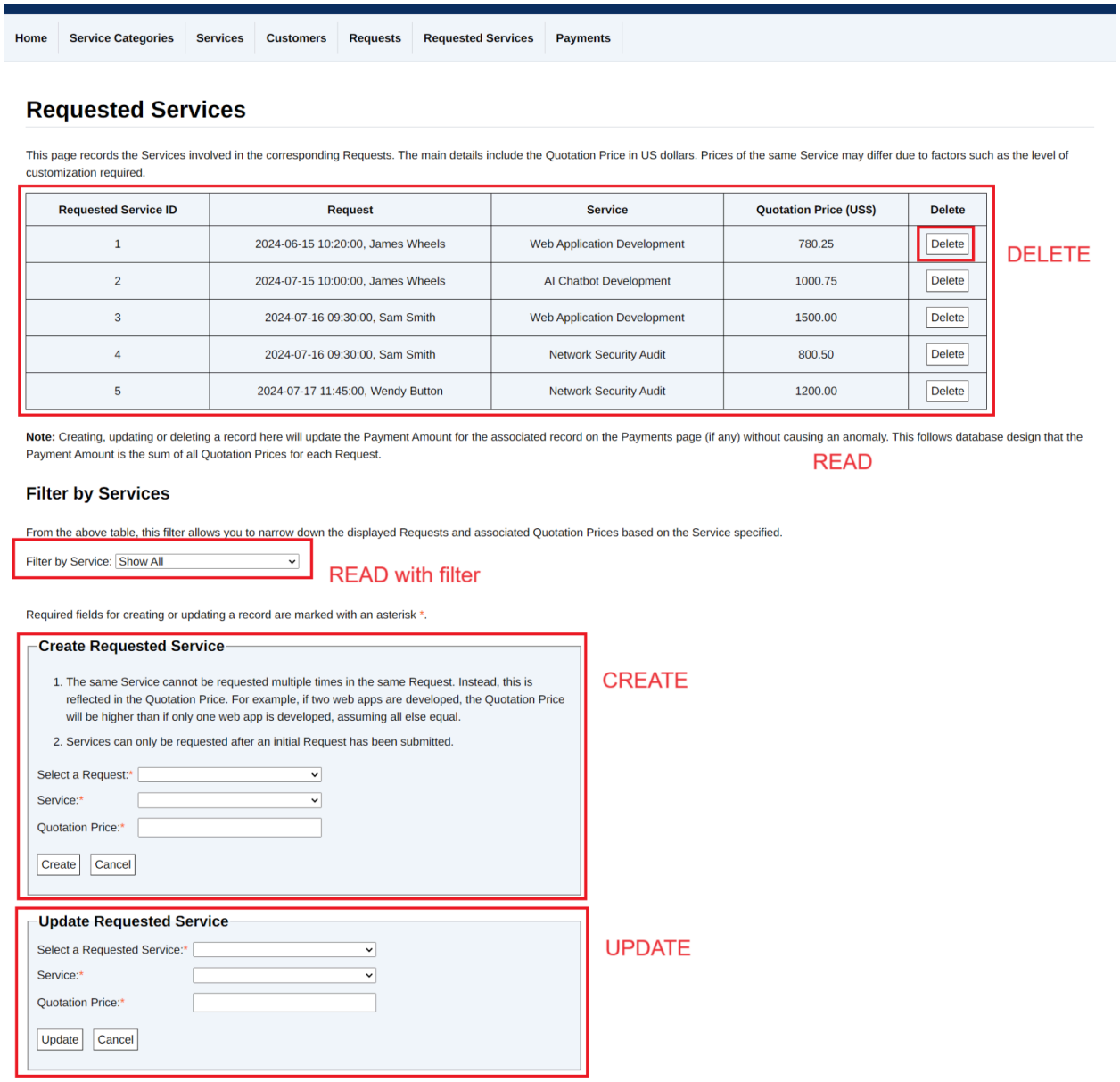
Customer:

Update Cancel

NULLable

UPDATE

Requested Services page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):



Payments page (CREATE/READ/UPDATE/DELETE):