**Concept of Operations**

**CV Creation**

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**The Current System**

When it comes to creating CV’s online, there are several different services that will allow you to enter your information into an already-formatted template, and generate a full CV that you can download and use at your discretion. The idea is that you can find a template that appeals to you, and simply enter your information, rather than having to spend the time and effort to write and format the entire CV by yourself.

**The Proposed System: Motivation**

The purpose of this project is simple: create a CV generator that allows users to use several different CV formats of popular, standardized formats, and deliver it in a secure, encrypted package to keep the user’s sensitive information safe.

**The Proposed System: Users and Modes of Operation**

**User:** Customer

A customer wishes to create a CV without needing to design the document’s canvas. There is no expectation of prior experience with creating CV’s; users will register with our website, and once logged in, they will enter their information, and then choose a template the information will be formatted into.

**Modes of Operation**

**Desktop:** users will have access to all features on the desktop format (editing text, moving and reformatting the text boxes on the document).

**Mobile:** users will have limited access to features on mobile. Users will be unable to reformat the text boxes, but all other features will be accessible.

**The Proposed System: Operational Scenarios**

**Scenario I:** the user will register with our website, and log into their generated account. Once logged in, they will enter their information (work experience, volunteer experience, education, work photo), which will be saved to their account. The user will then select a CV template, and their information will be automatically formatted into the chosen template. Users will have the opportunity to edit the CV (reformat the boxes containing their information, reformat the organization of the document). Once complete, they will be given an option to download the document; when chosen, we will encrypt the document and deliver it to the user.

**Scenario II:** the user attempts to reformat a text box to a size/location that wouldn’t properly fit all information within the margins. As the document will be fully editable before download, users will have the opportunity to preview the finished product to determine that the formatting meets their needs.

**The Proposed System: Operational Features**

Must Have:

* Menu to select CV format
* Multiple formats/templates to choose from
  + Templates must be printer-friendly
* User registration prompt
  + Logging/Hash encryption of user passwords
* User log-in prompt
* Editable CV template page
  + Must be mobile-friendly
  + Page must contain text boxes allowing the user to enter their information
    - Text boxes for Work Experience, Education and Volunteer Experience
    - Upload-compatible box for work photo
    - Text boxes must be drag-and-drop compatible to allow customization
* Document encryption

Would Like to Have:

* Sharing capabilities with social media, e.g. LinkedIn

**The Proposed System: Analysis**

Our application will be accessible via the Internet, as a web application accessible from desktop and mobile devices. It will be primarily developed in JavaScript and PHP 7/7.1, and customers will interact with our product via our website hosting the application. User information will be stored on a mySQL database.

**Challenges**

In our first meetings with our client, we were given information that we later determined to be vague or unclear; as a result, early meetings revolved around determining the meaning from the project specifications.

In the early stages of developing roles, our fifth team member was unresponsive to communication, requiring us to develop roles focused around a four-man team. Several weeks into the process, the fifth member began to make contact with us, despite our previous efforts to contact them, so roles had to be redefined before critical development could begin.

**Advantages**

**Easily Accessible**

Thanks to the widespread availability of Internet access, our users should have easy access to our product whenever they need it.

**Convenient for generating multiple CV’s**

The drag-and-drop functionality, combined with the ease of editing the content itself, allows for a higher degree of customization to fit different needs. This lets users generate several different CV’s quickly and effectively,

**Disadvantages**

**Limited features for mobile users**

Allowing the user to re-format the document is an important feature of our project. The most intuitive method for this purpose is to implement drag-and-drop boxes for the information, which will allow users to organize the chronology of the information as they see fit; unfortunately, it is not feasible to replicate on the touchscreen interface of most mobile devices, so we restrict access to this feature on mobile devices.

An alternative to drag-and-drop boxes would be to more rigidly categorize the boxes in a list format (e.g. work experience is “Box A”, Education is “Box B”, and users could use a list feature to list “B” before “A”), and include a feature to manually adjust the size of the box. We found that these features would be overly cumbersome, and would supply more options than the average user would want or need.

**Limited team experience with some platforms (PHP, SQL)**

When choosing this project, our team compared backgrounds in programming and development, and it was determined that our skills were best-served for developing a web application. Once we began planning, and after discussing our clients’ requirements, we determined that the most effective strategy would be to utilize the built-in features of PHP 7/7.1 with JavaScript than with HTML. This meant that we would be forced to commit time specifically to learning the PHP ecosystem (of which we had little experience), instead of going forward with a combination of JavaScript and HTML. Despite this hurdle, our team agreed that the amount of time/effort learning PHP would save over the whole development cycle was more than we would expend attempting to move forward with HTML.