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Enclosed please find our revised version of "Lessons Learned from VCommerce: A virtual environment for interdisciplinary learning about software entrepreneurship." We thank the reviewers for their insightful comments on the manuscript. Here is a summary of the changes we have made:

1. Can the system be modified to accept other database systems such as Oracle and other page presentation technologies such as PHP/Perl?

Yes. This is now noted in the future directions section.

2. Can the system be more open source so vendors aren't locked in to Microsoft?

Well, actually, the system (VCommerce) IS open source right now. The question is the technology it depends upon (ASP). As noted above, if the system was ported to (say) PHP, then it could run on non-Microsoft platforms.

3. Can the system model "break-even" and/or ROI?

To be honest, we considered this during the design phase, and could not develop a realistic model of "cost" that would provide pedagogical benefit to students. It would be an interesting challenge for future extension of the system.

4. Share price calculation has weaknesses, such as the use of page hits.

We agree absolutely. The VCommerce system is an abstraction of reality, and the share price calculation is clearly not reflective of the way market value is determined in the real world. Again, it is important to note that the goal of the system is not to faithfully model real-world economic systems, but rather to provide an environment in which technical and business people learn to work better together and to confront many (but not all) of the issues commonly faced by new venture startups.

5. There should be more emphasis in the paper on the business model.

We would love to include more, but we are already up against the page limit. Fortunately, the references on VCommerce include a 20 page document discussing the VCommerce business plan which goes into much more depth for those readers who are interested in this issue.

6. See the related article by Dhamjia in Sept. 99.

Thanks! We were aware of this work but forgot to cite it in this article. We have now included this in the related work section, as well as a reference to Cusumano and Yoffee on Internet Time.

7. Various syntax improvements on the marked up copy of the manuscript.

Thanks! Changes made.

8. Observe 3,000 word limit.

Done by eliminating description of related systems. If we can have 300 words more, we can put it back in.

Sincerely,
Philip Johnson
Mette Moffett
Brian Pentland