

School of Computing CA400 Year 4 Technical Spec:

Expo +

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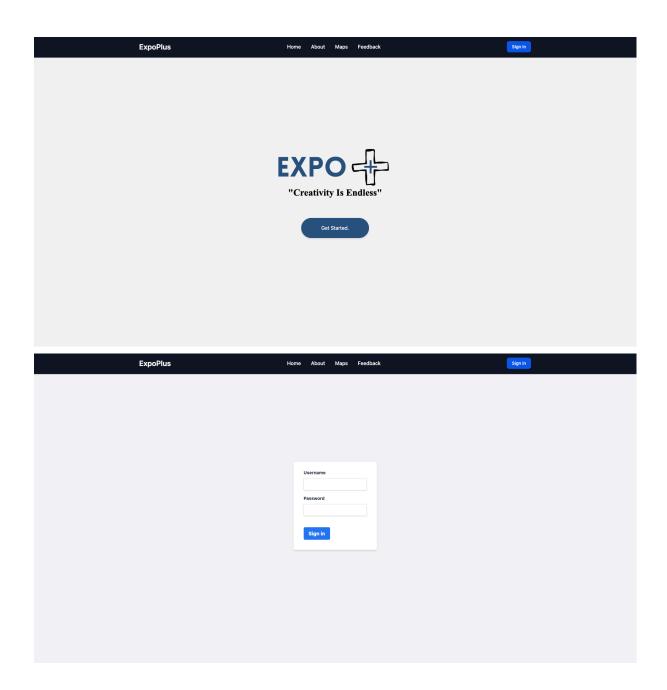
Introduction to website:

Expo+ is an advanced application tailored to elevate the experience of visitors at DCU's student expos. The application acknowledges that the discovery of innovative and creative projects should be an adventure in itself. It serves as a digital guide, facilitating an effortless and engaging journey through various exhibits. If you have an interest in cutting-edge technologies, inventive engineering projects, or creative artistic displays, Expo+ is designed to steer you towards exhibits that spark your interest and fuel your creativity. It's more than just a navigational tool—it's your personal guide to an inspiring and informative adventure through the world of academic exhibitions.

Register/Login:

Users can scour the website and navigate themselves throughout the website upon first inspection, however certain features such as viewing the map and rating projects will remain unavailable until the user has logged in. One can do so by first registering an account by clicking the Sign in icon displayed on the top right of the web page or by clicking the Get Started button and then logging in

after.



Home:

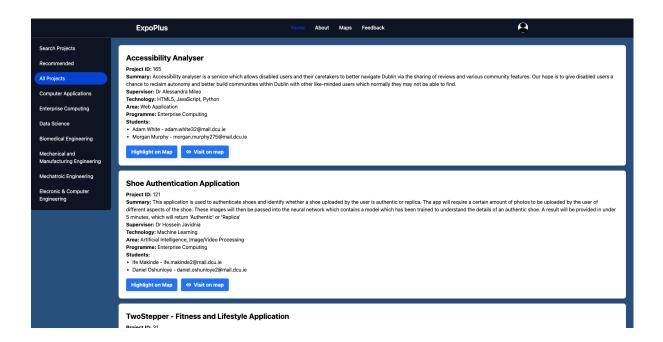
On the homepage of ExpoPlus, users are greeted with a clear and structured layout designed to offer a straightforward and informative experience. The navigation bar at the top provides quick access to various sections: Home, About, Maps, and Feedback.

To the left, a vertical sidebar categorises projects, with options such as

"Recommended," "All Projects," and a list of specialised fields like "Computer Applications," "Data Science," and "Biomedical Engineering," suggesting a tailored browsing experience.

The main content area features a selection of projects. Each project is presented with a distinct card containing vital information, such as the project title, a brief summary, the supervisor's name, technologies used, the study program, and student contributors. Users can interact with each project card using options like "Highlight on Map" or "Visit on map," which will help users to locate the project.

Visually, the design is clean and modern, with a colour scheme that emphasises clarity and ease of reading, ensuring that users can navigate through the available academic projects efficiently.



Search Projects:

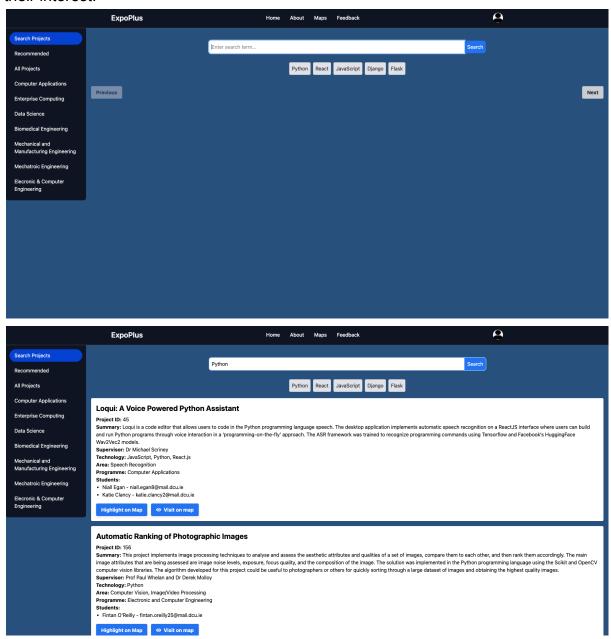
In the "Search Projects" section of the ExpoPlus web app, users are provided with a focused interface designed to help them find projects quickly and efficiently. This section includes an interactive search bar where users can input keywords or project titles to filter their search. This feature is designed to make the navigation of projects straightforward and user-friendly.

Below the search bar, users can explore projects through predefined filters categorised by academic fields such as Computer Applications, Data Science, and

Biomedical Engineering. These categories help users in narrowing down their search to areas of their interest or fields of study.

The search functionality is complemented by an array of technology tags such as Python, React, JavaScript, Django, and Flask. These tags likely serve as quick filters to highlight projects utilising these specific technologies. It simplifies the process of finding projects related to particular programming languages or frameworks.

Once a search term is entered or a filter is selected, the list of projects is dynamically updated to display only the relevant results. This seamless interaction ensures that users can quickly identify and engage with projects that match their criteria or pique their interest.



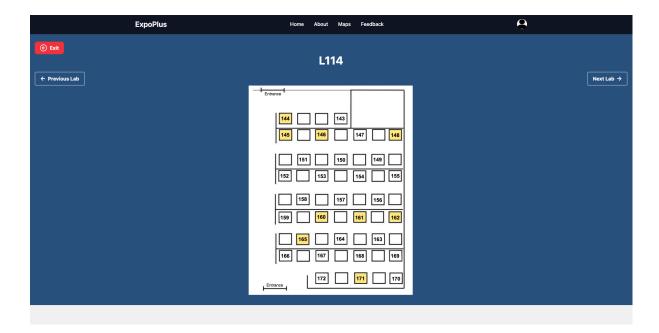
Map:

Upon clicking the "Highlight on Map" or "Visit on Map" buttons, users are taken to a detailed map view within ExpoPlus. Here, they encounter a structured layout of what appears to be a lab or room setup, with clearly numbered individual workstations or exhibit areas.

The central feature of this page is the interactive map labelled "L114," which represents a in which the project that was highlighted/visited is located in. Each box on the grid corresponds to a specific location within L114, allowing users to find and learn more about a particular project or exhibit stationed at that spot.

The design includes navigation controls, "Previous Lab" and "Next Lab," enabling users to explore different areas within the ExpoPlus environment seamlessly. For immediate exit or return to the main page, there's a prominent "Exit" button on the top left corner.

The interface is intuitive, inviting users to engage with the map to locate and visualise where each project is situated, enhancing their navigational experience within the ExpoPlus application.



View Projects On Map:

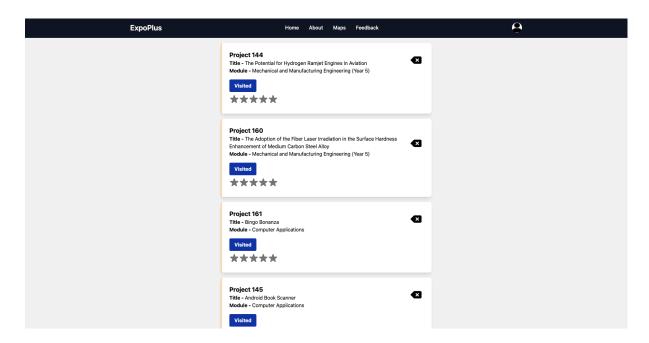
Once inside the Map segment, users find themselves on a page that showcases various projects. Each project is presented as an individual card, listing its title and relevant academic module.

For each project, users have the opportunity to interact in several ways. They can mark a project as "Visited" by clicking a button, which then changes colour from yellow to red. This visual cue allows users to keep track of which projects they have reviewed or interacted with, providing a satisfying sense of progression.

Additionally, users can rate each project by selecting from a star-based rating system just below the project title, allowing them to leave feedback based on their experience or assessment of the project's content.

If users wish to remove a project from their view or discontinue its highlight on the map, they can do so by clicking the "x" icon on the project card. This action simplifies the map view, helping to declutter their personal interface and focus on the projects of interest.

Through these features, the ExpoPlus application offers a user-centric experience that not only promotes interaction through project completion and rating but also empowers users with control over their navigational preferences within the app.



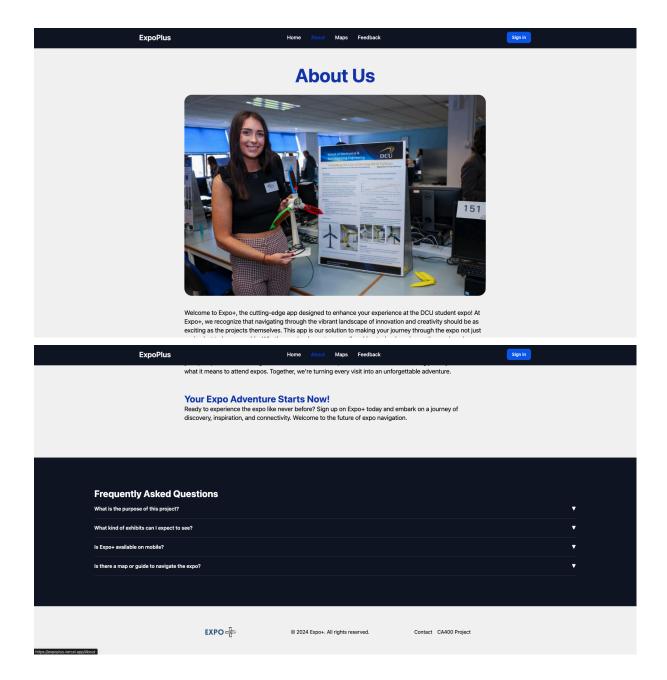
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About:

In the "About Us" section of ExpoPlus, users find an engaging and informative narrative that explains the purpose and vision behind the project. It features a welcoming message that outlines the app's commitment to enhancing the experience of attending student expos. This section also gives insight into the creators of the project, detailing their backgrounds and the collaborative effort that went into developing the platform.

Below the introductory message, users can explore the "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) section. This part of the page is dedicated to addressing common inquiries, allowing users to find quick answers to their questions. The FAQs are organised in a drop-down format, providing a tidy and user-friendly interface. Clicking on each question reveals an answer, aiding in the user's understanding of the expo, what exhibits to expect, app functionality, mobile compatibility, and guidance on navigation.

This segment is not only essential for new users to get acquainted with the app but also acts as a helpful resource for returning users to resolve common issues or questions they may encounter. It exemplifies the app's user-centric design, aiming to ensure that every visit to the expo is an informed and hassle-free experience.



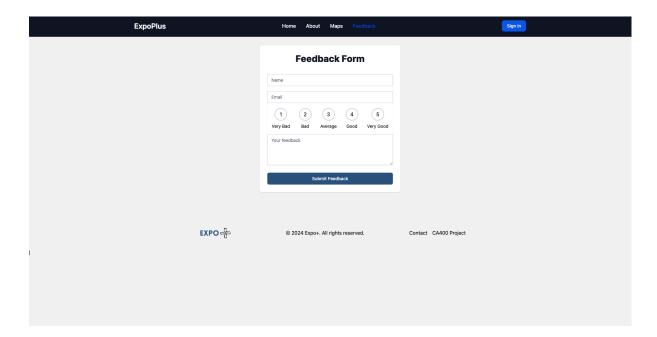
Feedback:

In the feedback section of the ExpoPlus application, users are presented with a straightforward form designed for ease of use and clarity. The form invites users to share their experience by providing their name and email address in designated fields, ensuring that they can be contacted if follow-up is necessary.

For expressing their opinion, users are given a rating scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Bad" and 5 being "Very Good." This allows users to quickly assess their experience and provide an overall satisfaction rating. Below the rating scale, there's a text box where users can elaborate on their feedback, offering insights, suggestions, or reporting any issues they've encountered.

Once the feedback is submitted, the information is sent to the database, where it can be reviewed by the creators of the application. This process not only aids in improving the app based on user experience but also fosters a communicative relationship between the users and the development team.

Additionally, for users who have further questions or suggestions, the footer of the application provides an option to contact the creators directly. This feature exemplifies the team's commitment to openness and ongoing improvement, ensuring that every user's voice can be heard and can contribute to the evolution of the ExpoPlus experience.





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