

SELT Project Description Group 10

Concept

The goal of this project, which we have temporarily dubbed the “Reminder Emailer”, is to allow users to sign up to receive regular reminders via email about important tasks that they must not forget to complete. For example, if you have a weekly task which you forget to do and would like to be reminded of, like writing/publishing a blog post or calling your mother, this service would allow you to sign up for a recurring email, with the date, time, and repeating interval set by you, which would inform you of this task. The service can provide a large variety of customization options for these emails, such as the format of the body, information in the body, the recipients, and more. Services such as this already exist to some degree, in the form of Google Calendar or the calendar on your phone, but the expansion features described below allow us to create some interesting and unique functionality built upon this base set of abilities.

Expansion

The fundamental nature of the project is essentially what is described above, but there are many areas where new features can be added should there be time to implement them. What follows is a brief list of a subset of these features, which we hope to implement.

Organizations

By allowing users to create groups of other users, in the form of organizations, we could provide the ability to routinely remind team members of common activities, such as committing your code at the end of the day. This organizational structure would include permissions for its users, such that only certain members of a team may edit or create reminders, but all can view them. This would fit conveniently within a standard team.

Events and Plugins

One of the pinnacle features for an application such as this is the ability to create plugins which enhance the basic functionality of the system. We would like to provide an interface to the service which would allow other developers to create plugins which are responsible for creating dynamic reminders given an event or situation. Once a plugin is in the system, users would be able to select an event to sign up for, and this event would be able to remind users of a task which they did not explicitly create. For example, if a plugin existed which interacted with the Weather Underground RESTful API a user could be dynamically reminded to shovel the sidewalk if it snowed today, or to close the windows if rain is in the forecast. Given the prevalence of other services on the web, it would be possible to create considerably more practical plugins than the rather contrived previous example, and these plugins would allow a user to organize their responsibilities before they are even aware they exist.