

Declaration of informed consent

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am willing to take part in a research project that is part of a course assessment for the CS4826 module, Human Computer Interaction at the University of Limerick. The nature of this study is as follows:

Title: A Heuristic Evaluation of Last.fm

Purpose: In this study we intend to evaluate (insert system or website name, to be evaluated here) in terms of its usability. This involves asking users to perform certain tasks offered by the system or product that are representative of the types of tasks users would normally perform using this system and give feedback in terms of how usable or otherwise the system or product is.

I declare that I have been fully briefed on the nature of this study and my role in it and have been given the opportunity to ask questions before agreeing to participate. I understand that my role in this evaluation is as a co-evaluator and that this is not an evaluation of my ability, knowledge or intelligence, rather it is an evaluation of the system or product in terms of how usable it is.

The particular tasks that I will be required to perform have been explained to me and I understand them. I also understand that that I will be required to “think-aloud” while performing these tasks. The “thinking aloud” method has been explained to me and I understand that no personal, private or confidential information is required from me.

I fully understand that there is no obligation on me to participate in this study and that I am free to withdraw my participation at any time without having to explain or give a reason. I am also entitled to full confidentiality in terms of the details of my participation and my personal details. I understand that some or all of the data (verbal and behavioural) may be used (quoted) in the report on the evaluation for illustrative purposes but I shall not be identifiable from this data either in the body of the report or in appendices.

I also understand that my participation in this study may be recorded by video or audio means as well as in the form of notes taken by observers and I agree to this. However, should I feel uncomfortable with being recorded at any time; I can request that all recording equipment be switched off. I am entitled to copies of all recordings made during the session if I wish to have them.

I acknowledge the fact that deception and concealment are inappropriate to and not required in this study and that no attempt will be made to elicit information or actions from me using these means.

Signature of participant

Date