Milestone 1

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1. What is your primary target audience?

Our target audience is job-seekers who are concerned with location—where there are jobs available, where they have many friends or acquaintances, and where they would like to work.

2. What problem does your application address?

Job search sites don't adequately or attractively emphasize location, and they do not have their users' social networks integrated into the job search.

3. How does your application address the problem above?

Our application will display jobs on a map and allow users to import the workplaces of their contacts.

4. What is the killer feature of your application?

When users search for a particular kind of job and import the workplaces of their contacts, they will be able to see on a map the locations of both the job results and their contacts, so they can judge where they would like to work best and how they can use their contacts to get a job.

5. Which of the themes does your application match?

Our application matches the theme of jobs. We are helping users find jobs.

6. How do you plan to address the content requirement?

We are using the APIs of job sites (Indeed: https://ads.indeed.com/jobroll/xmlfeed; CareerJet: http://www.careerjet.ca/partners/api; Simply Hired:

http://www.simplyhired.com/a/publishers/overview) to aggregate job listings, and we are using the APIs of networking sites (Facebook: http://developers.facebook.com/docs/api; LinkedIn: http://developer.linkedin.com/community/apis;) to integrate our users' contacts to the website. We are using Google Maps API to generate the map (http://maps.gstatic.com/intl/en_us/mapfiles/api-3/3/6/main.js).

We will populate our database at first with some basic queries from the job websites, and every time a user queries something new we will store those results in our database also. Therefore, if there are API failures, we can run off our database. This does require making sure our database does not have old entries and does not get unreasonably large.

The non-trivial processing we will have to do to the content is figuring out searching and location aggregating. For search, we need to show the user the most relevant results, which is non-trivial if we aggregate results from multiple sites or work off our database. For location aggregation, we will need to modify our markers depending on the zoom – from far away all the job results near Boston should appear as one marker, but closer up the markers should differentiate Cambridge and Boston.

Schema (so far):

Table "Job"

Fields: title, company, pay, date, source, description, latitude, longitude, state, city, zip, job type, original id, date created, date updated

Table "User"

Fields: first name, last name, email, encrypted password, date created, date updated, salt, login count, failed login count, date of last request, date of last login, date of current request, date of last request, current user IP, last user IP

7. How do you plan to address the efficient presentation requirement?

We are showing users results depending on their query and depending on their view of the map. For example, if I search for "waitress" and I zoomed the map to only show the state of Massachusetts, then I will see markers denoting results relevant to "waitress" in Massachusetts. When I click on the markers, our website will display more information about the jobs.

8. How do you plan to personalize users' experience?

Users will be able to create accounts and then import their contacts. We will then display their contacts' workplaces, new and old, on a map along with their job search results.

9. What technology do you plan to use for your application server?

Ruby 1.9.2 on Rails 3.0.3 on Heroku.

10. Who is on your team?

Clifford M. Boyd, mboyd@mit.edu, MIT, Course 8, Class of 2013, undergraduate Diyang Tang, diyangt@mit.edu, MIT, Course 18, Class of 2013, undergraduate

11. How did the team members meet?

We are friends and live on the same hall of our dorm.

12. What risks do you envision preventing you from successfully implementing your idea? Consider this an exercise of imagination, not a test of confidence.

If our user interface is not sufficiently amazing, our website not deliver upon its main feature. Displaying job results with the map is difficult, and we need to make sure it's attractive, polished, and user-friendly.

The other problem is with using multiple APIs. There could be repeated results that would need to filtered, and returning the most relevant results to a search query will be more difficult.

13. Are you planning to participate in the competition?

Yes.