

## COMP710: Studio Session 02 – Exercise:

**EXERCISE NAME:** *C++ – Using Pointers and the Free Store*

Add a new C++ Project named “Using Pointers and the Free Store” to your “SS02” Visual Studio Solution for this exercise.

Declare a structure which represents an NPC (Non-Player Character) in a 2D game. Add fields to this structure to represent the follow details: strength, health, tiredness, position and whether the NPC is alive or not.

Next declare a function called **CreateNPC ()** which takes no parameters and returns a pointer to an **NPC** structure.

In the **CreateNPC** function, allocate an **NPC** structure on the Free Store. Then assign the fields of the NPC random values based upon the following criteria:

- $3 < \text{Strength} < 20$
- $50 < \text{Health} < 200$
- $1 < \text{Tiredness} < 15$
- $0 < \text{Position X} < 100$
- $0 < \text{Position Y} < 100$
- Alive is true

Then return this allocation to the calling function.

Write another function called **PrintNPCDetails ()** which takes in a **NPC** pointer parameter, and prints the details of the **NPC** in the following format:

```
NPC's Current State:
- Position: (0, 0)
- Health: 112
- Strength: 15
- Tiredness: 10
- Alive: Yes
```

In the **main** function, create an array of 10 **NPC** pointers.

Set each pointer in the array to be null using a loop.

Next, call **CreateNPC** ten times and store the resulting allocations in the **NPC** pointer array.

Finally, call **PrintNPCDetails** ten times, each time with address of an **NPC** stored on the Free Store.

The following is an example of this:

```
/* #include required headers here */

struct NPC
{
    /* Insert your code here */
};

/* Insert Prototypes here */

int main()
{
    // Declare NPC pointer array.

    // Call CreateNPC ten times, store the results.

    // Call PrintNPCDetails for each NPC in the array.

    return 0;
}

/* Insert function definitions here */
```

Before the program finishes, deallocate the Free Store allocations, and hence avoid a memory leak occurring!

Once complete, commit your program's source code to your individual SVN folder – include the **.sln**, **.vcxproj** and **.cpp** files, and ensure you do not commit any build output files.