Criterion E: Evaluation

Success Criteria

Person should be able to see all of the requests made by the stalls on a single screen	On the order-report page, the requests all appear in a single table
The system should be secure	The system cannot be accessed without the admin manager's username and password, which are verified in a secure manner
The system should only use existing hardware	The system can be hosted on a web-server that My NoNNa's already has
Stall managers should be able to make requests using their mobile device	The interface is web-based, so that it is usable through the browser on any mobile device
Requesting an ingredient should not take more than 30 seconds	Unless the stock-taker is typing their stall's PIN, the timing is mostly determined by page-loading, which is 'reasonably fast'
The system should be intuitive to use for both the admin manager and the staff of the stalls.	All pages for use by the admin manager have a short description of how to use them, and 'appropriate error messages' were shown when necessary. The messages shown to stock-takers are coloured according to whether the request succeeded or failed
The user interface of the system should not be ugly	Bootstrap, a free user interface library, was used for the interface to the system.
The system should be easily extendable, so that it grows with the company	The system has a set of pages for adding items and categorising them, if a new ingredient needs to be tracked, and stalls can also be registered to place orders

Suggestions for Future Improvement

One way that the system can be improved is by adding an 'undo' feature to one or more of the pages the admin manager can visit, as suggested by the client. However, this would require significant changes to the structure of the database, and it will not be a commonly-used feature. A simpler change would be to allow the people doing stock-takes to undo mistaken requests for ingredients, for example, if the wrong barcode is scanned.

Another change that could be made is to add a way for new admin-manager accounts to be created, without directly editing the database. This would be a relatively minor change, but there is only a need to do this if a new person is hired, which is a rare enough event for a small company that it may be a waste of development work.

(396 words)

Appendix: Consultation Evidence

How well does the system solve the problems you have with re-ordering ingredients?

The new inventory system is a very good solution to the problems I have had with communicating the ingredients to re-order. When the admin manager gets a request for an ingredient, it is immediately clear which ingredient is meant, since the full name appears on the order report page.

Is it fast and easy to use?

The web interface is reasonably fast, but the routine of scanning the barcodes may take some time to get used to.

Does it work without errors?

There were no errors that prevented me from using the system, but appropriate error messages appeared if I pressed something wrong, which is good.

Do you have any other feedback, or suggestions as to how it could be improved?

The system is more than adequate for day-to-day restocking, but currently there is no way for the admin manager to 'undo' changes if he removes something by mistake.