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| Pre Project Document |
| Vintage Vogue: ITP Semester 2 2011 |
| John Agbulos, Norman Taminaya, Sang Uk Kim, Cameron Ly |

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Pre Project Document

# Introduction

The subject Information Technology Project is undertaken at the University of Canberra for 3rd year Software Engineering/Information Technology students. A group if students will be undertaking a project to design and develop a software project for a client in a professional manner.

Specifically this document describes the process which the group has taken to search and assess potential projects.

The document will include:

* Expression of Interest
* Feasibility analysis
* Final decision

The feasibility analysis is in the format of a questionnaire which the client responds to, according to the answers a rationale is undertaken to decide if the project is feasible.

The pre project phase began July 7th and ended Aug 14th.

# Expression of Interest

The expression of interest was a "resume" style document the group created to notify organizations the motives and interest in undertaking a software project.

In total the group submitted the expression of interest to 10 organizations in Canberra and 1 in Sydney, resulting in 3 responses.

The responses came from:

* Westmead Hospital, Sydney: required a system similar to Access Anaesthetics, which allowed anesthetists to store and manage patient medicare payments.
* St Vincent de Paul Society, Canberra: required the development of a new website prototype which the client will promote to upper management. The client notified us that the final result of the project will not be going live, however the idea of the project will be used to demonstrate a new concept for St Vincent de Paul.
* Gunghalin Dry Cleaning, Canberra: required a new software platform to manage day to day activities. However the group didn't further investigate into the project as Charles Palmer advised the lack of content that the project may produce

The following is the expression of interest used by the group.

## Executive Summary

Our group would like to extend its expression of interest for a software solution to your organization. In the following pages the document describes preliminary details and information regarding a possible software project.

## Background

In the last semester of B. Software Engineering and B. Information Technology degree, the subject Information Technology Project (ITP) is undertaken. ITP is a practical application of all the skills acquired in two and a half years of a student’s degree by undertaking in a project for a real life client. It allows students to demonstrate a capacity to work in the computing field at a professional level.

Over the course of two and a half years the group has studied different programming languages including:

* C#
* C
* C++
* Java
* HTML, XML
* LUA
* Visual Basic
* PHP

However due to the dynamic nature of the programming field and the rapid learning required for university our group is open to new languages and methodologies

## Objectives

The main objective of ITP is to provide an organization with a desired software solution to a current need. The project will ultimately provide a software deliverable and documentation.

The project benefits both the student and the organization in that the student will be able to demonstrate skills acquired throughout its study and the organization will be able to receive a software solution which is catered to its needs.

## Team logistics

The project team consists of four members currently in their third year of university at UC. All four members have grouped many times over the course of two and a half years and are familiar with each other’s work methodology. Each member has an array of skills which contributes to the group:

Project leader/Programmer: John Agbulos

B. Software Engineering 3rd Year

* The leader of the group which oversees the team’s day to day activities
* A guide to the direction and pace of the project
* Organizes all the meeting agendas based on the milestones and the specifications
* Delegate work to all team members

Documentation specialist: Norman Taminaya

Double Degree B. Business Informatics/B. Software Engineering 3rd Year

* In charge of the production and maintaining quality of all documents concerning the project
* Will be adopting standard UML notation and format on all relevant documents

Lead Programmer: Cameron Ly

B. Software Engineering 3rd Year

* In charge of designing, developing and testing of the software component of the project
* Ensures software releases are up to date and of high quality
* Concerned with the demonstration of the prototype and the final product with the client

Project quality manager/Programmer: Sang Uk Kim

B. Software Engineering 3rd Year

* Oversees the project in its entirety in regards to quality
* Quality assurance on both documentation and programming
* Acts to assist in all aspects of the project

## Work breakdown structure and principal dates

The work schedule is not set in stone, depending on the project some dates may change but the schedule is to give a rough idea on the work and timings involved in the project. The project however must be completed by week 14

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Event or Deliverable | Classification | Target Date | Description |
| Preliminary Period. Search for possible projects | Preliminary period | Jul 7 – Aug 14 | The team will search for project prospects |
| Response for tender signoff | Preliminary period | Aug 15  Week 1 | A formal acknowledgement of the project |
| Project Brief/Charter | Design and analysis | Aug 19  Week 1 | Document which outlines the specifics of the project. Face to face contact between team and client is highly advisable |
| Requirement analysis, system design, risk assessment | Design and analysis | Aug 22  Week 2 | Detailed requirements analysis to be undertaken which results in the design of the system |
| First iteration of programming begins | Development | Sept 5  Week 4 | First build of the cycle is developed |
| First prototype developed, unit/system testing | Development | Sept 19  Week 6 | The first build which is shown to the client |
| User acceptance testing | Development | Sept 20  Week 6 | A first glance of the software for the client which they may give feedback on |
| Re-evaluation of risk, design and requirements, second iteration of programming begins | Development/ Design and analysis | Sept 26  Week 7 | According to the user acceptance feedback the team may alter its design, risk and requirements. The second cycle of programming begins |
| Prototype/alpha release completed, unit/system testing | Development | Oct 10  Week 9 | A second cycle in the release sees a much more detailed and complete program |
| User Acceptance Testing | Development | Oct 11  Week 9 | A second user acceptance testing |
| Re-evaluation of risk, design and requirements, third iteration begins | Development/ design and analysis | Oct 17  Week 10 | The third “beta” phase of the programming begins |
| Final user acceptance testing | Development | Oct 24  Week 11 | Beta build demonstrated to client |
| Re-evaluation of risk, design and requirements. Final build begins, thorough unit/system testing | Development/ Design and analysis | Oct 25  Week 11 | The release cycle is undertaken |
| Final presentation to client and project closure | Project closure | Nov 14  Week 14 | Final delivery of project to client |

## Requirements

* The project will ultimately provide a software deliverable with documentation on the process, design and instruction manual. The conclusion for the project is on week 14 of the semester
* Each student will perform on average 21 hours of work over a 14 week semester, totalling to approximately 300 hours of total work per student
* Face to face contact and online contact with the client is highly advisable, this includes initial requirement briefing, software demonstrations, user acceptance testing and final presentation of the project to the client

## Technical Environment

Technical Environment: The majority of the software development will be conducted in the UC Computer Labs(Building 11). A special room will be provided for ITP students where they may install development tools required for the project.

## Communication strategy

Each week the group will perform a weekly report to the client reporting on all aspects of the project’s status. Also the group will perform a face to face presentation/meeting with a client representative on several occasions:

* Project briefing, request for tender and project charter
* System Design Presentation
* Prototype demonstration with user acceptance testing
* Final product conclusion

The main mode of communication between client and team will be through email and telephone

## Estimated costing

The only budgeting that needs to be accounted for is the time the client needs to partake to assure that the team produces the best possible product to meet the client needs.

The costing is an approximation based on past projects and is not set in stone

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Status Report | Presentation | Face-to-face meeting with client and team |
| Week 1 |  |  | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |
| Week 2 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
| Week 3 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |
| Week 4 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
| Week 5 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
| Week 6 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |
| Week 7 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
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| Week 11 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |
| Week 12 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
| Week 13 | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |  |  |
| Week 14 |  | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif | C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Bullets\BD21301_.gif |

* Status reports will approximately take 15mins to read and sign off by the client/client representative
* Presentation will be approximately 15mins long with 10mins discussion for questions

# Feasibility Analysis: Westmead Hospital, Sydney

## Overview

The purpose of this document is to allow the client and the team to explore the feasibility, scope, issue,

risks, possibilities and restrictions of the project. More importantly it identifies risks and issues which

could be fatal in the development of the software. We’re aiming to identify the issues before making an

official decision. In regards to the email that you have sent our group we have concluded that the overall

project can be broken up into three sub projects:

1. Practice Management Software

2. iPhone/android application

3. Rostering and contact management system

The document will ask questions which the client needs to clarify. The questions contain some answers

that we’ve researched ourselves. Ultimately we conducted how feasible each aspect of the project is

and provide some alternatives

## Sub project 1: Practice Management Software

### 1.1 Are we building a similar software to Access Anaesthetics?

The Access Anaesthetics system is on the Microsoft Access platform. However due to the requirement

that it needs to run on a Mac OS a multi platform solution will be required.

The alternatives are:

- Create our own multi platform solution

- Use Filemaker as suggested(however the fees associated with purchasing the product is expensive)

- Use an open source alternative such as Kexi, OpenOffice Base or SQLite

### 1.2 Will access rights to the Medicare system be provided for us?

One key feature of Access Anaesthetics is the ability to lodge claims with Medicare. The program

integrates Eclipse online transactions to handle online claims with Medicare. We called Medicare and it

is possible to get approval to use the online claiming.

To incorporate Eclipse into our system the following steps need to be followed:

1. Provide a signed Medicare Australia Developers Agreement which establishes the terms and

agreements between a software vendor and Medicare Australia

2. A Medicare Australia Developer’s Kit will be provided by OTS Liaison once the agreement has

been executed(which will provide client adaptor, location certificates, test data, IKeys)

3. Development: OTS Help Desk will assist vendors during development stage, there is no time

frame for vendors to meet while developing which may be beneficial for the project

4. Integration: OTS verifies that the software has been correctly integrated with Medicare

Australia’s online channels, We must book in for this verification process prior to gaining access

to Medicare Australia’s production Environment

The approval process depends entirely on the software itself. OTS Liaison needs to check the code of

your program and approve that it is compliant with Medicare Australia’s online channels. OTS Liaison’s

shortest software package verification involved a very minor program with rock-solid code that took two

weeks. Larger projects will require longer time frame.

### 1.3 Does the software run on one machine independently similar to how

### Access Anaesthetics works?

The program can be developed to run similarly to how Access Anaesthetics works where the user installs

a software into their computer and all the data entered is independent on that computer.

The better solution is a client-server software. In order for it to work the hospital must have a local

server connected to all the computers(at least all the ones concerned with the project).

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### 1.4 Can we be provided with pseudo data for format and testing purposes?

The data(doctor, patient information) does not need to be actual data due to violation of medical

confidentiality, however can we negotiate to acquire pseudo data which accurately represents

information which will be used by the client.

### 1.5 How many data entries should the service be able to sustain?

As an example Access databases are capable of maximum 32768 entries. Filemaker has similar

specifications. If the client requires more than this then use of SQLite is needed.

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## Sub project 2: iPhone/android application

### 2.1 Would we need two separate applications or just one?

Assuming that all three projects are to be undertaken will there be one smartphone application which

handles the anesthetic account keeping whilst also having the functionality of the rostering and contacts

management system.

### 2.2 iPhone applications require a developers license from Apple, will the

### hospital/client be able to provide the licensing fee?

Currently the University of Canberra is trying to acquire a University Program which allows educators to

provide students with the license. However if the university cannot provide the license the fee for a

standard developer license is $99 USD per year.

### 2.3 How long would an iPhone developers licence take?

The license will take approximately two weeks to be approved

### 2.4 Would only an android application suffice?

Unlike iPhones the android development is a lot easier since all a developer needs is a compiler which

can be uploaded to an android phone to be tested

## Sub project 3: Rostering and contact management system

### 3.1 There are two types of roster allocation autonomous and central, which is

### preferred?

Autonomous – the participants login and allocate themselves to the available roster slots

Central – the roster is allocated by an administrator and participants can view the roster online

### 3. 2 Who will be using the rostering and contact management system?

Assuming that only anaesthesiologists will be using the rostering or will nurses and other surgeons be

using the system.

### 3.3 Will the system need to be connected to an already existing payroll system

### within the hospital?

We could not find any information online regarding the payroll methodology of Westmead hospital.

However due to the nature of the sub project will our new project be forwarding or reporting any data

to another party?

### 3.4 How many possible spots for scheduling exists?

eg. For anaesthetists, they nomally work during 9am – 5pm. But every night including holiday, night shift

have to be allocated

## Feasibility

The response to these answers can possibly change the feasibility of the project however we have

attempted to estimate the overall risk and issues.

## Project as a whole

If our group is to undertake all three of the projects there are some risks to take into account:

- All sub projects is not possible within our resources of 4 group members and 14 weeks deadline.

An estimated deadline of 6 months – 1 year and 10 group members would be more appropriate

- Our group plans on using the Rapid Application Development method(RAD) which requires

multiple software releases(alpha, beta, final phase). Medicare approval however takes two

weeks at minimum to approve a software so in total (at best) 6 weeks is needed for approval

- The acquisition of iPhone licensing will take 3 weeks, these 3 weeks are crucial in a 14 week

timeframe. Also Apple requires the iPhone application to be approved in order to be uploaded

to the Apple store which is also estimated at about 2 weeks

Feasibility: Developing all three projects is highly over our timeframe and resources.

Alternatives: Develop only one of the sub projects

## Practice Management Software

Completing only the Practice Management Software also has its risks and issues:

- Our group plans on using the Rapid Application Development(RAD) method which requires

multiple software releases(eg alpha, beta, final release). The problem is that Medicare has to

approve each of these iterations and at minimum it will take them 2 weeks each totaling in 6

weeks

- Due to external access to Medicare communication between the group and Medicare will be

high, which will require a lot of time

- Security for the data must be kept secure due to laws regarding medical record privacy

- Filemaker is a costly software tool

Feasibility: Due to being unable to use RAD methodology our group would have to create one software

which must ultimately work(waterfall method), there are high risks to cutting a project short by two

weeks whilst creating a software that Medicare will surely approve. The risk is high that Medicare may

send back the project without approval and the project will not be completed by the set time

Alternatives: Only a proof of concept(POC) will be developed for the client. The POC will be a software

which will work without the Medicare billing aspect, however due to the importance of the feature this

is not advisable

## iPhone/Android application

The smartphone application is tricky to analyze due to its reliance on the other two projects. Regardless

there are still issues which are universal:

- The acquisition of iPhone licensing will take 3 weeks, these 3 weeks are crucial in a 14 week

timeframe. Also Apple requires the iPhone application to be approved in order to be uploaded

to the Apple store which is also estimated at about 2 weeks

- Due to the mobility of smartphones a higher degree of security needs to be provided(especially

in wireless transmission) due to the sensitivity and confidentiality of the information

- Android is a more accessible platform

Feasibility: Billing and accounting on a smartphone appears to be needlessly complicated and undesired.

The rostering and contact management is more feasible

Alternatives: Due to the amount of time needed for iPhone development perhaps only an android

application will be possible in the timeframe

## Roster and contact management system

The rostering and contact management system seems to be the only sub project that is within our

timeframe. The issues and risks involved are:

- The system may need to connect to another system such as payroll or hospital contact system

- The system is only effective if all the anaesthesiologists use it. Some users may be resistant to

change and disapprove the system

- Networking in the hospital may be limited and may prove fatal to the software’s functionality

Feasibility: As stated the rostering and contact management system is the most feasible for the group to

develop, however the client is more interested in the Practice Management Software

# Feasibility Analysis: St Vincent de Paul

## Does a cataloging system or database already exist for stocked items?

If a fully functioning cataloging system (virtual OR physical) is already in use, than it can incorporated into the Vinnies Vogue website with any modifications that the client may need.

However, if a complete remodeling of the cataloging system is required. The client must be willing to provide detailed specifications to prevent any ambiguities arising during the database development phase.

The Database model is likely to change when it is implemented into the system to make it functional in the environment it is deployed to. By clearing up any uncertainties with the client early on this can be mitigated and also prevent large changes to the design of the database during the development phase.

## How much functionality should be required for looking up sale items?

The functionality/ease of use of the search engine (for items on sale) depends on how much information the seller is willing to provide for the item in question.

An example can include the ability to search for a specific brand. To have this functionality the item must have attached to it a brand name (which must be provided by the seller when the item is being put up for sale.)

Another example could be to search for a certain colour. To have this functionality the item must have attached to it Colour which must be provided by the seller when the item is being put up for sale.

…and so on.

As a result of this, it is possible to develop a search engine capable of being very specific

eg; *“Type: Dress, Colour: Red, Brand: Dianna Ferrari, Price: ~$200”*

But developing such an engine will require the uploader to fill out a lot of fields before they can put their item for sale. This makes uploading sale items a tedious task and may potentially put people off from putting items up for sale.

Our proposal to this situation is to use a tags system, similar to that found in youtube. The process would follow something similar to these steps:

Sellers will upload their item

Seller provides a name and price

Seller provides any additional information in the tags section (eg brand, size, colour etc..)

using tags allows the sellers to put in as much information about their item as they want without comprimising the functionality of the search engine. This will provide users both an ease of looking for what they want while still making it easy to put items up for sale.

## How should the website deal with the collection of sale Items?

It should be specified how purchased goods will be retrieved from their buyers. It is assumed that purchased products will be picked up from the Vinnies store that houses the item; if this is the case than some verification is required to prove the buyer is the same person that purchased it online.

Our suggestion for this is to provide a transaction history of purchases for each user on their Vinnies Vogue account. Each transaction will include the name of the item purchased (This will be set as a hyperlink back to the items original page), the date of purchase, Price of item and a transaction ID.

**For the Buyer**

When picking up their item from the supplying St Vincent de Paul store, the buyer will provide their name and transaction ID (or a printed copy of their transaction) to receive their item.

**For the Seller**

Our assumption is that all sales are uploaded from a Vinnies store. The website will have a separate store login section which handles with the placing of sales and selling of items. Once logged in, the store will have all purchase notifications listed, each linking to their respective transaction details.

When a buyer comes to pick up their item(s) the seller will search for their name and transaction ID which will then provide all the details to give the item to the buyer.

Once items have been purchased they will be marked with a **SOLD**. The item will be moved to a separate section called ‘Sold Items’ for anyone who is still willing to look up and comment on it.

In the event that the item has not been delivered to the recipiant, certain actions must be taken to ensure the website does one or more of the following:

1. Vinnies Vogue keeps a virtual reciept of their purchase for proof (may be provided via PayPal)
2. Informs the buyer why their purchase is delayed
3. Have their money returned to them.

## Who is restricted to selling items?

It must be clarified if users are also capable of selling clothes as well. If users are allowed to sell items it raises issues as to whether or not the item came from Vinnies or an outside source (other online webstore etc). It is highly advised that users are not allowed to sell items to prevent this from occurring. Our solution is to encourage users to bring in their items to a Vinnies store through the implementation of a reward system (prizes, holiday trip, etc..) which could be posted on the Vinnies Vogue website.

# Final Decision

In order to make a final decision the group took into account various factors which would affect the overall feasibility of the project.

The feasibility was broken up into several factors:

* Familiarity with required components
* Time constraints
* Risk

Ultimately the group decided to take the St Vincent de Paul project for the following reasons.

## Familiarity with required components

The group has had experience with web design and implementation before, from subjects Web design and programming and Software Engineering Practice.

However the platform of a webhost and the Content Management System is new to the group. It's a risk the group is willing to take and it also justifies the 14 week workload. Despite unfamiliarity with Joomla! the group has knowledge of html and php, and the group needs a brief period to learn the new CMS system.

## Time contraints

Unlike the Westmead Hospital project, the St Vincent Project fits into the 14 week schedule allocated to the project.

The main reason the group will not take the Westmead Hospital Project is the sheer amount the project requires to develop. The project is out of budget in time and human resources.

The St Vincent de Paul project fits nicely with the group's planned Extreme programming method of developing 3 iterative phases. Pre planning suggests that the first phase will implement the login and accounts functionality, the second phase is the payment method and the third phase being the catalogue management.

## Risk

The Westmead Hospital presented a lot of risk in the initial feasibility phase, ironically the risk is also that there is unforseen risk in the later phases which cannot be detected in the planning phase.

The St Vincent de Paul project still has risks, however the risks aren't as great and are more easily mitigated. The biggest risk of the project is the Joomla! Content Management System. Although Joomla! is praised in the developer scene, the group has no experience in the system and it may prove to be a risk in the later phases. One of the biggest risks about Joomla! is the rapid releases of new Joomla! builds, as of the current writing of this document Joomla! is up to 1.7.1 and we may suspect that there will be a new release mid-way through our development, which may or may not impact our project.