Jose Cortes

Purpose of Website

The premise of the website is that a company has somewhat autonomous employees scattered over a wide geographical area, and needs a simple way to make announcements to its employees, and collect the amount of hours that each employee has worked. The web site has two functionalities:

1. A way for employees to communicate with ownership, and for ownership to communicate with employees (individually, or collectively).
2. A way for employees to enter their hours worked and management to pull hours worked reports.

Project Goal

The web site will allow employees to enter their hours worked and to pull reports about the hours they have worked over a given period of time. Management will be able to run time worked reports for specified periods, for one or more than one employee as desired. The web site will also allow employees to view messages which were sent to them by management and then archive or delete the messages. Management will be able to send messages to individual employees, or to broadcast messages to all employees.

Client Side Description

There is an initial login page, where employees and management enter their user name and password. The site differentiates between employee and management users and sends them to corresponding home pages.

Employees have a set of menu options from the home page that allows them to:

1. Logout
2. Enter hours
3. Send messages
4. Run hours worked reports (for themselves)
5. Change their password

Choosing any of these options takes them to other pages to carry out the requested tasks.

Management has a set of menu options from the home page that allows them to:

1. Logout
2. Send messages
3. Run hours worked reports (for anyone)
4. Change their password

Choosing any of these options takes them to other pages to carry out the requested tasks.

Backend Description

The back end has models for:

1. Hours records
2. Message records
3. User records

It has controllers for all the above plus:

1. Sessions
2. Pages
3. Application

The backend a series of controllers, models with custom methods, and various views to display the required information.

There is a database behind the web site which has tables for:

1. Users (id, name, password, position)
2. Hours (user\_id, date, hours)
3. Messages (headline, body, recipient, sender, status)

Challenges faced

The site and data concepts are quite simple. I did not face any real challenges except for getting an understanding of the entire Ruby on Rails process. My original database design was not complete and I do not have relationships between the tables built in, and I am not confident that I can use rails migrates without breaking everything, so I did any relationship manually, duing finds for only the records I need in a situation.

Good Points of my Project

This is a very simple project, and not all of it is working right now, but what works is simple and solid. The database is well conceived, for what it does. The parts of the project are well separated and it would not be difficult to make modifications or additions.

Weak Points of the Project

There are many! The project is far from finished.

There is no real validation at this point. A report can be runf or a non existent employee. Report date ranges are not date fields, so anything can be entered here without validation. The message system has not been implemented yet. The visual layout of the site is quite dull (I have never been very imaginative about design).

If I Had Three More Weeks

I would:

1. Implement messaging
2. Complete the reports suite and format them MUCH better
3. Redesign some of the layout of the site (tabs, buttons, etc)
4. Add validation the input fields

Bugs

As of the writing of this report, the only know bug is that when running a time report from the management screen, the date range does not work. All records for the requested employee are returned in the report.