Miscellaneous Items (Lost and Found) Reporting System

Final Year Project Proposal

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Introduction

The dawn of Internet has brought about a life of convenience – everything can be achieved through the press of a button (or few), be it shopping, document management and information accumulation. This has invited a faster pace of life as we can now complete tasks at a faster pace compared to prior years. As life gets busier, misplacement of miscellaneous items has become a major issue and it has become a hindrance to productivity as effort is required to recover them. These efforts cost time and money and many solutions were invented but remains hidden from consumers as they are not properly commercialized (Ahmad, 2015). Many of the solutions utilize tracking systems with technologies such as radio frequency identification (RFID), global positioning system (GPS), Bluetooth and Wi-Fi. Some systems require a hardware accompaniment such as a physical tag that contains a receiver and transmitter that pings the location of its whereabouts.
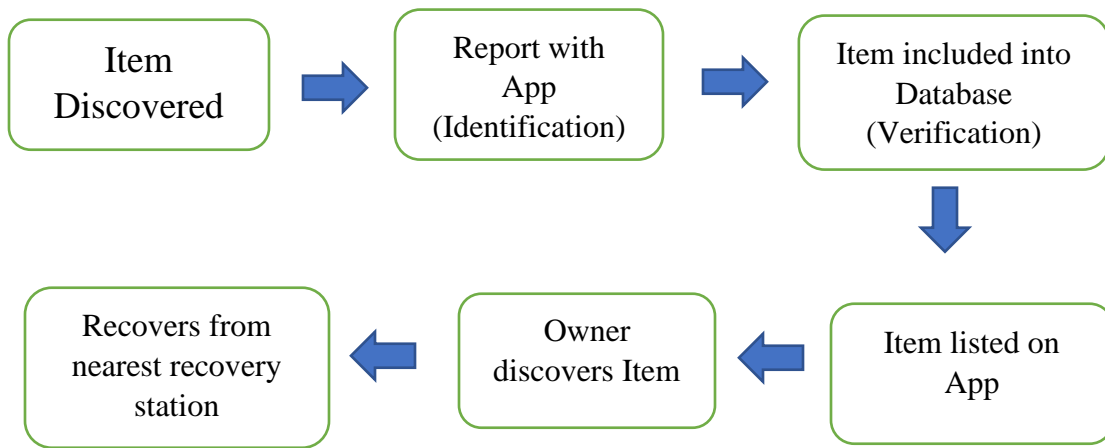
Description

The solution proposed will focus on a reporting system instead of tracking. A tracking system is a preventive measure as the tracker will need to be attached to the item in which the user wishes to track. A reporting system will focus on compiling data of an item with unknown origins that can be showcased through an interface (presumably web app or mobile app). It will utilize resources already present, namely mobile phones (onboard GPS and camera) as the medium to report the location where the item was found. Finders can then key in further information such as features of the item (size, shape and colour) and a picture to be posted on an app (mobile and/or web) along with its metadata (date and time). Owners can look through the database of items with a quick search on the app. They can further narrow down the search via tags such as stationary, cosmetics and valuables. Once found, owners can retrieve the items from a recovery station (post office or any public outlets) that is the closest proximity with where the item is found.

Technologies used

- Mobile app (Android and iOS) – with Google Maps API (trace location)

Diagram

Item Discovered	→ Report with App (Identification)	→ Item included into Database (Verification)

Recovers from nearest recovery station	← Owner discovers Item	← Item listed on App

References

- Saleem Ahmad, M. Z. (2015). How Does Matter Lost and Misplace Items Issue and Its Technological Solutions in 2015 -A Review Study. *IOSR Journal of Business and Management (IOSR-JBM)*, 79-84.

- Vermilye, J. W. (2010, Febuary 18). *United States of America Patent No. US 2010/0223245 A1.*