GoodShip

# Purdue CS 307 Project

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# Problem Statement

As ecommerce is becoming increasingly popular, consumers need an easy, automatic, and centralized way to track packages from all e-retailers. This allows for easy, pain free monitoring of a package, as opposed to the status quo of many disjoint and hard to use services.

# Background Information

In the past 10-15 years, consumers have moved more and more towards the internet for purchases of all kinds. The internet, however, has one major setback when it comes to purchases: shipping. Shipping can be a pain for consumers in many ways: it is slow, expensive, risky, and difficult to keep an eye on. People need an easy, and hands free way of being kept in the loop about their shipments so they know when to expect their products. From another aspect, services like Ebay and Amazon allow for anyone to sell products on the internet. Especially as a vendor, individuals who ship a large number of packages to consumers need to be able to monitor the progress of the packages to make sure they are satisfying their customers.

Several mobile apps and web services exist to track packages. The most popular app, Deliveries, supports in app views of the progress of multiple packages, and that’s about it. Users still have to manually add their shipments to be tracked. Another app, Parcel, supports barcode scanning to add packages, but this still requires fuss from the user. The big point that these apps miss is *hands free use*. To accomplish this, GoodShip will interface with the user’s email account to automatically add packages when a shipment confirmation email is received. This requires no interaction from the user, and the user will automatically begin to receive progress notifications for the shipment once they become available.

Progress notifications are another non-unique aspect of GoodShip. Shipment services such as UPS allow the user to sign up for SMS notifications of shipment progress for their package. UPS’s service, however, requires users to manually enter the tracking number for their package, and then opt in to SMS updates for each individual package. GoodShip would automatically send notifications for every package.