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INFO-I 495

Project Report Paper

**Introduction**

Our team Core has established the platform business model for the local coffee shops to provide pick-up and delivery services more easily. We have created the reflexive application and called our service BQ service. The customers can sign up and login to continue using our service in the future. Our service displays local coffee stores and their menus that are able to be picked up and delivered by the customers’ choices. After the customers make their decisions what to order, they can either directly check out or place the items in their own shopping carts. When they decide to make a payment, it goes to paypal to help them complete checking out. The customers can continue shopping by simply clicking the button to go back to the previous page or finish using our service. As soon as the users see the confirmation page, the users and managers will receive the confirmation mail. We have focused on creating the user-friendly interface and bringing the convenient life to the users. In order to successfully complete our project, we have used skills such as Php, SQL Server, Bootstrap, Java Script and PayPal.

**Explanation about low-level details**

We have sign-up and login features for the users to find it easy to use our service. Since the validation system effectively works, only users can use their id and password which protects their information. Also, our service displays all the local stores and the lists of their menus in store page. Since the pickup and delivery buttons are clear to look, the users can figure out which stores provide pickup, delivery and pickup & delivery services. When the users decide which stores and services they would like to receive, they can see all the menu. On the menu page, it indicates the names of service and store so that users can easily find the information. For each items on menu, we have provided the drop down for the size, hot/cold and comments. The users can make a payment by using the PayPal or add the items to the cart. They can view cart and make a payment later. After they make a payment, the confirmation mail will be sent and the users can continue shopping. In order to make our service pages, we have used HTML and CSS at the beginning. Then, after we make our own servers to collect the database, we transferred it to Php. Therefore, BQ service can easily add the stores, coffee menu and services in the future.

**Explanation about Agile**

For organized project work, we planned to implement the Agile (Scrum) practice to our project. First, we built project backlog to display every task we need to accomplish for the completion of the project. Then we divided overall project into two sprints. For Sprint 1, we listed tasks that we needed to complete by March 8, 2016, and for Sprint 2, we listed tasks to be completed by April 15, 2016. For the first sprint, we mainly focused on building the basics for our website: including building the login system, Google map, menu list, etc. For the second sprint, we focused more on building database for each coffee item and store, our own shopping cart, and connecting the PayPal system to our service. Also, we planned to work harder during Sprint 1, since we knew that there would be many errors to be fixed as we headed toward the end of the semester.

**Explanation about high-level breakdown of tasks**

We have displayed the location of stores in Google API map. Also, we have enabled the geolocation to show the user's’ current location by the yellow star mark. Then, we have indicated the location of stores and differentiated them by applying the different color to indicate the types of services they provide. The black colored mark indicates the stores do not provide any services in BQ service, the pink colored mark indicate the stores that provide only delivery services, the blue colored mark indicates the stores that provide only pickup services and the green colored mark indicates the stores that provide both pickup and delivery services. The users can easily access to the information such as the address, websites and hours of the stores by clicking the marks on the map. Moreover, we have used the geolocation, latitude and longitude to calculate the distances between the user’s current locations and the store’s location in kilometers. Moreover, the customers can use our pickup and delivery services simply by clicking the mouse in the computer or touching the screen in their phones or tablets.

**Explanation about how my team functioned**

As a team, our best try was to make every meeting possible without any absence of a team member. To generate efficient team working situation, we met at least once in a week, and as the capstone fair was approaching, we met almost every day to work on our project. We were very good at dividing the tasks to each other: each one of us worked on individual tasks except for some special occasions where help was kindly needed, to make sure that a single task was not worked by more than two people. Although we took different tasks, we tried to meet together to work on the project.

**Explanation about what we did or did not accomplish**

We accomplished every task that we mentioned on both Sprint 1 and Sprint 2. We created the login, signup, and sign-out systems, created a map showing the locations of each store and users, calculated the distances from user's’ current location to each store, built our own shopping cart, stored coffee shops and menu information to our database, integrated the PayPal function, and creating each web page using php. However, we did not accomplish making a web site for store managers. Although making an administrative web site was not on our plan, if would have been better if we had one, since to fully use our service, we need two clients: coffee buyers and store managers.

**Explanation about why our project may have encountered problems**

Our project had encountered a problem at the end because we set a plan to use PayPal shopping cart at first. Connecting PayPal cart page to our website was very easy that we just embedded their code to our code. However, while we were attaching PayPal to our website, we discovered we were not allowed to change any part in PayPal. We needed to eliminate a button from two different checkout buttons. Therefore, we decided to create our own cart by using php database so that we could add or remove anything we wanted.

**Describe what we would have done differently**

If we could go back to the beginning of project, we would like to research about tutorial that explained the process of creating an ecommerce website. After finding a perfect tutorial for us, we would divide the parts and follow step by step. We also wished to use php and mysql at first if we could go back. We had created pages for each items and pick up or delivery options. However, by using php, we could only have a fixed code that applied automatically for each items. Therefore, if we would search for tutorials and develop database with php and mysql, we would save our time and accomplish management system.

**Conclusion**

Overall, our project, BQ service, was extremely challenging. We had to come up with a business model that would resolve problems in society. After that, we planned for low and high-level tasks at the beginning of year and implement the Agile practice. We had accomplished most of functions but we also faced few problems such as syntax errors. Although we affronted obstacles, we could possibly develop our website within deadline because our team was working cooperatively. Each members finished their tasks and helped other members who were struggling with their parts. Therefore, we learned to cooperate with team, develop a business solution with technology, implement the Agile practice, and create an website by using many programs through the project.