Out of Scope Rationale

At The beginning of the project our group thought of different functions for our accounting system. We wanted our application to be as useful and innovative as possible for a small business. But as we progressed with the project we realized some of the functionalities were not possible because of time and schedule constraints. We decided to take out a few functionalities that were not seen beneficial to our application as other functions were to the accounting system. We brainstormed and decided the functions that should be removed were clock in and out for employees, filing and calculating taxes, and allowing our PDF generation to print.

We felt these functions were a great addition for the accounting system but were not necessary for the accounting system for a small business. These functionalities gave additional help to user but if not added it would not take away value from the application.

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Employee Clocking in and out Functionality

This functionality gave the employee the ability to record the time he starts work and the time he finishes. This functionality gave our accounting system a payroll side for the employee. It would have a clock in button that creates a timestamp. It also has a clock out button, which also creates a timestamp. Payday would then calculate the amount of hours you worked that day and store information for viewing to the employee and manager. Payday would also take the time stamps from each day the employee has clocked in and out and calculate the number of hours for each week, month, or year. Payday would ask the employee or manager which one he wanted to view and once the desired option is selected the data would appear according to the information provided by the user.

We felt this functionality was not needed for an accounting system for a small business. We felt this system should give primary use to the manager or the person in charge of the finances for the company that is using payday. Therefore we let the manager have the authority in inputting the employee hours into the Payday application. The application now only will allow the employee to view the number of hours he has worked but they cannot enter in the data into the system. They still have the option to view the number of hours per day, week, month, and years. The employee will now report his hours to the manager, who will enter the hours into payday. Managers will be allowed to edit the hours how he sees fit. This means if the employee gives the wrong hours, the manager can edit the data he has inputted earlier to make it accurate.

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Filing and Calculating Taxes Functionality

This functionality would allow the user to enter the data for the company’s taxes and Payday would take that information and calculate the the amount that is due for taxes. The manager, therefore, would just simply enter in the correct data in Payday and Payday would take that information and start filing the company’s taxes. The application would also take that information in account to calculate the exact amount the manager needed to pay for taxes. We felt this functionality gave an added component to this application in order to make it a more versatile accounting system. This function was thought up to help the user to have a more comfortable experience in regards to finance and accounting. Taxes have always been a sore and tedious task so we want to create a function that would ease the workload from the user and have the application do most of the work.

The main reason for cutting this feature out of the application was mainly because of time. This feature was thought of as an extra feature that would be a like a shiny button on a already new toy. We felt this functionality would benefit the user if added but not harm them if it was not included in the application. The exclusion of this function will just cause the user to continue dealing with the taxes of his company the same way he has been dealing with it in the past. We would like to include this feature but time has not allowed this to be apart of the project as much as we wanted it too.

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PDF generation Print

This functionality allows the user to print a PDF once it has been generated. The process of this function starts with a PDF generating to allow the user to view the data in a more concrete fashion. It then gives the users the option to print the PDF so the users can have a hard copy of the data the PDF contains. We first thought this function would beneficial for the company and users because it helps give out information in a more physical way. We then realized this can also allow important information to be floating around outside the application which can be detrimental for the company’s business.

The important factor of the threat of having confidential information of our clients getting out, caused us to decide to leave out this function. We still allow the users to view the PDF but it cannot be printed. This allows the users to still get his work done by seeing the information on the PDF, but there is no risk in users letting out the information. This function was thought as being a tool and help for the user to be more productive and efficient in the workplace. This function though after much thought seemed to be more of a potential harm for the user than a benefit.