ContactCars Project Ethics

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Project Discussion: Vehicle Marketplace Application "Contact Cars"

1. Software Ethics Principles Adopted

In the development of the "Contact Cars" application, we adopted the following software ethics principles:

- **Public Interest:** We prioritized user safety by ensuring that the platform is secure and that users can trust the information provided about vehicles.
- Client and Employer: We maintained transparency with users regarding how their data is used and ensured that we provided accurate information about vehicle listings.
- **Product Responsibility:** We committed to thorough testing of the application to identify and fix any bugs or issues before launch, ensuring a reliable user experience.
- **Public Good:** We evaluated the social impact of our application, ensuring that it promotes fair access to vehicle listings for all users, regardless of their background.
- **Professionalism:** We encouraged continuous learning among team members to stay updated on best practices in software development and ethical standards.
- **Judgment:** We made informed decisions regarding the features of the application, ensuring that they align with ethical standards and user needs.
- Management: We emphasized the importance of teamwork and ethical practices among all group members, encouraging everyone to share ideas and concerns openly.
- **Self:** We emphasized the importance of work-life balance for team members to maintain their well-being and productivity.

2. Application of Recognized Ethics Principles

Ethical Alternatives and Consequences:

Public Interest:

- Alternative: Allowing unverified users to post vehicle listings without any checks.
- Consequence: This could lead to fraudulent listings and harm users.
- Chosen Action: We implemented a verification process for sellers to ensure that all vehicle listings are legitimate and trustworthy.

• Client and Employer:

- Alternative: Using user data for targeted advertising without consent.
- Consequence: This could violate user trust and privacy.
- Chosen Action: We decided to only use user data for improving the platform and obtaining explicit consent for any additional uses.

• Product Responsibility:

- Alternative: Rushing the testing phase to meet deadlines.
- Consequence: This could result in a poor user experience and potential bugs.
- Chosen Action: We conducted extensive user testing to gather feedback and make necessary improvements.

Public Good:

- Alternative: Implementing features that favor certain dealerships over others.
- o Consequence: This could create an unfair marketplace.
- Chosen Action: We ensured that all dealerships have equal visibility on the platform, promoting fairness in listings.

• Professionalism:

- Alternative: Not providing training for team members on ethical practices.
- Consequence: This could lead to unethical decisions in development.
- Chosen Action: We organized discussions and shared resources on ethical software development to ensure all team members are aware of best practices.

3. Document Sources, References, and Legal Considerations

Document Sources and References:

 Lecture One of Software Engineering Course: The foundational principles and ethical considerations discussed in the first lecture of our Software Engineering course served as a primary reference for guiding our ethical practices throughout the development of the "Contact Cars" application

License/Copyright/Legal/Privacy Handling:

- **Licensing:** We ensured that all third-party libraries and frameworks used in the application were compliant with their respective licenses .
- **Copyright:** All original content, including code and design elements, was documented and attributed appropriately to avoid copyright infringement.

Legal Compliance

- o User Consent: We ask for permission before collecting any personal information from users.
- o Data Security: We implement security measures to protect user data from unauthorized access.
- Privacy Policy: A clear privacy policy was drafted and made accessible to users, outlining how their data would be used, stored, and protected.