INTRODUCTION

This document aims to present the functionality offered by the system, indicating the main differences with other library management systems and its unique traits.

The system, called BookNook, is a desktop application, aimed at an efficient management of library loans. Its main users are independent librarians (i.e. not belonging to a municipal or national library system), who have at their disposal a platform that acts as a showcase for what they have to offer. On the other side readers have the possibilities to use a wide search engine to find books matching with their interests. In fact it is possible to search a book by title or author, or using a tag system, which collects books of the same genre together. Instead of searching in the individua library catalogues, our application offers a single catalogue, easily consultable, and the advantage to save in different reading lists the books they want to read later or the books they liked. Thanks to this single platform it will be easier either to borrow books or to reserve a consultation for the rare ones.

The system is largely portable because it is java based. The java environment permits to run this desktop application on every pc which has a JVM installed.

 Our main competitors are MLOL and BookDealer. MLOL is an Italian network for digital lending. Unlike BookNook, to use MLOL it's required to be registered in one of the municipal library systems and it manages only digital contents. On the other hand, through the MLOL portal, readers can access a digital collection of e-books, music, films which BookNook does not provide. BookDealer is an e-commerce platform. The main difference is that they manage bookshops instead of libraries, so readers can only buy books. Loan is not provided.

USER STORIES

1. As a library owner, I want to specify the title, author, literary genre, publishing house and year of publication of the books available for loan, so that I can get customers who are looking for them.
2. As a university student, I want to book a consultation at a library, so that I can study for my courses.
3. As a librarian, I want to borrow books from other libraries, so that my members can consult them.
4. As a reader, I want to reserve books that are currently unavailable, so that I can get them when they are returned.

5. As a customer of a library, I want to write a review about it, so that other clients could know the quality of the services it offers.
6. As a user, I want to check the availability of a book at the libraries, with their position on a map, so that I can choose the closest one.

Functional requirements

1. The system shall send a status message to the user many days (1 to 3 according to what the user has set) before the loan expiry date (dd/mm/yyyy), for each book on loan saved in their books section, containing the following reminder: "the book <name, author> must be returned within <loan expiry date> to the library <name, address>".
2. The system shall provide the following information about a library: name, address, opening hours, loan periods and consultation shifts.
3. The system shall provide book recommendations, based on tags* of the current search.
4. The system shall provide three default lists ("Books on loan", "Books I liked", "Want to read").
5. The system shall provide a map showing positions of libraries with availability of the requested book.
6. The system shall provide a search bar to find academic books available for consultation only.

*Tags are: literary genre, historical period, literary movement, target.