PinUp

Building motivation one task at a time

Final Report

Group 2:

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Rev. 1	05/01/2018	Initial draft
Rev. 2	05/04/2018	Final revision

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Section 1: Overview

PinUp approaches the need of a small task and compensation management application through its functionality. Users, being business owners, parents, or any person who requires the completion of small tasks, create accounts with PinUp. Accounts for subcontractors, children, or otherwise individuals performing the required tasks can then be created and maintained by the primary, sponsoring user. Tasks can be posted for all users in the group to see, complete with notes, expiration times, and payout amounts for their completion. Sub-users choose which task to complete, and all group users can see that the task has been initiated. Upon completion, the primary group user can verify its completion, and the payout amount will be transferred from the primary account to the Lumen Wallet of the sub-user who completed the task, via the Stellar Horizon API.

Project Contacts

This table is a directory of the individuals who have played a significant role on this project.

Name	Role	Email
Xavier Davis	Project Manager/Software Engineer	x.davis1993@gmail.com
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Section 2: Conclusion

12.1 Lessons Learned

PinUp was an exercise in patience and an excellent learning experience. Everyone in the group had their reservations about group work in an online class, and everyone was relieved upon discovering that each member was hard working, genuine, and available for the duration of the project. Additionally, the curriculums that each group member came from did not include as stringent and in-depth documentation as this project necessitated, and thus everyone learned about the different kinds of

documents and the ways that they can ease the process of development, test tracking, and project workflow.

The application itself also was filled with new and exciting elements for all of us to learn to use and develop with. For some of us, the level of JavaScript used was far deeper than what we had been exposed to. We had a collaborative workspace, and thus we were able to read through the code and walk each other through the flow of the application and how the scripts and libraries were being used. We all got to experience Amazon Web Services, Slack, and Heroku. We were able to work with databases, servers, and the Stellar Horizon API effectively to build the application together, and we all learned quite a bit about documentation.

12.2 Design Strengths

PinUp is an elegant application that has a singular purpose. Much of its strength comes from its simplicity - it supplies the functionality needed to manage small tasks and payout, and that's all. There is no need for user profiles with biographical information, there is no need to keep records or metrics of transactions, there is no need for bells and whistles.

Paired with this functional simplicity is a beautifully designed UI that keeps all relevant functions and processes clearly labeled and available to the user. It is very intuitive and requires no guesswork to be able to effectively use, since everything is well defined and visible on the user dashboard. The application flows very nicely in this way, and because of this aspect, user error or confusion is effectively eliminated as a possible risk.

The application is also very secure, and makes excellent use of email verification to ensure certain actions and items are approved. There is an email verification for user sign-up, to ensure the supplied address is valid. There also is a verification sent upon the completion of a task, to ensure the task is actually finished. Each of these supplies working links that allow either the account to be created or the task to be approved as "complete" and the Lumens funds be transferred between users.

One last strength of the application is its all-inclusiveness due to the use of Lumens as currency. Sponsors should be able to count on PinUp to handle otherwise tedious interactions with subcontractors, and eliminate the most possible steps. This is what makes it convenient. With PinUp, the sponsor need only put tasks on the task board and verify their completion. This eliminates having to track down subcontractors to give them details about tasks, as well as track them down in order to pay them physical money. A couple of clicks takes a whole hassle out of the process, which would have been less convenient without the implementation of the Lumens Wallets.

12.3 Design Limitations

PinUp's primary strength, its simplicity, could also be viewed as a limitation. While there is no explicit need to provide users with in-depth profiles, the ability to personalize their dashboards, or metrics on their transactions and task completions, these could perhaps be things that would be attractive to potential users.

Also, the backend products used to supply our hosting and database interaction are somewhat crippling, since we went with the things we could find that were offered free of charge. Under heavy traffic, PinUp may be expected to crash (and although it will reboot itself automatically, this is still undesirable).

12.4 Suggestions for Future Improvement

PinUp, while solid in its function, can be improved and expanded upon. First, by paying out in order to use improved hosting services and increase site resilience to traffic and use. This would allow the application to be put into wider production and made available in an application marketplace for widespread use. Second, additional user metrics and data visualization on task completion and Lumens transactions could be implemented. This would give users the ability to gauge their performance, and give sponsors the ability to keep tabs on subcontractors over longer periods of time. This kind of dynamic could lead to perhaps some form of incentive structure for sponsors. Finally, the application could be made more attractive and robust by allowing users more customization of their profiles and dashboards. This could include more fields of personal information for profiles, inter-dashboard messaging, and dashboard theme customization.