

Easy Circuit Report : Usability Test Findings.

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Date of Test: 4/15/2014

Location of Test: Olsen Hall Room 402

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Executive Summary

The reason for this study was to get the end user's experience after using our product. To get the users feedback we setup the test questions under user guide for Easy Circuit. The guide was to take the test subject through predetermined steps that were thought to be ideal to get the users comfort ability with our software. The steps included log in on to the website homepage, log in as a user, navigate to the Lessons Menu read through lesson 1 and do what the lesson would instruct the test subject.

This test took place in Olsen Hall Room 402, which provided a good environment for candidates from all disciplines to walk in and take the software on a test run. The individual test subjects from different backgrounds put to light few areas that we were taking for granted. It was discovered that the wording in the test question could give different results depending on the test subject's interpretation. In this report, there will be a breakdown of the findings and amendments to Easy Circuit.

Methodology

In this exercise eight-test subjects having the following characteristics evaluated Easy Circuit.

Gender:

Male :	6
Female :	2

Teaching Assistant: one

Teachers: zero

IT Professional: one

Students: four

Non- IT Major: two Students.

Computer Usage:

0 to 40 hrs. In a week	all
40 to 50 hrs. In a week	2 students
50+ hrs. In a week	2 Students, 1 TA, 1 IT Professional.

What the participants did.

At the beginning of the testing exercises the test subject were briefed on how to go about testing each software. There was no limit to the number of times that the software can be tested. There was a time limit that the entire exercise could take place and that was between 12:30pm to 1:45pm. Pizza was also provided for anybody who was willing to come be a test subject. The test subjects walked up to any of the software's and went through the basic instructions that each group had prepared for the test subject to follow, in order to navigate through individual fields in each software to be tested.

The Data collected:

In the Easy Circuit software, we targeted five basic areas.

1. How the tester went about accessing the website with the provided URL. 100% of the testers were able to access the website through the provided URL. Although the length of the URL was thought to be too long by 90% of the testers and was advised to make it shorter. When asked if they felt that they had successfully completed the task easily 100% of the testers said YES.
2. The user guide for Easy Circuit was thought to be misleading at some point it was not coinciding with what was on the said software.
3. The test subjects were to try to Log In with a provided User Name and Password. About 80% of the test subjects were able to follow these steps. They felt it was straightforward and was easy to follow. On the other hand, 20% of the test subjects felt that they need not use the provided User Name and Password. It would have been better for them to Register their own user name and password and then use it to log in. Some also felt that they really did not need to log in because they did not need to log in to click on to the Lesson provided.
4. When asked if they felt that they had successfully completed the task easily 100% of the testers said YES.
5. The test subjects were to click on the lesson plan on the menu bar. Go to lesson one and read the lesson that would be explaining to the test subject what each component is and how to interact with it in the provided

work area on the software. This part of the test took longer than the rest. Some could not understand how to move from one page to the next using next or even to the previous page.

6. About 50% of the test subjects had an easier time going through the lesson, the reason being they had a clue about the layout of the software. For the other 50% had a harder time correlating what they were reading on the left of the screen to an image on the right. Some images were easier to notice than others. The 90% of the test subjects were of the idea of having the images being talked about in the same proximity as the sentence explaining it.

When asked if they felt that they had successfully completed the task easily 100% of the test subjects said YES.

7. Then the test subject is instructed to maneuver to the Log out button and click on it. This would end the test. To just log out about 80% were able to Log out successfully. About 20% were not sure about where to Log out. It was suggested on the Log out page that the user of the software should have some kind of indication that the section was over. The reason for this suggestion was due to the nature of the log out that is in place. The user never notices that he has officially logged out until maybe they have a look at the top right corner where the Name of the user is usually Printed out then followed by the words welcome. About 10% of the testers noticed that by looking at the top Right hand Corner to know there was a change to show that the user is no longer logged under there user name . The 90% of the users kept trying to log out. Even though, they were already logged out.

When asked if they felt that they had successfully completed the task easily 50% of the testers said YES.

The Data that was collected:

In this test, a lot of information was gathered.

- The URL was pointed out as being too long when one is trying to log in to the web site. It was suggested to have it shortened for easy access to the web site.
- The test paper that the test subjects were to use to navigate through the software was not properly put together.
- The log in was easy for most test subjects. It was suggested that it would be good practice if log in could be used for users that would want to activate more privileges in the software.
- The enter key we have on the log in form does not work when clicked after the user name and password have been put.
- The lessons menu was thought to be easy to access and easy to find.
- The lesson1 plan was good but it was pointed out that pictures of the item being talked about would make it easier for the testers to make the connections when reading.
- It was also pointed out that there was no clear exit to the lesson 1.
- The logging out part was found to be confusing because once logged out one could not tell if they were logged out or still logged in. The suggested changes are going to be implemented .
- On the lesson plan page it was noted that the ground and resistors did not snap onto the power source like the wire did.
- Registration was not operational at this point. It was suggested we get it implemented.
- Logging using one name was thought to be limiting by some test subjects they prefer having their own user name and password.
- The layout of the UI was thought to be good.

Major findings and changes:

- The enter key was pointed out that it was not logging on after the user name and password have been provided. That will be resolved on our final Version.
- The log out was not evident and the testers could not tell if they were still logged in or logged out . In the final Version this will be resolved.
- Logging in with more than one user's name and password will be resolved in the final version . This will be achieved by finishing on the Registration part of the software.
- Pictures will be included in the lesson1 to aid in making the connection when reading through the lessons.
- There being no exit at the end of lesson1 reading . It will be resolved on the final version.

Changes that cannot be resolved:

The full implementation of the Circuit Builder will not be achievable in the period.

Summary of the user impression:

<i>Questions</i>	<i>Responses</i>
What did you think of Easy Circuit	Testers thought it was a good UI.
What did you like best on Easy Circuit	The snap action on the Lesson 1
What did you like least on Easy Circuit	There being no visual evidence of having logged out.

The overall feedback we got out of the test subjects was that Easy Circuit UI was nicely put together and if the suggested changes can be implemented Easy Circuit will have a great UI.