Tech Support Browser Extension - Product Requirements Document

Executive Summary

A browser extension that automatically monitors network activity, detects technical issues in real-time, and provides intelligent troubleshooting assistance through an integrated chatbot interface powered by documentation search.

Product Vision

Transform technical support from reactive ticket-based resolution to proactive, context-aware assistance that resolves issues before users even realize they exist.

Core Features

1. Real-time Network Monitoring

- Background Analysis: Continuously monitor fetch/XHR requests across all tabs
- Error Detection: Automatic identification of failed requests, timeouts, and API issues
- Smart Filtering: Focus on application-relevant traffic, ignore analytics/tracking
- **Performance Metrics**: Track response times, payload sizes, and connection issues

2. Contextual Issue Detection

- **Pattern Recognition**: Identify common failure signatures (404s, 500s, CORS, timeouts)
- Domain Intelligence: Understand which domains/APIs are critical vs. auxiliary
- Error Correlation: Link multiple related failures to single root causes
- Proactive Alerts: Notify users of issues before they impact workflow

3. Integrated Chat Assistant

- Floating Widget: Non-intrusive overlay with expand/collapse functionality
- Context-Aware: Pre-populate chat with detected network issues and relevant data
- Visual Network Inspector: Built-in network tab showing filtered, relevant requests
- Solution Overlay: Display fixes directly on problematic web pages

4. Extension Architecture

• Manifest V3 Compliance: Modern extension architecture with service workers

- Multi-browser Support: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Edge compatibility
- Minimal Permissions: Request only necessary permissions with clear justification
- Offline Capability: Cache solutions for common issues when network is unavailable

Technical Architecture

Extension Components

| Background Service Worker | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| Issue Detector | | |
| Supabase Sync | | |
| Content Scripts | | |
| │ | | |
| Chat Widget Injector | | |
| Solution Overlay | | |
| Popup Interface | | |
| │ | | |
| Recent Issues | | |
| L Settings Panel | | |
| └── Side Panel (Chrome) | | |
| Full Chat Interface | | |
| — Network Analysis | | |
| └── Solution History | | |
| | | |

Backend Infrastructure

- **Database**: Supabase for knowledge base, user sessions, and analytics
- Real-time Sync: Supabase Realtime for chat and collaborative debugging
- Edge Functions: Supabase Edge Functions for Al processing and solution matching
- **Storage**: Browser extension storage + Supabase for cross-device sync

Data Models

| sql | | | |
|-----|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

-- Extension Sessions
extension_sessions (id, user_id, browser_info, install_date, last_active)
-- Network Events
network_events (id, session_id, domain, method, status, error_type, timestamp)
-- Issue Reports
issue_reports (id, session_id, issue_signature, context_data, resolution_status)
-- Solutions Cache
solution_cache (id, issue_type, solution_data, success_rate, last_updated)
-- User Preferences
user_preferences (id, user_id, monitoring_domains, notification_settings, theme)

User Experience Flow

1. Passive Monitoring

- 1. Extension monitors network activity in background
- 2. Detects API failures, slow responses, or error patterns
- 3. Shows subtle notification badge on extension icon
- 4. Logs issues for later review and pattern analysis

2. Active Assistance

- 1. User clicks extension icon or notification
- 2. Pre-populated chat with detected issues and context
- 3. Al analyzes network data and searches solutions
- 4. Interactive troubleshooting with visual overlays on page

3. Proactive Prevention

- 1. Extension learns user's workflow patterns
- 2. Predicts potential issues based on network behavior
- 3. Suggests preventive actions or alternative approaches
- 4. Provides performance optimization recommendations

Extension-Specific Features

1. Smart Network Capture

- Selective Monitoring: User-defined domain whitelist/blacklist
- Request Filtering: Focus on API calls, ignore static resources
- Error Prioritization: Weight errors by impact and frequency
- Privacy Protection: Automatic exclusion of auth tokens and sensitive data

2. Contextual Integration

- Page-Aware Solutions: Overlay fixes directly on problematic elements
- Multi-tab Coordination: Correlate issues across different tabs/domains
- Form Recovery: Detect and backup form data before submission failures
- **Session Restoration**: Help recover from authentication timeouts

3. Developer Tools Integration

- DevTools Panel: Custom panel showing filtered network analysis
- Console Integration: Log relevant debugging information
- HAR Export: One-click export of relevant network data
- Bookmark Solutions: Save working fixes for future reference

4. Dark Mode & UI

- Adaptive Theming: Match browser/system theme preferences
- Minimal Footprint: Lightweight overlay that doesn't interfere with sites
- **Keyboard Shortcuts**: Quick access without mouse interaction
- Responsive Design: Works across different screen sizes and zoom levels

Installation & Onboarding

1. Extension Store Deployment

- Chrome Web Store: Primary distribution channel
- Firefox Add-ons: Mozilla marketplace
- Edge Add-ons: Microsoft store
- Safari Extensions: Mac App Store

2. User Onboarding

- 1. **Permission Request**: Clear explanation of required permissions
- 2. **Domain Setup**: Guide user through selecting monitoring domains
- 3. **Test Issue**: Simulate common problem to demonstrate functionality
- 4. **Preference Configuration**: Notification settings and UI preferences

3. Enterprise Deployment

- **Group Policy**: IT admin deployment for organizations
- **Custom Configuration**: Pre-configured settings for specific tech stacks
- SSO Integration: Connect with corporate identity providers
- Usage Analytics: Dashboard for IT teams to monitor adoption

Privacy & Security

Extension Security

- Minimal Permissions: Request only (activeTab), (storage), and specific host permissions
- No Broad Host Access: User explicitly approves each domain for monitoring
- Local Processing: Sensitive analysis performed locally when possible
- Encrypted Sync: All data encrypted before sending to Supabase

Data Handling

- PII Scrubbing: Automatic removal of personal information from network logs
- Token Filtering: Exclude authorization headers and cookies
- User Consent: Explicit opt-in for data sharing and cloud storage
- Data Retention: 30-day automatic deletion of detailed network logs

Performance Considerations

Resource Management

- Memory Optimization: Efficient storage of network events with circular buffers
- CPU Throttling: Limit analysis frequency to prevent browser slowdown
- **Network Impact**: Minimal bandwidth usage for cloud sync
- Battery Awareness: Reduce monitoring frequency on mobile devices

Scalability

- Local Caching: Store frequent solutions in extension storage
- **Batch Processing**: Group network events for efficient analysis
- Background Sync: Optimize data transfer during idle periods
- Progressive Loading: Load chat interface components on-demand

Success Metrics

Extension-Specific KPIs

- Daily Active Users: Users with extension enabled and monitoring
- Issue Detection Rate: Percentage of actual problems caught proactively
- **Solution Accuracy**: Relevance of suggested fixes (user feedback)
- **Time to Resolution**: From issue detection to user resolution

Engagement Metrics

- Chat Interactions: Frequency of user engagement with assistant
- Solution Success Rate: Percentage of issues resolved without escalation
- Extension Retention: 30-day and 90-day active user retention
- Domain Coverage: Average number of monitored domains per user

Implementation Phases

Phase 1: Core Extension (6 weeks)

- Basic network monitoring and issue detection
- Simple popup interface with dark mode
- Supabase integration for user data
- Chrome Web Store deployment

Phase 2: Intelligent Assistant (8 weeks)

- Al-powered solution matching
- Integrated chat interface
- Real-time issue notifications
- Multi-browser compatibility

Phase 3: Advanced Features (6 weeks)

- Proactive issue prevention
- Visual solution overlays
- DevTools integration
- Performance optimization

Phase 4: Enterprise & Scale (4 weeks)

- Group policy deployment
- Advanced analytics dashboard
- Enterprise SSO integration
- Load testing and optimization

Distribution Strategy

Consumer Market

- Freemium Model: Basic monitoring free, advanced features premium
- Web Store Optimization: SEO for extension marketplaces
- Developer Community: Target web developers and QA engineers
- Content Marketing: Blog posts about common web issues

Enterprise Sales

- **IT Decision Makers**: Pitch productivity and support cost reduction
- Pilot Programs: Free trials for development teams
- Integration Partnerships: Work with existing dev tools
- Volume Licensing: Custom pricing for large organizations

Risk Mitigation

Technical Risks

- Browser Updates: Continuous testing against beta browser versions
- Manifest V3 Migration: Early adoption of new extension standards
- Performance Impact: Extensive optimization and user testing
- Cross-browser Compatibility: Automated testing across all platforms

Business Risks

- User Privacy Concerns: Transparent privacy policy and minimal data collection
- Competition: Focus on unique real-time monitoring capabilities
- Platform Dependencies: Multi-browser strategy reduces single-point risk
- Monetization: Clear value proposition for premium features

Success Criteria

- 10,000+ active users within 6 months of launch
- 4.5+ star rating across all extension stores
- 40% reduction in support tickets for participating organizations
- 85% user retention after 30 days
- Sub-3 second response time for issue detection and solution suggestion