Individual Reflective Document

The project that I participated in involved building a secure repository for the Internet Forensics Department of the Dutch Police. During this time, I was involved in a variety of activities that are integral to this reflection, such as deciding the repository's functionalities, determining system requirements, and identifying potential security problems. Performing these tasks enabled me to gain professional and personal growth that is evident in my emotional response and learning and change actions. Therefore, reflecting on the process is part of the attainment of practical experience. According to Bassot (2015), reflection papers help students make connections between the theoretical and practical aspects of learning offering a greater learning experience. The paper reflects on the valuable lessons obtained in the process of building the repository for the Dutch Police Internet Forensics.

Working on the repository for the Dutch Police made me experience a variety of emotions. At times, it was exciting building the application, but I would experience exhaustion and frustration at some points. The excitement I experienced during this project originated from the team I worked with to develop the repository. The team was highly cooperative and developed innovative ideas for approaching the task. Due to the eagerness of the group, I was highly motivated. The high morale to get started affected my work since I felt encouraged to complete the duties I was given to avoid inconveniencing others. Kinley and Ben-Hur (2015) assert that employee motivation influences job performance with a higher level of motivation leading to greater productivity. Therefore, the teamwork made the project exciting and the experience contrasts with feelings in previous workplaces where the staff was uncooperative and adversely affected my morale.

Nevertheless, the process of creating the repository would be challenging in some instances, resulting in frustration and exhaustion. One of the most complex aspects of the activity was identifying possible security problems. It was difficult to develop a comprehensive list that would enable the realization of the highest security standards. The process involved considerable research from case studies and recent information from security publications. Due to the emotions, I experienced when searching for security challenges, I found the work difficult and wanted to leave the job on different occasions. Scanlan and Still (2019) highlight the relationship between burnout and employee turnover intention. I experienced this element of the human resource management process while working on the repository.

The process of developing the depository for the Dutch police has equipped me with new skills and knowledge. In particular, the determination of the system requirement was an opportunity to gain a new understanding of the creation of the way to determine entity needs and respond to them. For example, the Internet Forensics department will store considerable amounts of data and an unstructured format provides the best technique for storing the information. The decision was based on the nature of the information to be stored where flexibility was a key requirement because it would allow various manipulation techniques suitable for decision-making and forecasting. Unstructured data is not restricted to a fixed schema allowing considerable flexibility (Sremack 2015). Therefore, I gained a better understanding of the uses of structured and unstructured data enhancing my system expertise.

My contribution to the project was examining the differences and benefits of various repository platforms to determine the best platform for hosting the one developed for the Dutch police. During my research, I discovered that there are several platforms useful for this purpose with numerous benefits and drawbacks: open-source, proprietary, and electronic deposit systems (Gradmann, Borri and Meghini 2011). The information I collected during this process was vital to the team activities. For example, it aided the determination of the system requirements to ensure the system and platform align, and the system experiences few problems that could affect the activities of users, for instance, by crashing. Therefore, my responsibilities highlight my contribution to the team project and demonstrate my personal and professional development.

Based on the evidence presented in this reflection, I believe that my participation in the development of a repository for the Internet forensic division of the Dutch Police was a valuable experience. I had an opportunity to work with others to create the system. Working in a team was vital to the growth of my collaborative skills. Furthermore, I engaged in considerable research to identify security challenges and identify a useful platform for hosting the repository. These activities are significant since they contributed to my personal and professional growth. I believe the knowledge will be essential in my career and individual pursuits in the future since they have prepared me for the nature of work. I understand that working with others on a project can be exciting and challenging but remaining focused on goals produces excellent results for businesses. Consequently, the project offered a crucial learning experience resulting in my growth as a person and a learner.

Reference List

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