Final Project: Technical Report

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Project Overview

Our client reached out and wanted us to develop a web application for online sales. The company the client represents has been in business for hundreds of years. These many years have all been brick and mortar store sales but have been declining a bit lately. With the changing times and more sales being made digitally, the client has found it difficult to bring people in to shop and are looking for a change that will help boost sales and get their name out globally. Our proposed web application will allow users to view items, read weapon descriptions, and see the prices of the items. It will also offer an online shopping cart

where customers can add, remove, and edit the quantity of products. This digital transformation aims to make shopping more convenient for customers and expand the company’s customer base.

Feedback that we received from our customers representative was mostly positive, but it did include some of the negatives. While the representatives did appreciate our attentiveness and responsiveness when it came to their ever-changing requirements, they did highlight a few concerns. Performance concerns were at the top of their list as there were some graphics misplaced or missing. They did note that the website performance wise was fast and could handle a large amount of traffic. The next concern was data security as they plan on processing payments through stripe and want to ensure the safety of their customers’ information. Lastly were the tests that were run. When testing there were a few bugs that did not affect useability at all but was a concern to have them fixed for the customer.

The state of the project at this stage is coming along. It is a Spring Boot backend paired with a React.js front end. At the project’s current state, the feedback from the customer was great. They liked how easy the site was to navigate and add products in, but they did catch a few errors. These were minor errors but without testing and feedback from the client, these may not have been caught. With the errors that have been found, we plan on looking at them one by one, and addressing the front-end code to fix these errors. Once these are taken care of we will send a revised test to the client to ensure that the errors have been taken care of and they are receiving the ecommerce web application they desire.

Agile methodology is a project management approach that prioritizes cross-functional collaboration and continuous improvement. It divides projects into smaller phases and guides teams through cycles of planning, execution, and evaluation. Our team utilized the Scrum framework within the Agile Methodology. We chose to use Monday to host our Agile project management needs for this project. There is some other good Agile project management software out there, but Monday seemed to fit the bill with this project. We paired the utilization of Monday along with daily discord chats to ensure there was continuous integration and progress on this project. I feel however that we focused the project management more on the guides that were due in the class that week rather than the project we were creating. This kind of made it confusing to follow who was doing each part of the actual coding itself and documentation. We should have separated them into two different groups or even color coded them differently. Overall I feel that we worked great together in between work and such. We were able to accomplish more than I thought we could have in such a short amount of time.

Discovering and then aligning our project requirements with the communicated and non-communicated derived requirements (i.e., needs and expectations) of all parties interested in our project. The term stakeholder is used as a general term to describe individuals, groups, or organizations that have an interest in the project and can mobilize resources to affect its outcome in some way. In this project we can conclude that a stakeholder is any individual or organization that is actively involved in the project. This includes the project manager, the customer, team members, and end users. We need to take all sides into account as on the project side, we would need to gather information to figure out whether requirements from the company are feasible. The biggest thing to look at would be the customers’ timeline and budget. I feel everything then comes in line after figuring out what the customer wants versus what they can afford at the time. The customer and end user test feedback are another crucial step in the process of project management. Without this step, the project could be going in the completely wrong direction. Then when it comes time to deliver, the customer is not happy and would just create a mess.

The frameworks we used within our project are Spring boot for the backend paired with React.js for the front end. We deployed a MySQL database to store all of the product, orders, and customer information. Therefore one must be proficient in Java, JavaScript, and MySQL for this project. We also utilized an auto encryption line to encrypt the users’ passwords that can be utilized to do the same with the customers payment information if needed.

When it comes to Christian Worldview and how it impacted the portion that I worked on I would say it made me look at the project from the customers perspective. We wanted to make it easy to navigate along with being easy on the eyes and not portray anything that the customer did not want. This project made me relearn what patience means. All three of us had different schedules and for some weeks one would just continue on with the project without saying anything to the other members, causing double the work to be done. “Strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said”. This scripture fits the bill when it comes to decision making while being in a group. We want to make the right decisions for the customer but also do not want to overextend what we are capable of.

Overall I have really enjoyed learning the process of project management with Agile from start to finish. If we follow Agile rules, and look at the 4 pillars of Agile, we can stay on track with the more important aspects of the project and leave the menial stuff for the end. There are minor bugs left within the project at this time, but I really feel that we came together as a group and got a large chunk of an ecommerce website almost ready for launch. I look forward to taking what I have learnt in this class with me as I plan to continue on to do my masters with GCU as well.

References:

Acts 14:22

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