The

Bundion

System

In 1888 Willard Legrand Bundy patented the time recording device that would make him most well-known. This device, primarily for use in factories, would record a worker's time on the job by requiring them to "punch in" by inserting a paper card which would be stamped with the current time; the time that the employee started or stopped working. In America, the colloquial term is to "clock" on or off, or to "punch" in or out. In Australia, where eponyms are popular, we "Bundy" on or off. Thus, let's Bundy On with *Bundion*!

More modern versions using digital technology have been marketed and met with varying success. The concept of actually measuring an employee's physical time on the job lost favour due to perceptions of unnecessary micromanagement. However, the need for tracking time has not abated and one of the most common, perennial, and unaddressed problems facing project management is accurate estimates and billing. Ideally, this comes from precise recordkeeping, however, when it comes to tracking times, the solutions available on the market are woefully inadequate and most companies tend to rely on employee memory or notes jotted on inconsistent media.

The *Bundion* System addresses the most glaring and perpetual headache of project management and delivery: the ability to accurately estimate and bill clients or projects based on past performance.

History

RMPC is the DBA umbrella company for the freelance work of Roger L. (Rex) Main and has existed in various incarnations since the late '90s. That experience has translated into the *Bundion* system, an oft requested yet hard to find resource. An early version of *Bundion* was created during one of RMPC's incarnations, Widget Incorporated, for specifically tracking Widget Inc. clients. During this time, we found that it was coveted and, eventually we opened it up for use by a few select freelancers. The dissolution of Widget Inc. put the project into a drawer. The version in current development takes that original idea (no original code is used) and capitalizes on it with other requested features.

The Future

With the right investment and expansion, *Bundion* could be used on every company and freelancer's desktop. Thus, RMPC or The Roger Main Programming Company will need to become a fully incorporated legal entity. It may exist under a different name; Bundion Software, Bundion Management Services or Bundion Timelog Services are all possible candidates.

The Market

If competitors exist, then they are not marketing themselves very well. What *Bundion* offers is a collection of services that makes manager's eyes light up when suggested or has been requested outright, resulting in disappointment when they find no such product exists as they envision. On more than one occasion, RMPC has been unable to provide a complete and dependable "off the shelf" solution. Anyone who manages any sort of development (or even field technicians – a mobile version is on the drawing board) will want to use the *Bundion* system. Thus, the market is huge. Both ends of the spectrum – limited budget freelancers and major corporations can benefit from the system.

The *Status Quo*

The *Bundion* system is 90% complete for initial release (pending opinions from investors and marketing). With minor tweaks to hosting and the payment system (for security), it can be used by freelancers, immediately. In fact, it has been used since June of 2022 to *track the development progress of The Bundion project itself!* One hundred and fifty-nine hours, to date (see screenshot below) since the system because usable, information which could only be provided *by* the *Bundion* system.

A complete demonstration is available to potential investors, however, note that a complete non-disclosure and non-compete will be required if you would like to go on the tour[1]. Investment is needed for the final stage of development and to bring the product to market.

Objectives

Bundion has a very bright future and could be very profitable to the right investors. As mentioned, demand for its benefit is high. The list of potential features is huge and increases as ideas are generated through its use in self-tracking its own project. Each idea potentially adds to the profit margin as development has run along two concepts of billing: individual feature payment and packaged feature payment.

The development list is part of the tour; it's a private GIT project and is important, not just for the tracking of the *Bundion* project but also for its development potential – the plan is to use the GIT and JIRA APIs to incorporate these systems directly into *Bundion*. Partial integration has already commenced and integration with Microsoft Project is also envisioned.

The Deal

RMPC is offering equity (or even partnership) to interested investors. The actual deal depends on various factors. This product has been developed in secrecy and isolation. Thus, estimates of return on investment is nebulous at this stage. The technical side is covered, and there are ideas on how to proceed with marketing; loose figures for sales have been scratched out as well as a preliminary pricing model. It would be surprising if profitability were not reached within three years, depending on the earnestness of investment.

Team Overview

The team currently consists of one, sole, freelance software programmer. Roger L. (Rex) Main has developed internal systems for over a dozen companies over his 25-year career. In that time, he has made mental note of the most requested features, services, and oversights, prompting him to branch out to fill the need with The *Bundion* System.

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[1] Not applicable for trusted readers of this document.

Team development over the first year is envisaged as follows:

Initially: Investor joins the team (that's you).

After 2-3 months: Sales and Marketing person joins the team.

After 3-6 months (product goes to market):

       Additional programmer joins the team.

       QA person joins the team.

Beyond

       Personnel management

       Others as needed

A Quick Tour (for trusted eyes only)

The log-In Page

What follows is a quick tour of the parts of the *Bundion* system that are functional or in development. Not all features are included. It all starts with signing into the system:

The Sign-Up Page

If you're a new user, then sign up. There is no payment required to create a **Bundion** account.

Future development plans include:

Captcha verification

Two-Factor Authentication (initially by email but later by SMS)

Ability to sign up for a package, immediately (the Account Type dropdown is a dummy at the moment). This would present the same Square Up payment form as described below.

The Home Page

Once signed in, the Home Page will tell you if you have any invitations or are currently logged into any projects. A user can only be logged in to one project at a time.

Future development plans include:

Paid advertising using Google Adsense (a prototype has been created for testing on a different site). This is displayed to anyone using the free (colloquially referred to as the "Deadbeat" version). These users can also be prompted to pay for an ad free experience in addition to more features.

Any additional notifications as required.

The Logging Page (the secret sauce)

Go to the Logging page to select the client and project.

Future development plans include:

Additional level of reporting: tasks

Integration with GIT and JIRA (in process for GIT), incorporating the option to use the projects, tasks and estimates on those platforms for logging and analysis purposes.

The ability to edit the start time to a custom value before logging in.

Cancel your entry or log out. The Logging screen displays information about what you're currently logged in to and allows you to change the log notes before logging out or cancelling. Furthermore, if left open the screen refreshes when the end and elapsed times, and the billable amount (not shown) update[2].

Future development plans include:

Ability to change log entry times. There is currently the ability (not shown) to change the start and end times of the entry. However, this is only displayed when an entry exceeds its allotted time. There are additional plans afoot to allow the user to change the start and end times manually, log into a new project without logging out of the previous one and to adjust the time that transition took place.

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[2] Is that your project that you're logged into, making this document? Why yes, it is! Five hours and forty-five minutes of research, writing and formatting. I always wondered how long these took 😊

The ability to "hot change" notes. Currently, notes can only be changed on log in or log out.

The ability to edit the start and end times to custom values before logging out.

<u>The Payment Popup</u>

Two payment methods are available: per feature or by package. Details of each are available in a separate document (available on request). Each package incorporates different features. For example, the Deadbeat account (default) only allows one client and one project. Entries are automatically rounded into the nearest half hour to ensure minimal billing time, thus encouraging upgrade. Furthermore, the half-hour time bracket is borderline useless (it was originally designed to be one hour but that was deemed to make the system completely useless and might discourage purchase). The Freelance account allows five clients and up to five projects per client, entries can be rounded to the nearest fifteen minutes and can be rounded either up, down, or off. The Company, Corporate and Enterprise packages offer the ability to create even more clients and projects and boasts additional features. Note, however, that any feature can be purchased individually.

Future development plans include:

Nothing. It works as designed using Square Up. The payment system as it stands, connects to Square's payment portal. It currently utilizes the Square sandbox, but this can be shifted to actual payment at any time.

Additional optional features can be added as developed.

The Reports

There is one report currently considered complete (additional features are on the drawing board), one in development and two in concept. This one, the Report by Client has been used since July 2022 to bill other RMPC clients. Select a client and a project and, optionally click the "Date range" checkbox and select a start and end date.

Future development plans include:

Change the "Billable" checkbox to "Billed" and enable. As shown in the next screenshot, individual entries can be marked as "Billed" after, for example, an invoice has been sent to the customer. This option would allow the user to include billed items or only list those which have yet to be billed.

Add another "Unbilled" checkbox to allow for all three permutations – billed, unbilled and both.

Enabling the "Cancelled entries" checkbox and add an "Uncancelled entries" checkbox. When a user cancels an entry, it is still recorded in the database but given the same end time as the start time (effectively, no time). This is so that project managers can see progress as priorities change. Worker A has logged in to Project A. Two minutes later, his boss tells him to move to Project B. His cancelled entry is still logged, and the project manager can then see that Project A has been pushed off several times, perhaps, and needs to be reassessed. Possibly, there's an issue that causes Worker A to constantly abandon the project. These entries could give a hint. At the moment these entries show up in reports mixed in with completed entries.

This screenshot is an actual data report generated from log entries, primarily for Issue #92 "Invitations are not functioning correctly". If this had been an actual, billable project then the "Paid," "Outstanding" and "Total" fields would show their respective values, based on each entry's billed status.

Each entry has a "billed" checkbox which sets its status.

Future development plans include:

Tally at each tier level (day, month and year).

Collapsible tree structure.

"Select all / none" option for the "Billed" checkboxes.

The second report is the report by user (under development – screen shot has been partially altered with CGI). This report shows the status of each contributor (contributors are invited to join on the Settings page, below).

Future development plans include:

Complete current development.

Add the option to report, either by daily input (i.e., which projects each contributor has worked on a daily basis, as in the screenshot) or by project – how much time the contributor has worked on a particular project compared to the project estimate. If selected and there is no estimate provide a means to enter one (possibly a popup).

The Time Report by Project is the one cited earlier in this document and where the total time that was cited as having been put into the *Bundion* Timelog project came from. It calculates the total time of a project. Currently, there is only a database query to provide this information – a UI is required. Time can also be compared against an estimate.

	client_id	project_id	company_name	client_name	project_name	total_time
▶	136	162	RMPC		Hourly contracting services	104:30:00
	138	166	RMPC	The Roger Main Programming Company	Bundion Mobile	01:15:00
	138	165	RMPC	The Roger Main Programming Company	Bundion Timelog	159:00:00
	138	168	RMPC	The Roger Main Programming Company	Email	18:00:00
	138	170	RMPC	The Roger Main Programming Company	RMPC Administration	02:00:00

Similarly, the Time Report by Task is conceptual and only exists as a database query. There are two things needed to make this a reality: GIT/JIRA integration and/or task level logging and the creation of a UI. Currently, task is defined by the "notes" field which is freeform text.

project_id	project_name	task	total_time
165	Bundion Timelog	#84 Logging form doesn't display if only one project	00:00:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#84 Logging form doesn't display if only one project.	00:15:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#86 Square popup is in a relative window	05:00:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#87 Square payment crashes the server	07:45:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#88 Settings page client option is broken	00:30:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#89 Default rate saved as text rather than a number on settings page	02:30:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#90 Scrollbar doesn't scroll to the top - header should be fixed	01:15:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#92 Invitations are not functioning correctly.	13:45:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#94 Toggle switch does not fire onChange handler if dragged	01:30:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#95 Save button doesn't save rate on projects page.	02:45:00
165	Bundion Timelog	#96 Project page does not limit project creation if no slots available.	01:45:00

All reports – future developments include:

The ability to print or output to PDF.

The ability to create an email and invoice.

The Settings Page

The Settings page is divided into two parts: Account options and User settings. Account options are available only to the account owner, affect all company users and require payment. User settings are preferences for each individual user, regardless of which company they are logged into (yes, a user can be a contributor for multiple companies – handy for freelancers).

In addition, users can invite others to become contributors. By entering a name and email address and clicking "Invite", an email is sent to the target user. They are provided with a link which, which clicked, sends them to the "Sign Up" page where they can provide their information to become a contributor to the host company. If they already have an account of their own, then the invitation will show on the home page, as seen earlier in this document.

Future development plans include:

Enforcing account privileges through a new User Options tab (update 12/2/2022: partially complete) which allows the account owner to restrict what contributors can do. Currently, all contributors have free license to do anything, including create clients and projects, run reports, and even make purchases. In addition, account owners need a means to remove contributors.

Complete group purchase. As with the "Sign Up" page, the Account Type toggle is a busy switch. It needs to be wired to an actual purchase.

User Account Page

A user can change their account details by clicking the image icon in the top-right hand corner of the screen. They are then taken to the Account Details page (pretty standard stuff). Here they can adjust the information that they provided when they created their account including name, email address and password. They can also provide an avatar image to replace the default.

Future development plans include:

Add company details. At the moment company details are only recorded on initial payment on the Square Payments popup (not shown in this document).

Other considerations

There are currently sixty-three (63) items on the *Bundion* Timelog project GIT task list. Which are required for release needs to be assessed by marketing and investment. The initial estimate of three to six months for initial release is very loosely based on the thirteen (13) items that have been recognized as bugs and a few of the times that have been recognized as "Required for Release". These include:

Items mentioned in this document.

Legal Terms and Conditions of Use

Secure hosting

Project organization

As mentioned, the *Bundion* Timelog system has a GIT project associated with it. This is a list of tasks broken into the following categories:

Status (only one): To do, In process, Done, Dead. QA will be needed when a QA person is secured.

Type (only one): Bug, Enhancement, Incomplete

Reason (one or more): Functional, Handy, Marketable, Security, Required for Release

Final Thoughts

Everyone is going to want it. *Bundion* is going to be big. Are you in?

It's all systems go! Take the opportunity! Bundy On!

Bundion

Time is money. Make every second count!

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