Scope Management - Webpage Development

3D printing has taken off and there is a demand for it. Seeing the opportunity our company would like to build a 3D printing website. For this project we will need 3D printers, server space for the website, and a lot of 3D printer filament ready to go. Also plenty of packing material for shipping the 3D prints, will be needed. Additionally we will need to hire web developers, software engineers, hardware engineers, and IT support. Once we get a team together the agile planning will begin.

Scope creep and gold-plating can be detrimental to a project. In order to avoid scope creep and gold-plating the project will be broken down into smaller and specific tasks[2]. Each specific task will have its own entry on a kanban board. The kanban board will help keep everyone on track with their own tasks, as well as showing everyone what is currently being processed, what is next, and what has already been completed.

In addition to the kanban board, sprints will be planned out. At which point each task on the kanban board will be assigned to a sprint. Each sprint will contain a limited number of tasks to complete. One of the first sprints will consist of research and getting a minimum viable product(MVP) up and running. In this case the MVP could be a basic webpage interface linked to a 3D printer. Having an MVP will help showcase the product to stakeholders and potential customers for when the product matures and functions similar to some of the competition[1].

Once the project has matured and is open to the public, maintenance will be the focus. In order to keep the project lifecycle long and healthy the website and 3D printers will need to be maintained. Therefore, at this point the sprints may contain software updates and hardware replacements. Inventory will need to be tracked, especially for all the 3D printer supplies. It could be beneficial to automate the ordering for filament. Once a certain filament gets too low, the automated process will order more, thus ensuring the project stays alive.

In summary, the project will start off with getting a team together. Once the team is in place, the agile planning takes place. At which point the project comes to life. Then maintenance will be the focus of the project, in order to expand the project’s lifecycle and produce a greater profit.

*References*

*[1] Custom online 3D printing service. Xometrys RSS. (n.d.-a). https://www.xometry.com/capabilities/3d-printing-service*

*[2] Custom online 3D printing service. Xometrys RSS. (n.d.-a). https://www.xometry.com/capabilities/3d-printing-service*

*[3] uCertify. (n.d.). Sign in. https://www.ucertify.com/app/?func=ebook&chapter\_no=7#top*