SW Engineering CSC648/848

Section 01 Fall 2017

Project RECycle

Team 13

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https://sfsuse.com/fa17g13/

Milestone 5

12/14/2017

Date	Document History
12/14/2017	First Draft

1.) Product Summary

Our product is RECycle (a name that embodies the "**R**eal **E**state Cycle" of buying and selling properties). RECycle is as the name implies a real estate website in which users can put up property for sale as well as browse and purchase property through our communication channels.

Confirmed Features

Our product has all the basic features:

Search by city, zipcode and streetname
Feature listing on the home page
Location of the listing on maps
Sorting
Sign-in and Sign-up
Contacting the seller using messaging
Uploading of house details
Seller dashboard

Unique Features
Customer Service Chat Box
Sort by construction year function

Accessible URL
https://sfsuse.com/fa17g13/

TEAM 13 Team Member Contributions

//*please note that the number of submissions for each member is very approximate, as there were quite a few submissions initiated from the team server
//all individual contributions listed below have also been e-mailed to all/each respective member

Jeremy's contributions to Team 13:

a)
His/her contributions to team project and teamwork (technical and any other) in no more than half a page – point format is OK.

My role as team lead made me responsible for special tasks:

- -Scheduling
- -Time Management
- -Task Allocation
- -Conflict Resolution
- -Handling of communications between team and CTO and CEO.
- -Facilitating communications between team members

Some additional roles that I took on:

- -GitHub manager
- -Milestone Documentation overseer
- -m5 presenter
- -Deployment Server maintenance

b)
Number of submissions he/she made to github team dev. Branch

~5

Sabiha's contributions to Team 13

a)
His/her contributions to team project and teamwork (technical and any other) in no more than half a page – point format is OK.

My role as a backend lead includes the following:

- Developed complete backend, connecting frontend to backend
- Created tables, inserted data and maintained the database
- Input validation of search field
- Created sort functionality
- Converted HTML files to Jade
- Displayed data from the database in the frontend using Jade
- Created the functionality of the search by drop down menu that changes the search field according to the option chosen in the drop down list using JavaScript
- Created persistent search
- Displayed location of the property using google maps
- Communicated with Team lead and front end team regarding requirements

b)
Number of submissions he/she made to github team dev. Branch

23 commits

Kachi's contributions to Team 13

a)
His/her contributions to team project and teamwork (technical and any other) in no more than half a page – point format is OK.

-Structure of front end

b)
Number of submissions he/she made to github team dev. Branch

~6

Risha's contributions to Team 13

a)
His/her contributions to team project and teamwork (technical and any other) in no more than half a page – point format is OK.

-Frontend Design and Development
-Documentation

b)
Number of submissions he/she made to github team dev. Branch

~1

Parker's contributions to Team 13

a)
His/her contributions to team project and teamwork (technical and any other) in no more than half a page – point format is OK.

-Input validation for login/signup pages
-Documentation

b)
Number of submissions he/she made to github team dev. Branch

~1

Post Analysis – Lessons Learned

These are various issues that came up in a team discussion on 12/16/17 when our team lead, Jeremy, prompted the team for 'lessons learned' or problems with the development of our app. These challenges and issues have been shared with all members.

Initially, around the time of Milestone 0, the setting up of the back end framework (node.js) was particularly difficult and it seemed most of the class shared this experience. We were also pressed for time due to the looming Milestone 0 due date, but Anthony's timely emails managed to elaborate on some of the things necessary to set up node.js.

During the start of the project, coming up with a proper meeting time took some time, as many of our group members had class times that made it difficult to coordinate a proper time to meet during the week. Eventually we were able to clear up space for two meetings a week- once on Monday and once on Friday. In my personal observation of the class, it appeared to me that our group was always the first to be 'done' during the class collaboration time- this says to me that not a lot of other groups were able to meet as often as we did (~4-5 hours a week) throughout the development of the project.

Group members expressed some distress over the sharing of the workload of the product development. Our back end lead, Sabiha, is a true trooper and basically carried all of the backend by herself. A lot of other members felt daunted (and still feel so) by her willingness to take care of all of the complex tasks that the backend required. Of course, if someone voluntarily wants to do all of these things, you certainly don't tell them no- but at the same time, a feeling of irresponsibility occurs. Please note this is not intended as a condemnation of Sabiha- if anything I think we are all thankful for her work, but it is also important to acknowledge the negative feelings that might occur in this scenario.

Another thing to consider which is tied to the shared workload between our members is that the number of team members that were assigned to Team 13 was in fact 5, the smallest of groups in our section of the class. This posed some unique challenges, including workload balance, that had to do with time management and logistics. The average number of members for other teams was about 7, and we had under that number by 2, almost a third. I believe that these other teams at times had 2 or 3 people working to complete 1 task, while we had essentially 1 person to complete 1 task. So this was a unique disadvantage that we had to carefully plan around.

A lot of the promised unique features we laid out in M0/M1 did not come to fruition as just creating the basics was challenging enough. Ultimately I don't think anyone is really all that disappointed that the unique features didn't show up, we're just happy to be done with the project. Perhaps the lesson learned here is to scale back the goals of a project if we're all really novices at software development.

Team 13 Presentation Game Plan

//check set up okay
//timing

1) introduce team

2) executive summary
So this is our start-up project named RECycle. It is short for real-estate cycle, which is the continuous pattern which consists of a real-estate agent posting a house for sale, to a user searching and browsing our listings according to their specific criteria, and then eventually purchasing a house. Our focus here at RECycle is to provide the users with the best interactive real-estate experience you can find on the net, and I strongly believe that we have accomplished just that.

For those that are picky about the age of their new home, exclusive to our site is a feature that allows the browser to sort by construction year. In addition to this, up until the moment that the buyer decides to purchase the house, the customer service team at RECycle will be with you at every step of the process with our innovative customer service chat box. It turns out that neither of our competitors Redfin or Homefinder have either of these features.

Now, allow me to share with you a few REAL LIFE stories and experiences from users of our up-and-coming website:

3) demonstrate use cases(buyer, seller), UI responsiveness, unique features(sort by year) by telling a story(s):

//buyer use case
Jill is an employee of an up-and-coming tech startup located in downtown SF, newlywed, and a prospective buyer on our website. She knows that she wants to live close to her work so that she can cut down on her commute time. There was also some criteria that her husband asked her to look for when searching for prospective homes:
/*cue buyer use case demonstration-
***note that obviously we will need to fabricate the husband's e-mail beforehand**
-search by city: San Francisco
-shrink browser to check e-mail from "husband" whilst showing UI responsiveness
-sort results by construction year(as per husband's e-mail criteria)
-choose descending order to place the 2017 listing on top
-click on first listing(2017)
-send message to Jason(next use case)
***/**

//seller use case
Jason is a prolific real-estate agent on our website. A normal day on our website for Jason consists of him logging in, where he is then greeted by his dashboard where all of his current listings are posted. He then goes to his messages to check and see if there are any new perspective buyers for any of his listings right now. It looks like he has received some new messages, one of them from a certain Jill who is interested in a house in San Francisco:
/*cue seller use case demonstration-
***note that we will need to create messages beforehand that will include contact information so that Jason will have a way for him to reply back to the buyer since we do not have this feature explicitly implemented.**
-Jason logs in
-looks at current listings
-goes to check new messages
***/**

4) demonstrate admin use case by telling another story, must show workbench usage and database, as well as unique feature(customer service chat box)

//admin use case
John is a new prospective buyer who while browsing our site, sees a house that he likes, but notices that the price is unbelievably low. In disbelief, he decides to inquire about the listing by utilizing our "contact a customer service representative" chat box feature that is readily available to all users at the bottom of our homepage, John reports the agent whose listing was posted. Our representative promptly responds and assures John that the matter will be looked into ASAP. After some investigation, it turns out that the agent has posted a listing with incorrect information. The representative differs the issue to the site admin who goes on to correct this false listing immediately. Further disciplinary action towards the agent will be considered.
/*cue admin use case demonstration
-go to workbench
-find offending agent user's listing
-delete listing
***/**

5) discuss oddities and key challenges

-team size → workload balance
-lack of tool knowledge(especially during framework set up) and CTO Anthony's responsiveness to e-mail inquiries
-scheduling and the advantages of meeting in person

6) "Any questions?"