CS4523 B

Spring 2018

Professor Strauss

ItWorks

Team B28

Lisa Frankel - LHF238

Rong Fang - RSF288

Tian Lin - TCL344

**Project Description**

***Project Motivation***

Have you ever tried to google a “how to” question, and been bombarded with different approaches and most of them don’t work?  We think it’s crazy that there is no way to see which solutions were successful!  That's where ItWorks comes in.

ItWorks is the only way to search for solutions that actually works!

We are a mobile/web based application that values user input. We are creating a crowdsourcing platform that gives users confidence and faith in trying new solutions and exploring non-conventional methods.

Additionally, we will have a business facing side that will provide an API to companies that can use our data. We will use machine learning to build a comprehensive analysis of consumer problems, and their current solutions. Companies can use this to develop innovative products that provide solutions to consumers unmet needs.

* Solutions that are tried and true
  + You can google “what to do if I’ve burnt my finger” and see millions of results… but how can you trust which method is most effective?
    - To provide a better alternative to the traditional method of reaching for your phone and Googling a solution to your problems that you come up with throughout the day
    - An environment to share advice
    - Preserving age-old wisdom
    - Collection of life hacks people can browse
  + Community driven
    - All proposed methods are tested by peers
    - Most effective method is trended by popularity
    - Repetitive information / double posting will be filtered
      * Forking against google searches which provide contents that are exactly same
      * Multiple solutions to the same problem opposed to single solution per problem

***Proposed Project***

* **What it will look like**
  + Clean, simplistic GUI
  + Screens
    - Login / Signup
    - Search
    - Browse
    - Write a post
    - Profile page
  + The upvote/downvote is presented in the form of “Was this solution effective? **Yes** or **No** radio buttons
  + GUI enhanced for readability on mobile devices to make it inclusive for older generations with poor eyesight
* **Functionality**
  + Basic data encryption to prevent SQLi (HTTPS)
  + Trigger device based speech to text for novice phone users
  + Mobile  / Web based
  + Create / delete account
    - SMS message verification to lock account to phone numbers
      * Bot prevention and prohibit user abuse
  + Posts
    - Post advice to get more points
    - Detailed instructions in steps with images of how to arrive at results
    - Posts consist of abstract summary (e.g. “how to fix a broken nail”) and a description.  Hashtag suggestions of existing categories will appear based on summary keywords, and they can also add them themselves.
    - Question-asker endorsed answers
    - If a similar post exists then a notification will appear that tells the users about it. Moderators will provide links to redirect to existing post of the same contents. Voting and commenting will not be permitted on the closed post
  + Search
    - User types question, How to…?
    - Search by relevance using:
      * Keywords
      * Popularity
      * Time
  + Browsing
    - Browse advice by categories
    - Trending or popular advices will appear
  + Vote
    - Upvote if it works, downvote if it doesn’t
    - Account required for participation
  + Comment
  + Reputation / Points
    - More points for a user for posting things that get a lot of upvotes …  lose points for bad posts
  + Report System / Moderator
    - Keywords flag posts for moderators, who will review before it’s posted on the site
    - Ban accounts that troll
      * 3-day ban for 1st offense
      * permanent ban after the 1st offense

**Deliverables**

* Project proposal - 2/7/18
* Requirements Analysis Specification (RAS) – 2/7/18
* Software Project Management Plan (SPMP) - 2/14/18
* Software Design Document (SDD) – 3/7/18
* Software Design Document Final (SDD) – 4/25/18