WEEKLY PLANNER APPLICATION

Status Report

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Executive Summary

The goal of this project is to create web application for the Bulletproof. This application will recreate a function high-level overview.

Project Description

Bulletproof, a cloud consulting agency based in Auckland has requested an organisational web application to manage their team. The application will be used between their Auckland based team and other employees who are mobile or based in other locations.

Bulletproof have requested the application be simple to use and understand with minimal features. The features requested include; a calendar that displays relevant information for staff working with clients for each day of the week, mobile device compatible, cloud-based (stretch goal) and editable.

Our team is employing the use of HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SQL, jQuery, Bootstrap, PHP, Node.js and AWS to build and deploy this application. We are running the project in an Agile Scrum development environment and are completing project work in two-week sprints. We are using the Atlassian owned Jira as a project management tool as recommended by our clients.

Overview of project objectives, scope, approach, major milestones and deliverables

Scope statement & objectives

The project will consist of creating a cloud hosted web application. The application will be mobile device compatible. It will display a consultant table that is organised by columns - Monday through Friday (each day will also be split by AM/PM) with each new row representing a team member. This table will show at a glance who is attached to each client/project throughout the working week. Using information added to the consultants table, a client table will generated/updated on the same page, that shows which consultants are working on which projects.

Key milestones & deliverables

- The web application will be able to display a consulting table.
- The web application will be editable.
- The web application will be able to generate client table.
- The web application will be optimized for mobile use.

Approach

Our team has been developing using an Agile Scrum methodology. We are using Jira as a project management tool to track our progress, update user stories and complete our two-week sprints.

Response to how the proposal conditions or recommendations have been addressed

Part of the feedback during our project proposal concerned the necessity of creating a database. Preliminary discussion with our client indicated that we might be able to use the Jira API's to retrieve data to populate our client and consultants tables. However, on further discussion with client and investigation of the Jira platform, we decided that this solution would not suit the needs of the client, and would also no be sufficiently easier to implement than a database hosted with a cloud provider such as Amazon, Google and Microsoft. Therefore, we have decided that part of delivering a minimum viable product will be working with the client to create a database to store application data.

New variations from the original proposal with a rationale for them

A key milestone outlined in the project proposal was that our application would have a fully implemented login system. As development has been carried out, it appears that implementing secure login system capable of tracking the permissions and accessibility of multiple users, might be outside of the resources of the project. While we will keep this feature as a stretch goal for the project, it is no longer a critical milestone.

A process outlined in the original project plan was to produce burndown charts to track the team velocity within a sprint, tracking actual user stories completed versus predicted user story completion. After our first sprint developing the application, we decided that burndowns were not producing helpful feedback for our team. All member of the team has to learn new languages and technologies during their work to create the application. Sprint burndowns are failing to capture the real effort being put in by individual team members on the project. Sprint reviews documents have been serving as a better tool to more broadly capture project progress.

In our skill analysis, we identified that we would need to develop skills to develop on the Linux platform. This assumption was incorrect. As we have started developing our application, we have not identified any areas where we will need to develop to support the Linux platform exclusively, as Linux platforms support most web browsers.

In our original plan, a non-functional requirement to was to have the application existing within the Jira platform, so we could retrieve data from the Bulletproof local instance of Jira instead of creating the database infrastructure to support our application. After investigating the Jira platform and discussing with our client, we have decided that Jira integration will be a stretch goal, and the application should be built standalone to best support the use cases for our client, primarily that of viewing the table through the phone.

Summary of current project status, including work completed and work yet to be done, and issues that exist in your project or team .

- Work completed : basic structure and function of the consulting table and client table. Table manipulation and cell editing.

- Work yet to be done : database integration, mobile compatibility, login feature, Jira and AWS integration

Recommendations for improving the project team's performance

- Upskilling web-based languages (Javascript, etc.)
- Increase the number of collaborative coding sessions

Summary of individual member contributions and learning achieved so far in the R&D Project

Junha Yu – Contributed on the project proposal, sprint planning and review, and app development. Learned about agile scrum and how it works, and about web development using Javascript.

Dan Wood - Contributed collaboratively to the project proposal including the rationale, terms of reference, scope and objectives, requirements, key milestones, project approach/plan, Gantt chart and skills analysis - as well as individually completing the cost estimate and the initial product UI/UX design mock-up. Contributed to the sprint planning and review at the end of each sprint. Built simple view using HTML, CSS and Bootstrap for the application based off the initial product design for integration with core application.