

CONSULTING | TECHNOLOGY | DELIVERY | ENABLEMENT

Sahaj

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Chennai office opening soon!

Welcome to Sahaj, a software services and consulting firm. We help our customers co-create simple solutions.

Be it visioning a product, or designing and developing a complex technical solution or enabling teams on Continuous Delivery, our highly skilled consultants, backed by our time-tested methodology and engineering practices enable us to cut through the technology hype and deliver simple solutions. Our endeavour is to deliver outcomes which embrace aspects of simplicity represented by elegance, clarity and sophistication. (Optional... one of the two sentences can be removed based on space availability)

We take pride in attracting people who have empathy, curiosity, a passion for solving problems, dedication towards their craft, the courage to question the status quo and an eagerness to better the ecosystem around them. We believe that people with these attributes backed up by an organisation with an obsession towards creating simple solutions can change the way organisations leverage technology and we are on a journey towards proving just that.

We are hugely excited with the launch of our first product, 'Samvid', an assistive technology to aid people with visual impairment. Maybe, we should now reward our welcome line to, "Welcome to Sahaj, a software services, products and consulting firm!"

The journey has just begun with there's a lot more to come...

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Definition: f. a sign, signal

An assistive technology
to aid people with
visual impairment

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Few among us ever imagine how difficult simple tasks, like boarding a bus, become in the absence of good eyesight. When we observed and spoke to people with visual impairment travelling in buses, we realised that:

1 They face difficulty identifying the right bus to board - People with visual impairment, usually end up asking nearby people with good vision for help, but often refrain from doing so, primarily due to shyness, and a feeling of not wanting to 'disturb' others. Also, in today's busy world, people in a rush seldom notice people with visual impairment, and miss the opportunity to voluntarily come forward to help.

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2 They love their independence - The visually impaired people we spoke to, long for a way to be independent in this regard, just the same way as they have their independence in many of their other activities.

3 They often end up missing buses - This happens usually because of not identifying the bus, despite physically being at the bus stop. Imagine missing a 2-hourly bus only because of not being able to identify it on time!

This made us think - 'How can we provide independence to people with visual impairment to locate and board the right bus, at the right time?'

We realised that our solution had to be simple, affordable, portable, easy-to-use and non-obtrusive to the person carrying it.

After extensive research and concept trials, we are happy to present, Samvid, a simple and frugal solution which uses a combination of mobile and bluetooth technologies. Samvid can be looked at, as consisting of two parts; a low energy beacon on the bus allowing the bus to radiate its presence and a receiving device, which can interact, when in range, and notify the person via audio feedback. The receiving device can either be a phone with the Samvid app running or a custom wearable device. The phone and wearable device would also allow the visually impaired to change her/his bus number or destination, so that s/he can be notified when the right bus arrives.

Moreover, Samvid can cater not only to the needs of people with visual impairment but also to the elderly and people unfamiliar with the local language.

Thanks to the constant endeavours of several disability organisations like the Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, a number of education and livelihood opportunities are opening up for the disabled community. But accessibility issues continue to pose a challenge, and prove to be an impediment for people with disabilities, from realising their true potential.

We hope that Samvid can be viewed as a step forward in addressing the accessibility issues, especially, in terms of transportation and commuting, for people with visual impairment and provide them with the independence that the rest of us enjoy.

