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Print Estimation: Columbia Printing and Graphics

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Problem

● Our sponsor, Scott Haugh, presented an issue unique to his business that he thought could be remedied by the use of technology.

● As the operator of a printing and graphics business, Scott found himself wanting to find a way to organize and expand his business model by creating a service that would incorporate all ends of his business.

● We were tasked with creating an application that could streamline Mr. Haugh’s day-to-day operations and would allow him to manage his workers and clients.

Solution

Within this application there are multiple user classes that were defined by Mr. Haugh. These user classes include customer, sales representative, and admin.

User Classes

● Customers have the ability to request a quote for a new job, view completed and ongoing jobs, and can manage their personal account.

● Sales Representatives can view their assigned jobs, view their completed jobs, and edit quotes that were generated when a customer submits a job request.

● Admins have complete control over the application’s functionality and offerings. They have the ability to assign jobs to sales reps. And sign off on completed jobs.

Approach

● We chose to approach this task using a web application because that would allow for seamless usability between many devices.

● We knew that this service would require a unique design that would allow for a plethora of options depending on the users needs.

● This project required a lot of collaboration when it came to determining necessary functionality as well as planning for future alterations.

Future Work

● Now that the web application for this product is completed the future use of this application relies on the creation of a mobile app that would implement the same functionality without the need of accessing it from a web browser.

● The development of this app is an incremental step in the evolution of this service and its mission to provide better usability and functionality as time progresses.

● Future plans also include distributing the API to allow this app to service many different types of industries.

Technology

● PHP and HTML were used for the applications scripting and markup needs respectively.

● mySQL was used to handle all of our back end data storage needs. Chosen for its ease of use and accessibility.

● GitHub was used as our main method or version control as well as allowing team members to easily share code.

● Apache server allowed us to run the application locally during testing phases.