

IT/IS Group Projects Portal Systems

By

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Final Report submitted in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the
Bachelor of Technology (Hons)
(Information System)

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Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS

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CERTIFICATION OF APPROVAL

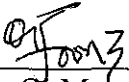
IT/IS Group Projects Portal Systems

by

Wan Ikram Bin Wan Mamat

A project dissertation submitted to the
Information Systems Programme
Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS
in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the
BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY (Hons)
(INFORMATION SYSTEMS)

Approved by,



(Foong Oi Mean)

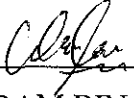
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CERTIFICATION OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify that I am responsible for the work submitted in this project, that the original work is my own except as specified in the reference and acknowledgements, and that the original work contained herein has not been undertaken or done by unspecified sources or persons.



WAN IKRAM BIN WAN MAMAT

ABSTRACT

This project is known as IT/IS Group Project Portal System and will be the students project for Final Year Project.

The purpose of the project is to study the usage of the various tools to help both student and lecturer in any IT/IS Group Projects. The project is mainly focused on the research on the usage of these tools in the process of finishing the group project. The main objective of this project is to the extensive usage of these tools and other elements which are usually used in the traditional way of finishing the project and also new tools. A model will be developed in which it will include most of the functionality and tools available. Its main function is to help both student and lecturer to take advantage of this available tools and use it to further enhance and smoothen their project flow especially in group project.

For student, they will be able to use the system as a repository and another means for communicating. As for the lecturer they can post announcement and also guideline about the project.

As there are many available software out there to do so, the student will need to identify which is the best type of tools and incorporate these tools into with the available web systems for these projects. Among the things which the student find most useful is usage of the forum and voice conference.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I want to express my heartiest thanks and appreciation to all the parties involved in giving assistance and contribution for my final year project .I believe this is a result of hardworking and diligence of many parties that willing to lend a hand giving guidance and assistance to help me in doing my final year project. I want to express the highest appreciation and gratitude to:

- Mrs. Amy Foong, my final year project supervisor for her great assistance and guidance to me towards completing the project.
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ABBREVIATIONS AND NOMENCLATURES

IT/IS – Information Technology/Information Systems

GUI – Graphical User Interface

PC – Personal Computer

GDSS - Group Decision-Support System

CIO – Chief Information Officers

CTO – Chief Technology Officers

SDLC – System Development Life Cycle

UTP – University Technology of PETRONAS

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND STUDY

Undergraduate IT/IS student are often presented with such assignment which require them to do it in a group working environment as some of them are a quite large scale project. This group assignment is sometime quite hard to coordinate on the student side if one of them is staying in different places moreover if the place is not suitable for traveling distance. As group assignment is becoming quite popular nowadays, it is vital for them to have a place where they can share their ideas and work on their project at the same time. This is why the student has decided to come up with this system which will assist IT/IS student in managing their group project. This project will be much more on the educational side.

1.2 Problem Statement

As we can see, the problem arises when there's sometimes no clear explanation from the lecturer on how to carefully do the project and also how to coordinate between team members which live in different places. Sharing of coding and files to complete between them is also quite difficult and make it harder for the project manager to evaluate the current situation of their project. Communications also become a concern when team members live in a separate place.

1.2.1 Problem Identification

It is really hard for the IT/IS students when they are living in different block or somewhere else. Currently the students don't really have for them to interact between them in order to manage their project from different location . The option is only available for the lecturer only. They also need to have better communication which is now only being facilitated through normal face-to-face meeting and also by phone.

1.2.2 Significant of the Project

The idea is to develop a place for the lecturer and also the student especially for IT and IS student to further interact and work on their project in a much more cohesive environment supported by the available feature such as forums and also the G-Phone software. It will offers productivity improvement which will boost the overall productivity of the group. It will also save time, effort and also expense and also allow the group member to concentrate on other thing such as their assignment and also their other project.

It will also act as a repository for the student by having the upload and download section. Secure access is done by having separate username and password.

By using the features available to system also the students will enjoy a more user friendly interface and also provide another means for them to work on their project and also share ideas. Lecturer can also post new announcement to the board.

1.3 Objective and Scope of Study

1.3.1 Objective

Among the objective of this project is :

1. to develop a web based system which will enable both the lecturer and student to share information on the project they are working. For lecturer , they can list the guideline on how to do the project in the lecturer page while the student can login to their group page and see what's the status of their project.
2. Team members can also communicate between them using thread which will be available in each group page.
3. There will be also a page for lecturer to announce any news on the project also.
4. Team members can also upload and download file which maybe consist of their report or coding from other members for them to complete it or revise it.

1.3.2 Scope of study

For this particular project, the student has developed a web system which will include a page for both the lecturer and the student in order for them to better improve on their project coordination and also for the lecturer to give update on the project if there is any.

The web system will give the lecturer a power to manage all the workflow in the site in which he or she will be able to monitor all the group activities if he or she wants to. There will also be an upload section and notice section for the lecturer to tell the student what need to be done.

On the student side, there will be a private page for each group and also a common message board for all the students taking the subject. In the private page there will be section to give announcement, sharing idea and also file download/upload section.

1.3.3 Relevancy of the project

The rationale of this project is to accomplish better communication between both the lecturer and students and also students and students since communication is the most vital part of any IT/IS project. Sharing of information and idea is also needed in the process of doing and finishing said project so this will also has to be available and it would be better if it were available in real time. Hence, it is suitable to be applied in any environment which includes IT/IS project in their course because the current system is not very good at meeting this requirement.

CHAPTER 2

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORY

2.1 Increased demand for web-based system

“Online users are demanding more and more sophisticated functionality from Web sites.” Obtaining sophisticated Web applications that meet those demands today and tomorrow is crucial for any business. And that’s where application development frameworks can help. They give Web application service providers a foundation for delivering solid, well-tested, robust solutions for their clients. They also save significant project development time and costs.” [6]

From the literature point there we could see the importance and high demand of any web based system nowadays. Most of the system today are developed on the web or if not it is in fact web compatible meaning the application itself can co exist in both GUI interface and also in web form.

With this in mind, the student has decided to make a web based system and also to include any feature that is deemed suitable according to the student project. Among other reason for doing this is the reason which could see from the literature review above which state that web based system is “solid, thoroughly tested and robust”.

2.2 Enhancing Product Development with Computer Mediated Communication Systems

“It is imperative that corporations take advantage of advanced technology to compete in today's environment. The use of computer-mediated communication systems can be instrumental in improving organizational competitiveness by providing additional communication means. “ [2]

Some of the many computer-mediated communication systems are group decision support systems, electronic mail, voicemail, videoconferencing and groupware. A group decision-support system (GDSS) is an interactive computer-based system that helps groups of people solve unstructured problems GDSS also facilitates disseminating, evaluating, recording and implementing ideas E-mail is a tool that allows users to create and distribute electronic messages. In addition to electronic messages, many systems allow users to transmit file attachments. Attachments may contain application programs, graphic images, audio clips, video clips, word processing documents, spreadsheets, and a variety of other types of files. Voice conference is similar to e-mail in that it allows users to create and distribute messages, but today's systems only handle audio messages. Video conference is a system that allows users to see and speak to individuals at different locations. In addition to seeing and hearing other parties, modern video conferencing systems allow users to transmit computer files over the data connection. This feature allows many users to work on the same computer file and application while on the video conference. Groupware is computer software that creates a "shared workspace" that allows people to work together without time or space constraints

Computer-Mediated Communication Systems are designed to help people work together more effectively. With the help of these systems, voice mail will deflect unanswered phone calls to devices such as voice response units, car phones, and hand held personal communication devices. Additionally, video conferencing, groupware, electronic mail, and GDSS systems can assist in coordinating activities such as product

development, strategic planning, training, and systems design, development and implementation. These systems allow individuals throughout the world to work on a single project, participate in brainstorming sessions, and attend classes without leaving their offices. It is important that computer-mediated communication systems be considered as alternatives to traditional communication methods because they provide a variety of tools that allow users to communicate. These new communication alternatives help solve time and space constraint problems that are imposed on groups.

In addition to allowing individuals to communicate without space or time constraints, some computer mediated communications systems can improve the effectiveness of a group effort. For example, GDSS may enhance communications during a group decision making process. These include increased group participation and improved pre-meeting planning, they permit open collaborative meeting atmosphere, criticism-free idea generation, evaluation of ideas instead of people, the documentation of meetings, and enable retrieving meetings at a later time. These enhancements improve the effectiveness of communication and usually lead to better decision outcomes.

2.3 Web based knowledge sharing

“Business and education are both trying to accomplish the same goals — the creation and management of knowledge. This realization is quickly spreading through higher education as we continue to see the explosive growth of distance education.” [4]

Universities around the country are gearing up to address the technology and learning needs of its customers with anyone, anywhere, anytime learning. Universities are investing in large deployments of information technology resources and are becoming like corporations with CIOs (Chief Information Officers), CTOs (Chief Technology Officers), and a new focus on how knowledge is captured, managed and deployed.

Through the use of document sharing software, companies are capturing and managing knowledge. Significant investments are being made in Internet technologies to support the learning requirements of corporate knowledge workers. We see that the opportunity now exists for both education and business to collaborate and utilize the same tools to create, contribute and share knowledge.

In conclusion, the use of this web knowledge sharing tools can have a significant impact on student productivity and the learning process. The students can create, contribute, and share content to a knowledge repository that provides a historical record of their critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, writing skills, and project management skills. Educators and other students can easily draw upon this knowledge base and assess the students' demonstration of their knowledge and experience in management consulting. This record of knowledge will always be there and will hopefully be available for future students to draw upon in other classes, in job interviews, and in on-the-job situations.

Education can no longer take place in a just a brick and mortar setting. As we see technology becoming more a part of the fabric of our daily lives, and no longer an obstacle, we can begin to weave and share content into a community of lifelong learners in education, business, organizations, cultural institutions, and the general public.

With these knowledge management portals, we all can share and play a part in the growth and success of our educational process.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY / PROJECT WORK

3.0 Methodology/Project work

The student will use a combination of survey, one on one interview with people which will consist of students, website designer and also lecturer. As the focus is for IT/IS student the survey and interview will be based on people from this school only so as to stick to the requirement.

The purpose of doing survey is to find from both the lecturer and staff what they would want from a site like this. Hopefully they will list down the entire needed module and also criticize on the current module. Interview and survey to the website designer on the other hand will be on the more technical part in doing the web system and its design. This will focus more on what is really the process involved in developing and implementing the web system. The student will try to get what is their expectation if such site is to be developed.

For this project the student has decided to implement 4 main steps which will be the overall System Development Life Cycle (SDLC) for this project. The reason that the student chooses these steps is because the student is developing a system which is not that complicated but still wants it to be a complete and error free system.

The 4 steps consists of:

1. Requirement definition phase

- Here, the student will gather all the requirements of the system from the to-be-user of the system and also the constraints under which it operates and is developed.

2. Analysis

- This part deals with analyzing the system and finding vital information such as what methodology should be used, what hardware and software is needed and so on.

3. Design and coding

- Here will be the most time-consuming of all phases in which all the designing of the user interfaces and also all the coding needed for the system will be done here.

4. Testing

- Here the testing will involve three processes which are unit testing, module and system testing. In the unit testing, each bit of code is tested by itself before it's combined into one module or part to ensure it is working. For module testing, this combined unit will be tested in a group and for system testing, all of this module will be combined to create the final product and will be tested as a complete program.

There will be no implementation part since the student will only deal with the system up to the testing part only. The student has to make sure that every phase is clearly defined and completed successfully before moving to the next phase. Even though this methodology allows the student to go back to the earlier phases and revise the steps in those phases, the student would like to avoid this because it must take a considerable amount of time out of the carefully planned project timeline. Any disruption in the timeline would delay the project and hinder any improvement that could be done with the time taken to do the revision.

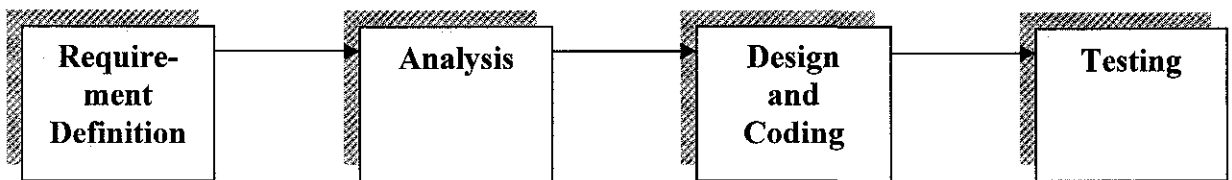


Figure 1 : SDLC

Phase	Activity	Description
1. Requirement Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal submission - Project scheduling - Problem definition - Requirement Definition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to get approval from the FYP committee - to control the project flow so that it stays on line with time allocated - to state and analyze the problem as well as propose appropriate solutions - getting the requirement from the user of the system by means of questionnaire.
2. Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial investigation - Data gathering - Requirement analysis - Feasibility study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to get the list of module needed by user - to gather information about the project - to state and analyze the system requirement - to study the scope and the time line of the project
3. Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Storyboard design - Design flow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -design storyboard for system flow - to design a new base of the system based on the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design data structure for database - Design the application interface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> current service - to develop data structure in order to create database of the system - to develop user interface that is available and accessible to the user
4. Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit Testing Module Testing System Testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing of each small portion of the coding - Testing of a few unit combined together - Testing of the system as a whole.

Table 1: In depth explanation of activities involved in the project

3.1 Tools

Among the tool which is deemed required for this project:

Specification	Type	Licensing	Developer
Client Side Scripting	JavaScript	Open Source	Netscape
Server Side Scripting	PHP	Open Source	Apache Software Foundation
Web Server	Apache2	Open Source	Apache Software Foundation
Relational Database	MySQL	Open Source	Enterprise Linux
Communication Software	G-Phone	Shareware	http://www.vliusa.com/

Table 2: Tools.

3.2 Hardware and Tools

3.2.1 Development Software and Hardware

Software :

Macromedia Dream weaver MX

This software will be used mainly for Web development and the advantage is it can support multiple formats such as HTML, Flash, XML, ASP and other programming language. It offers an intuitive environment for building cross-platform sites and will be used for interface design and content layout

MySQL server

This software will be use for the creation of the database. The database will be used to store any data such as username list, password, multimedia files and other kind of file. MySQL were chosen because the application is the most suitable database tools which can be integrated with PHP software.

Adobe Photoshop

With its comprehensive set of retouching, painting, drawing, and Web tools, Photoshop helps to complete any image-editing task efficiently. It will be use for system cosmetics.

Web browsers

This software will be use for testing and debugging application features

Hardware:

Workstation or personal computer with minimum specification which will be able to execute the all the software mentioned above. Standard specification would be computer running Windows XP , with Pentium 4 Processor and 256mb RAM .

3.2.2 Client Software and Hardware requirements**Software:**

Compatible operating system with recommend browser to browse the application such as (Windows 98 and above with Internet Explorer 6 or Netscape Navigator with Java Installed) .

Hardware:

Workstation or personal computer with minimum specification which will be able to execute the all the software mentioned above. Standard specification would be computer running Windows XP , with Pentium 4 Processor and 256mb RAM .

CHAPTER 4

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Results and Discussion

In the end the project is expected to greatly increase the smoothness of workflow for both the lecturer and student to supervise and also coordinate thing between them. The features will greatly assist them in doing their work.

4.1 Manual Workflow of the system

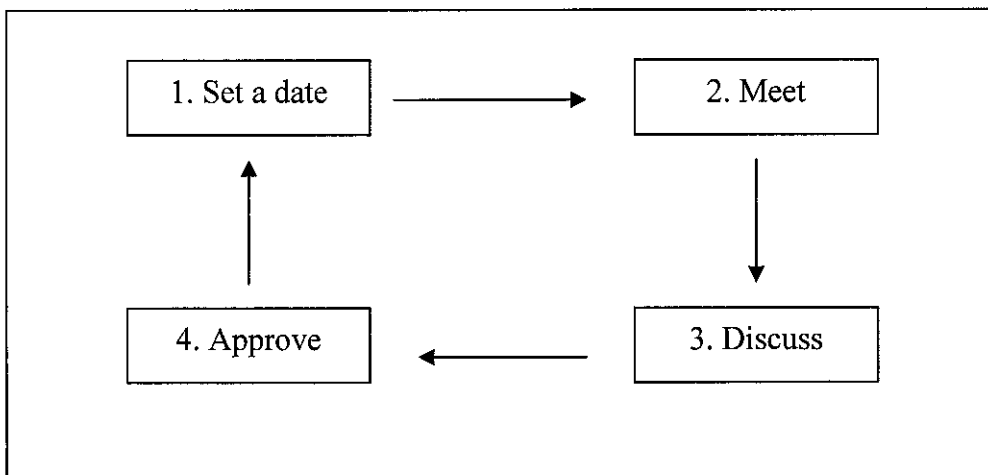


Figure 2: Typical workflow of meeting between group members

The current typical meeting between group members in any university typically UTP basically involved four stages. It start with team members setting up a date when and where to meet for their meeting. Then They meet on the designated time and at the

designated place. They then discuss issues concerning their project and brainstorm. After all team members have approved all the matters discussed , they then will dismiss from the meeting and the process continue if they have any other issues which need to discussed further by setting up a next meeting.

4.2 System functionality

4.2.1 Administrator

Administrator will have absolute control over the IT / IS Group Projects Portal . They are allowed to add, edit, delete and update the content within the portal. Administrator also has authority to delete file that has been uploaded which they deemed not suitable. On the forum , they can ban user, block message and also change the content of the forum

4.2.2 User

Users of the system can view any announcement or news on the portal. They can also login to their respective page to access their information also upload and download file. Even so, the file type will be controlled by the administrator. They can also register at the forum to interact with other students. Here they can post their opinion and also comment others idea.

4.2.3 Interfaces

The interface for the system is developed based on the user requirement analysis which has been done earlier. The interface is also developed based on the guideline of how to develop group portal systems and also is a bit inspired by e-learning system which has quite the similarity with the intended system.

The website is also incorporated with a few others extra features such as animation which the student thinks will make the system more attractive and not so dull. Even so , the number of animation being put is not that many since it will distract the user for its main purpose. Below is some example of the interface for the system:

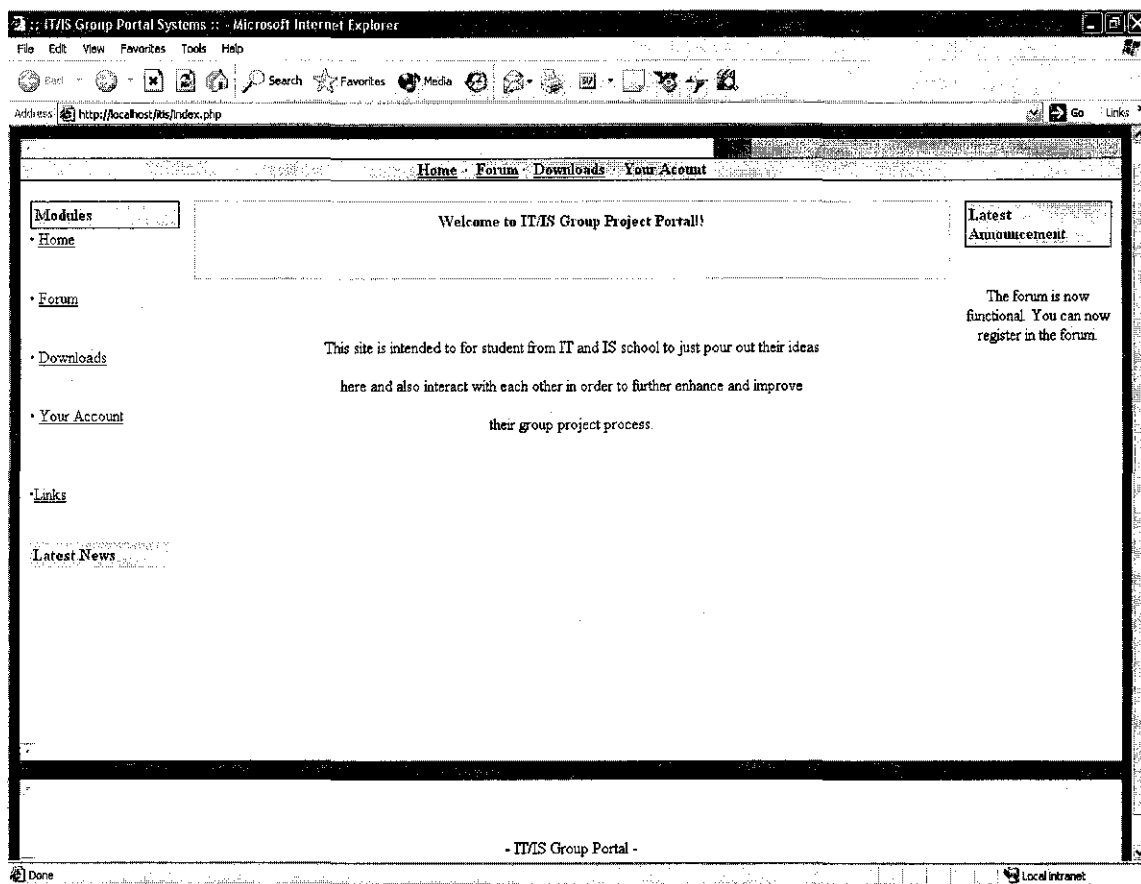


Figure 3: Portal main page

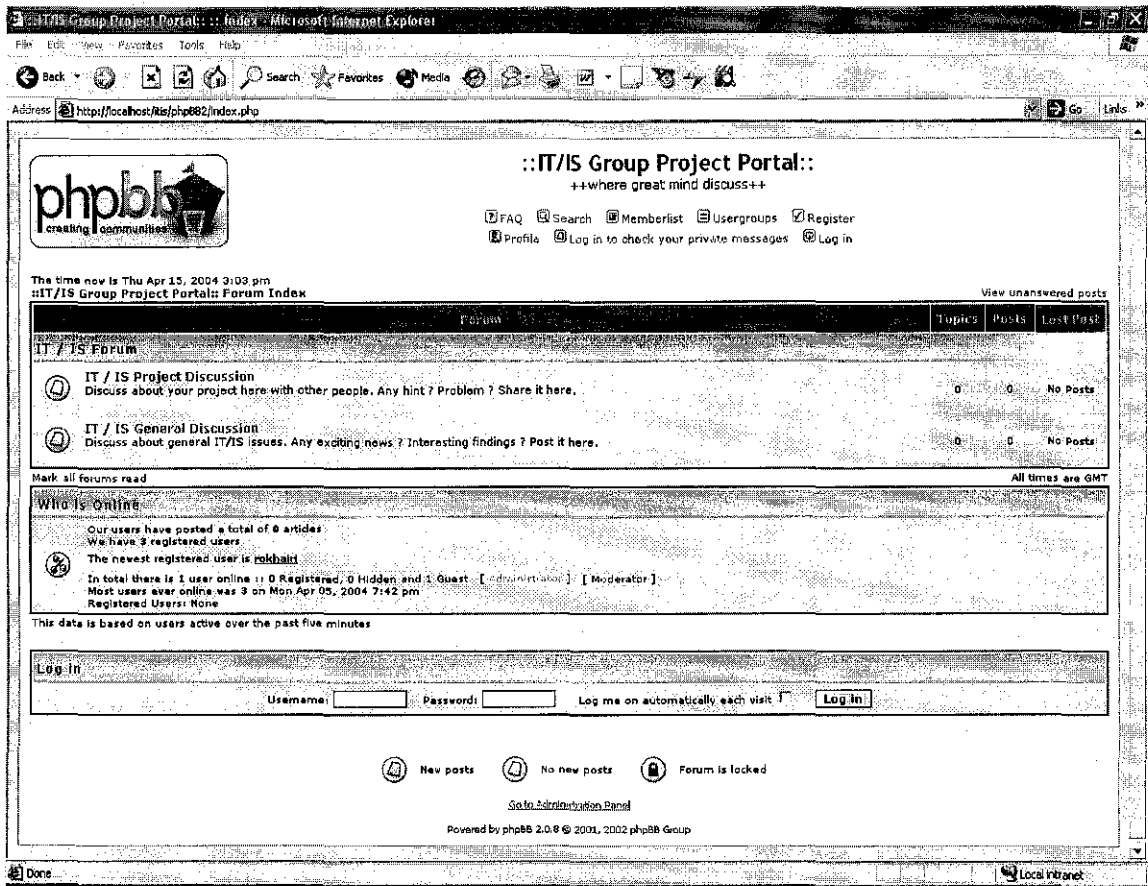


Figure 4: Forum

4.3 System Architecture

In the conceptual flow design of the IT / IS Group Projects Portal System there are two system interfaces which are system administrator or the lecturer and also the student or the normal user.

System administrator is responsible in inserting, modifying and updating the data within the system. The data which is involved include the user's username and password, news, announcement and also forum related. This data will be then

captured and stored in the database. For the forum, the administrator can block user , edit thread and so on .

While for user , they can login to their respective personal page, post in the forum , view announcement and news , and also view and follow the respective links. The user which haven't registered for the forum can also do so to enable them to post in the forum. In their personal page , users can upload and download their file.

4.4 Database Design

In database design, student prepared most of the database architecture for the IT / IS Group Project Portal Systems. Backend design of the system will include relation database, file database and user information database. The system use MySQL as the database main architecture. MySQL was chosen because of the high availability of the software and the most suitable database tools to be integrated with PHP software. All information which is key-in by the user will be stored in the database. The information will retrieve if there are any changes or upgrading procedures occur to the database configuration.

The database for the system is managed using phpMyAdmin, a software which simplify the process of handling the database from creating , dropping table , creating table and so on. One main importance is that this database stored the username and password for user of the system.

4.5 Benefits of the system

Create a new medium of interaction

With implementing the system, we have managed to create another medium for the student and the lecturer to interact.

Improve Communication

By doing this we will manage to satisfy our main requirement which is improving the communication for both the lecturer and also the student.

A more efficient and improved data management

The site will also improve the availability of data for each team member and also greatly help the sharing of new info for other teams member by having them able to download and upload file at the same time.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.0 Conclusion and Recommendation

The project will use a web system which is becoming the preferred and more user friendly than other system. It will greatly utilize the information obtained during the interview and survey in which will dictate what features to be included and also how the system should be.

This project will greatly help how the student manage their project and also improve the conveying of message by the lecturer to the student. Among other benefits of the project is improved work progress and efficient data and information management.

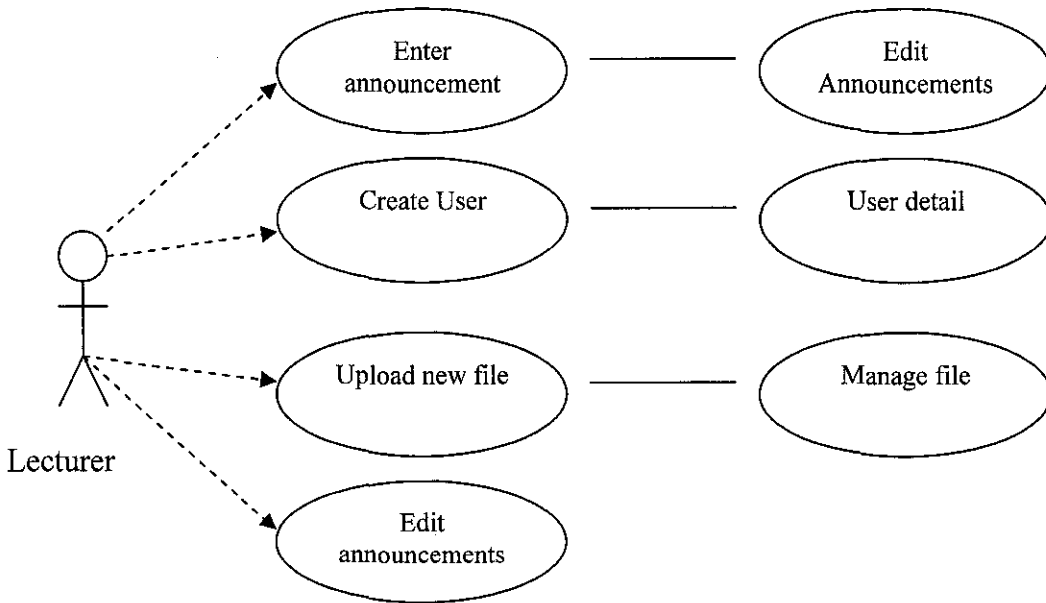
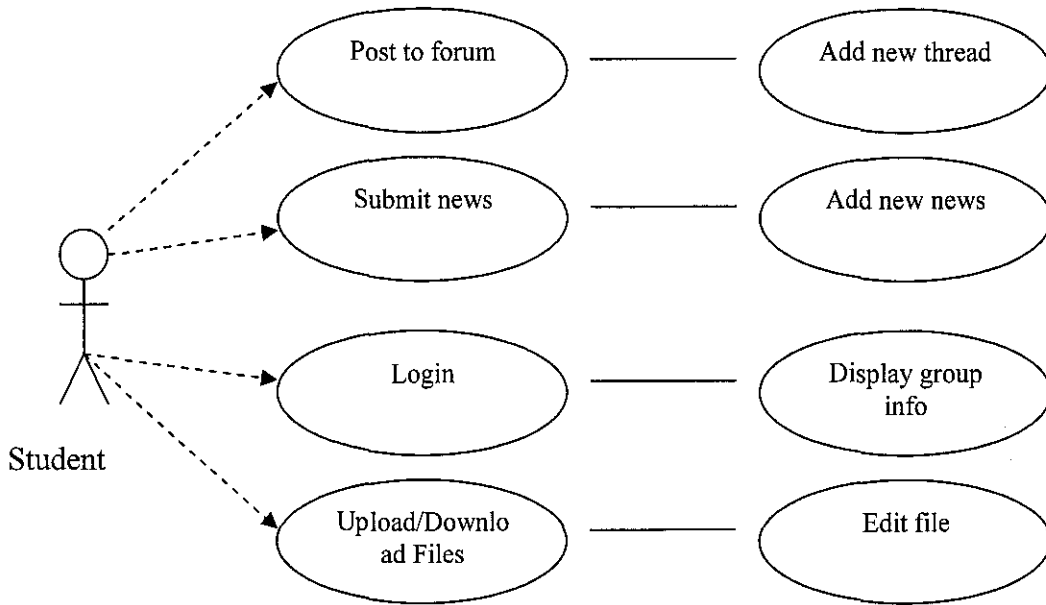
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APPENDIXES

APPENDIX 1

USE CASE

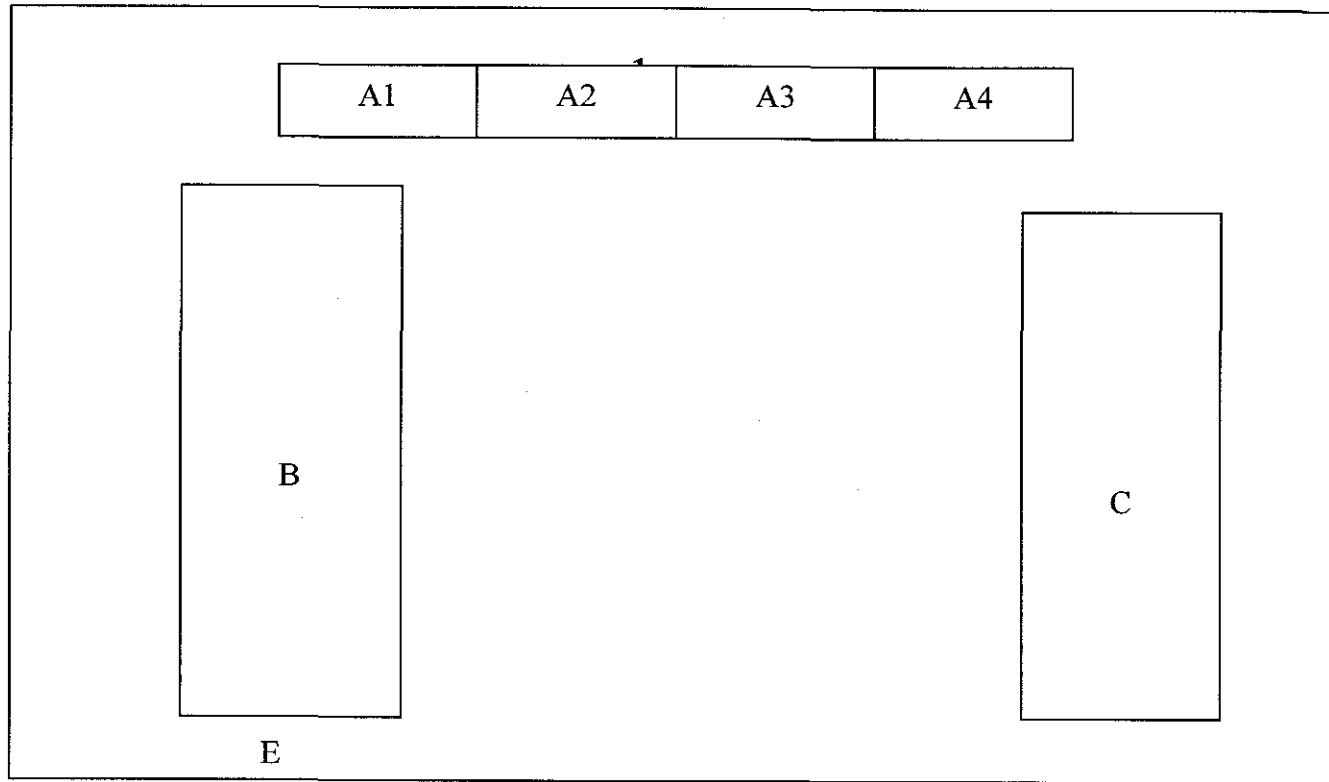


APPENDIX 2

STORY BOARD

WELCOMING MONTAGE

Here will be the welcoming montage before entering the site . User will have an option to either watch or skip the montage if they want.



Label A1 – Home

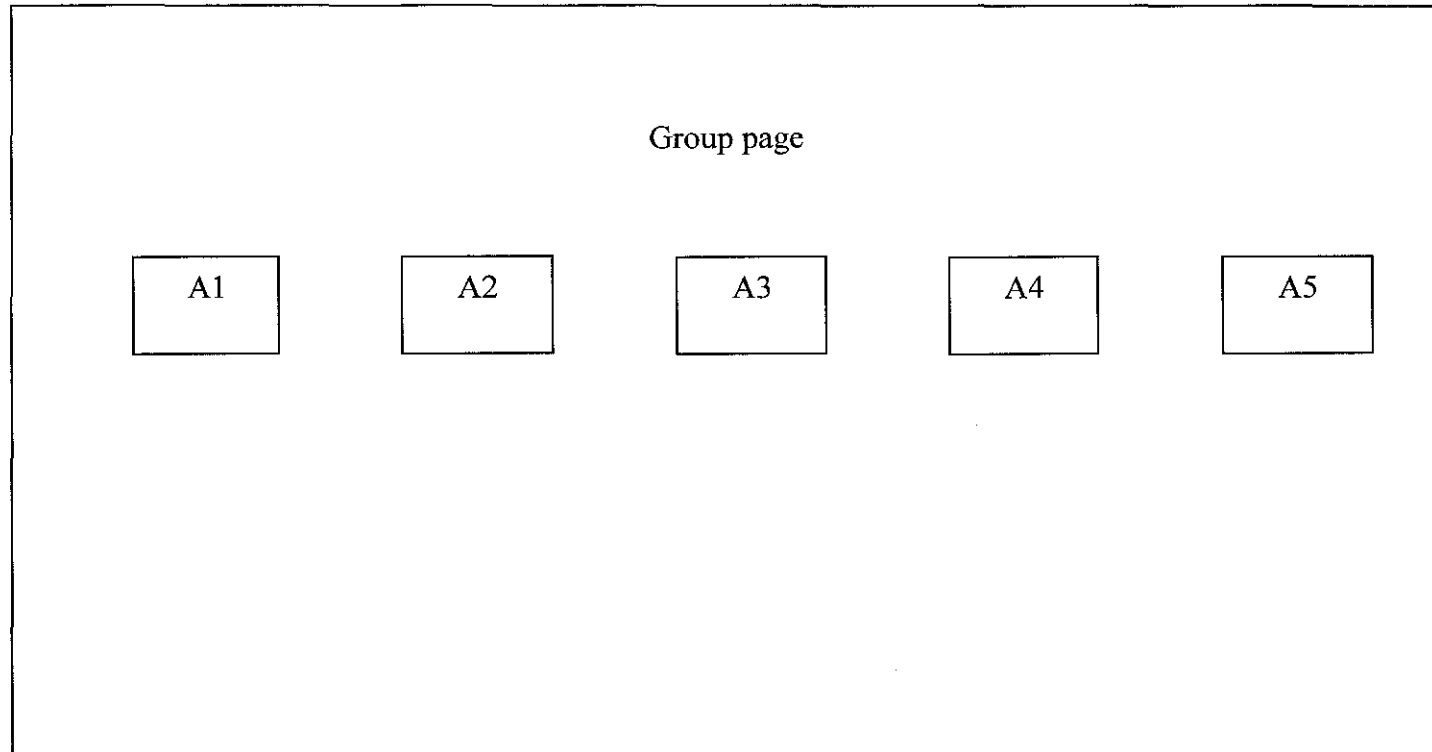
Label A2 – Login page

Label A3 – Download section

Label B – Lists of various link

Label C – Pool section

Label A4 - Forum



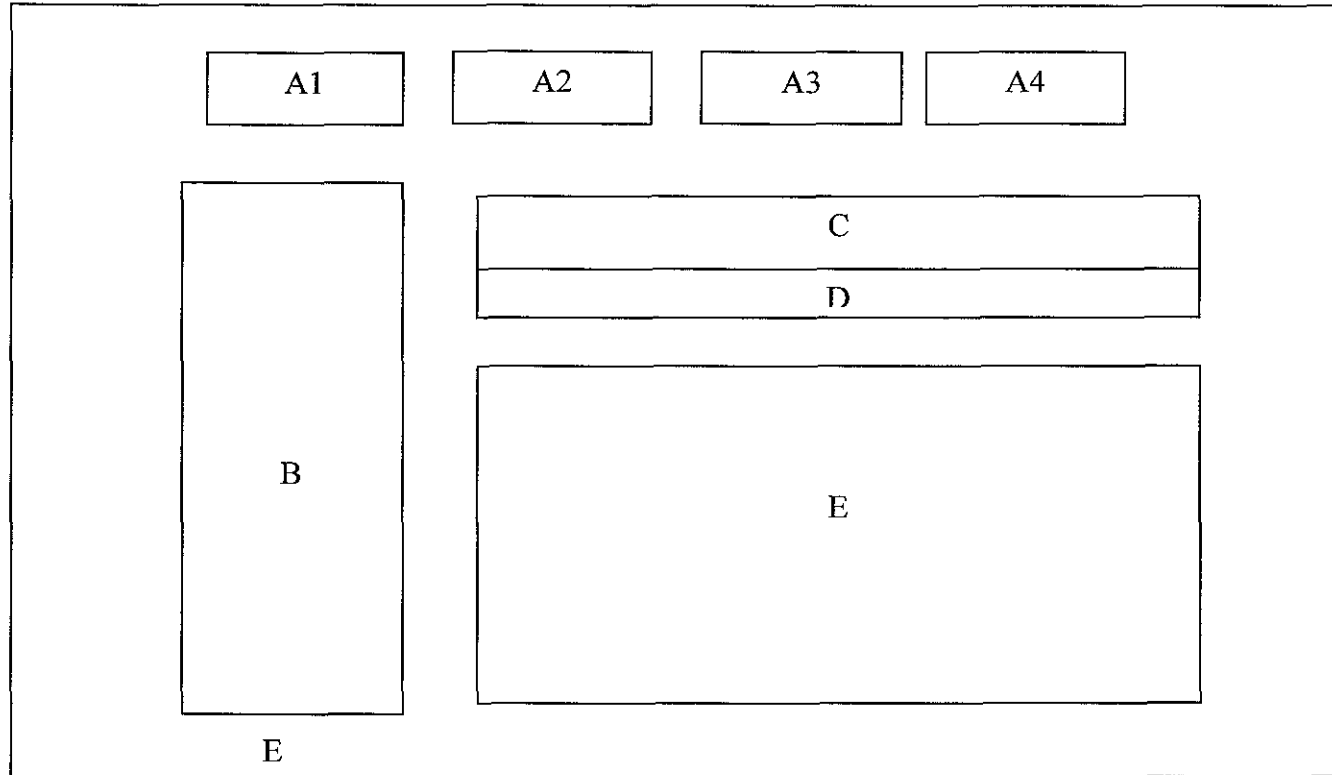
Icon A1 – Your info ⇒ button to edit group personal information

Icon A2 – Your home ⇒ button to link home (main page)

Icon A3 – Forum ⇒ Link to forum page.

Icon A4 – Interact ⇒ Link to G-phone page

Icon A5 - Log out ⇒ to log out from the web portal



Label A1 - Represents Home

Label A2 – Link to Group Account Page

Label A3 - Link to download section

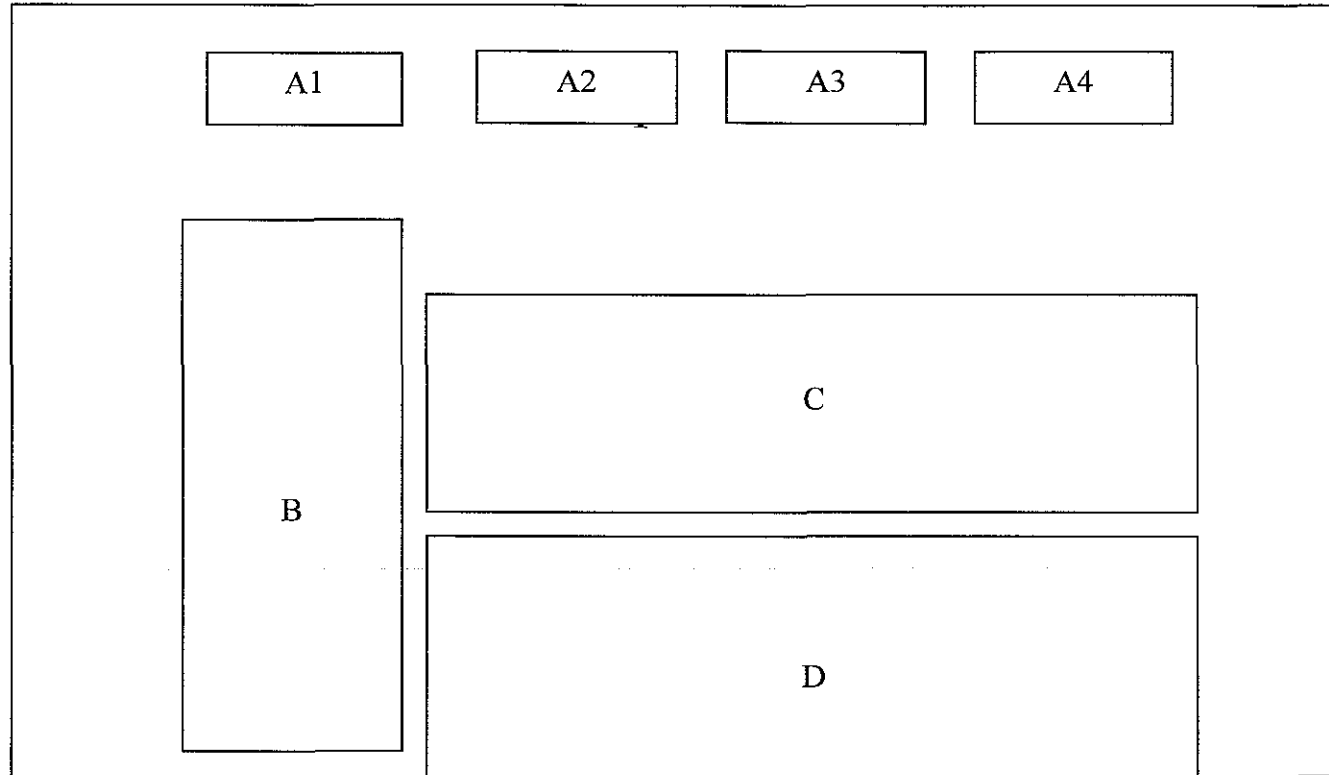
Label B – List of various link

Label C – search for download item

Label A4 - Link to forum page

Label D – Links to add download, new, popular and top rated download

Label E – available categories of download



Label A1 - Represents Home

Label A2 – Link to group page

Label A3 - Link to download section

Label A4 - Link to forum

Label B – various link

Label C – General forum information

Label D - forums and message title

Label A5 – Link to Topics list

APPENDIX 3

QUESTIONNAIRE

FYP Questionnaires (IT / IS Group Project Portal System)

Name: Ashraf Akashah

Course: Information Systems

ID: 1679

Year: 5th Year 1st sem

Date : 10 March 2004

1. What features do you want in a group portal ?

- forum , chatting, email

2. What features do you think is unnecessary for group portal ?

- interactive design , embedded games

3. What kind of themes (color and image style) should be used in group portal?

- Soft and nice on the eye

4. Would you rather use voice conferencing or video conferencing ?

- voice

5. Which would you like more : real time chat or forum?

- forum

6. Which would you prefer more : functionality or look and feel ?

- functionality

7. Would you really use this website to help you in your project ?

- yes

FYP Questionnaires (IT / IS Group Project Portal System)

Name: Kamel Idham b. Ibrahim

Course: Information Systems

ID: 1726

Year: 5th Year 1st Sem

Date: 12th March 2004

1. What features do you want in a group portal ?

- groupware tools

2. What features do you think is unnecessary for group portal ?

- fancy design

3. What kind of themes (color and image style) should be used in group portal?

- informal themes as opposed to formal themes

4. Would you rather use voice conferencing or video conferencing ?

- video conferencing

5. Which would you like more : real time chat or forum?

- real time chat

6. Which would you prefer more : functionality or look and feel ?

- functionality

7. Would you really use this website to help you in your project ?

- yes

FYP Questionnaires (IT / IS Group Project Portal System)

Name:

Course:

ID:

Year:

1. What features do you want in a group portal ?

-

2. What features do you think is unnecessary for group portal ?

3. What kind of themes (color and image style) should be used in group portal?

4. Would you rather use voice conferencing or video conferencing ?

5. Which would you like more : real time chat or forum?

6. Which would you prefer more : functionality or look and feel ?

7. Would you really use this website to help you in your project ?

APPENDIX 4

CODING: MAIN PAGE

```

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<HTML><HEAD><TITLE>: IT/IS Group Portal Systems ::</TITLE>
<META http-equiv=Content-Type content="text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1">
<META http-equiv=EXPIRES content=0>
<META content=DOCUMENT name=RESOURCE-TYPE>
<META content=GLOBAL name=DISTRIBUTION>
<META content="": IT/IS Group Portal Systems ::" name=AUTHOR>
<META content="Copyright (c) 2002 by :: IT/IS Group Portal Systems ::"
name=COPYRIGHT>
<META
content="IT/IS, Group Project, UTP"
name=KEYWORDS>
<META content="it/is test" name=DESCRIPTION>
<META content="INDEX, FOLLOW" name=ROBOTS>
<META content="1 DAYS" name=REVISIT-AFTER>
<META content=GENERAL name=RATING>
<META content="Microsoft FrontPage 6.0" name=GENERATOR>
<LINK
href="../../fyp/front2_files/style.css" type=text/css rel=StyleSheet></HEAD>
<BODY text=#000000 vLink=#363636 aLink=#d5ae83 link=#363636 bgColor=#505050><BR>
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border=0>
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width=17 align=left> </TD>
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<IMG height=1 alt="" hspace=0
src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif" width=1 border=0></TD>
<TD align=middle bgColor=#cfcfbf>
<CENTER>
</CENTER></TD>
<TD align=middle bgColor=#cfcfbf>
<CENTER>
<FORM action=modules.php?name=News&new_topic method=post>
<FONT
class=content></FONT>
</FORM>
</CENTER></TD>
<TD vAlign=top bgColor=#cfcfbf>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</TD>
</TR></TBODY></TABLE>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width="100%" align=center bgColor=#fefefe
border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR>
<TD bgColor=#000000 colSpan=4> <IMG height=1 alt="" hspace=0
src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif" width=1 border=0></TD>
</TR>
<TR vAlign=center bgColor=#dedebf>
<TD noWrap width="36%"><FONT class=content color=#003399><B>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</b></font></TD>
<TD align=middle width="49%" height=20> <div align="left"><FONT class=content><B><a href="index.php">Home</a>
&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="phpBB2/index.php">Forum</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="dload.php">Downloads</a>
&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</b></font></div></TD>
<TD align=right width="14%"><FONT class=content><B> </b></font></TD>
<TD width="1%">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD bgColor=#000000 colSpan=4> <IMG height=1 alt="" hspace=0
src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif" width=1 border=0></TD>
</TR>
</TBODY>
</TABLE>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width="100%" align=center bgColor=#ffffff
border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff>
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width=1 border=0></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE>

```

```

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width=10 border=0></TD>
<TD vAlign=top width=150 bgColor=#ffffff>
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<TBODY>
<TR>
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color=#363636><B>Modules</B></FONT>
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<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff><STRONG><BIG></BIG></STRONG>&nbsp;<a href="index.php">Home</a>
<p><BR>
<STRONG><BIG></BIG></STRONG>&nbsp;<a href="phpBB2/index.php">Forum</a></p>
<p><BR>
<STRONG><BIG></BIG></STRONG>&nbsp;<a href="dload.php">Downloads</a></p>
<p><BR>
<STRONG><BIG></BIG></STRONG>&nbsp;<a href="login/login.php">Your
Account</a></p>
<p>&nbsp;</p>
<p><STRONG><BIG></BIG></STRONG><a href="link.php">Links </a><BR>
<BR>
</p>
<CENTER>
<BR>
</CENTER></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=3 width="99%" bgColor=#dedebb
border=0>
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<TR>
<TD align=left><b><font color="#363636">Latest News</font></b></TD>
</TR>
</TBODY>
</TABLE>
<BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff>&nbsp;</TD>
</TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff><FONT
class=content><BR>
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<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
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</CENTER></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff>
<CENTER>
<FONT class=content><BR>
<BR></FONT>
</TR></TBODY></TABLE>

```

```

        <FORM action=index.php method=get>
        </FORM></CENTER></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
</TD>
        <IMG height=1 alt="" src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif" width=15
border=0></TD>
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border=0><TBODY>
<TR>
<TD>
<TABLE cellSpacing=1 cellPadding=8 width="100%" bgColor=#efefef
border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR>
<TD>
<CENTER>
<FONT class=option color=#000000><B>Welcome to IT/IS
Group Project Portal!!</B></FONT>
</CENTER><BR>
<FONT
class=content><BR>
</FONT></TD>
</TR></TBODY></TABLE></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE>
<p>&nbsp;</p>
<p align="center">This site is intended to for student from IT and IS
school to just pour out their ideas</p>
<p align="center">here and also interact with each other in order to further
enhance and improve</p>
<p align="center">their group project process. </p>
<p><BR>
</p></TD>
</TD>
        <IMG height=1 alt="" src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif" width=15
border=0></TD>
<TD vAlign=top width=150>
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<TR>
<TD>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=3 width="100%" bgColor=#dedebb
border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR>
<TD align=left><b><font color="#363636">Latest Announcement</font></b></TD>
</TR></TBODY></TABLE></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff>
<FORM action=modules.php?name=Surveys method=post>
<CENTER>
<p>&nbsp;</p>
<p>The forum is now functional. You can now register in the
forum. </p>
<p>&nbsp;</p>
</CENTER>
</FORM></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
<TD bgColor=#ffffff>
<CENTER>
</CENTER></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
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</TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>

```

```

<TR vAlign=top>
  <TD bgColor=#ffffff>
    <CENTER>
      </CENTER></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width=150 bgColor=#ffffff border=0>
<TBODY>
<TR vAlign=top>
  <TD bgColor=#ffffff><BR>
    <CENTER>
      <FONT class=content> <BR>
        <BR>
        <BR>
        <BR>
      </FONT>
</CENTER><BR></TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR></TD>
  <TD bgColor=#ffffff>
    <IMG height=1 alt="" src="../../fyp/front2_files/pixel.gif"
      width=10 border=0> </TD></TR></TBODY></TABLE>
<TABLE cellSpacing=0 cellPadding=0 width="100%" align=center bgColor=#ffffff
border=0>
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<TR vAlign=top>
  <TD align=middle height=17>
    <IMG height=17 alt="" hspace=0
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</TR></TBODY></TABLE><BR>
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<TR vAlign=top>
  <TD>
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      width=17 align=left></TD>
    <TD width="100%">&nbsp;</TD>
    <TD>&nbsp;</TD>
  </TR>
<TR align=middle>
  <TD width="100%" colSpan=3><div align="center"><BR>
    <BR>
    - IT/IS Group Portal -<BR>
  </div></TD></TR>
<TR>
  <TD>
    <IMG height=17 alt="" hspace=0
      src="../../fyp/front2_files/corner-bottom-left.gif" width=17 align=left></TD>
    <TD width="100%">&nbsp;</TD>
    <TD>&nbsp;</TD>
  </TR></TBODY></TABLE></BODY></HTML>

```


APPENDIX 5

CODING: FORUM

```

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN">
<html dir="ltr">
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1">
<meta http-equiv="Content-Style-Type" content="text/css">

<link rel="top" href="/index.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" title="::IT/IS Group Project Portal:: Forum Index" />
<link rel="search" href="/search.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" title="Search" />
<link rel="help" href="/faq.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" title="FAQ" />
<link rel="author" href="/memberlist.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" title="Memberlist" />

<title>::IT/IS Group Project Portal:: Index</title>
<!-- link rel="stylesheet" href="templates/subSilver/subSilver.css" type="text/css" -->
<style type="text/css">
<!--
/*
The original subSilver Theme for phpBB version 2+
Created by subBlue design
http://www.subBlue.com

NOTE: These CSS definitions are stored within the main page body so that you can use the phpBB2
theme administration centre. When you have finalised your style you could cut the final CSS code
and place it in an external file, deleting this section to save bandwidth.
*/

/* General page style. The scroll bar colours only visible in IE5.5+ */
body {
    background-color: #E5E5E5;
    scrollbar-face-color: #DEE3E7;
    scrollbar-highlight-color: #FFFFFF;
    scrollbar-shadow-color: #DEE3E7;
    scrollbar-3dlight-color: #D1D7DC;
    scrollbar-arrow-color: #006699;
    scrollbar-track-color: #EFEFEF;
    scrollbar-darkshadow-color: #98AAB1;
}

/* General font families for common tags */
font,th,td,p { font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif }
a:link,a:active,a:visited { color : #006699; }
a:hover { text-decoration: underline; color : #DD6900; }
hr { height: 0px; border: solid #D1D7DC 0px; border-top-width: 1px;}

/* This is the border line & background colour round the entire page */
.bodyline { background-color: #FFFFFF; border: 1px #98AAB1 solid; }

/* This is the outline round the main forum tables */
.forumline { background-color: #FFFFFF; border: 2px #006699 solid; }

/* Main table cell colours and backgrounds */
td.row1 { background-color: #EFEFEF; }
td.row2 { background-color: #DEE3E7; }
td.row3 { background-color: #D1D7DC; }

/*
This is for the table cell above the Topics, Post & Last posts on the index.php page
By default this is the fading out gradiated silver background.
However, you could replace this with a bitmap specific for each forum
*/
td.rowpic {
    background-color: #FFFFFF;
    background-image: url(templates/subSilver/images/cellpic2.jpg);
    background-repeat: repeat-y;
}

/* Header cells - the blue and silver gradient backgrounds */
th {
    color: #FFA34F; font-size: 11px; font-weight: bold;
    background-color: #006699; height: 25px;
    background-image: url(templates/subSilver/images/cellpic3.gif);

```

```

}

td.cat,td.catHead,td.catSides,td.catLeft,td.catRight,td.catBottom {
    background-image: url(templates/subSilver/images/cellpic1.gif);
    background-color:#D1D7DC; border: #FFFFFF; border-style: solid; height: 28px;
}

/*
Setting additional nice inner borders for the main table cells.
The names indicate which sides the border will be on.
Don't worry if you don't understand this, just ignore it :- )
*/
td.cat,td.catHead,td.catBottom {
    height: 29px;
    border-width: 0px 0px 0px 0px;
}
th.thHead,th.thSides,th.thTop,th.thLeft,th.thRight,th.thBottom,th.thCornerL,th.thCornerR {
    font-weight: bold; border: #FFFFFF; border-style: solid; height: 28px;
}
td.row3Right,td.spaceRow {
    background-color: #D1D7DC; border: #FFFFFF; border-style: solid;
}

th.thHead,td.catHead { font-size: 12px; border-width: 1px 1px 0px 1px; }
th.thSides,td.catSides,td.spaceRow { border-width: 0px 1px 0px 1px; }
th.thRight,td.catRight,td.row3Right { border-width: 0px 1px 0px 0px; }
th.thLeft,td.catLeft { border-width: 0px 0px 0px 1px; }
th.thBottom,td.catBottom { border-width: 0px 1px 1px 1px; }
th.thTop { border-width: 1px 0px 0px 0px; }
th.thCornerL { border-width: 1px 0px 0px 1px; }
th.thCornerR { border-width: 1px 1px 0px 0px; }

/* The largest text used in the index page title and toptic title etc. */
.maintitle {
    font-weight: bold; font-size: 22px; font-family: "Trebuchet MS",Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
    text-decoration: none; line-height : 120%; color : #000000;
}

/* General text */
.gen { font-size : 12px; }
.genmed { font-size : 11px; }
.gensmall { font-size : 10px; }
.gen,.genmed,.gensmall { color : #000000; }
a.gen,a.genmed,a.gensmall { color: #006699; text-decoration: none; }
a.gen:hover,a.genmed:hover,a.gensmall:hover { color: #DD6900; text-decoration: underline; }

/* The register, login, search etc links at the top of the page */
.mainmenu { font-size : 11px; color : #000000 }
a.mainmenu { text-decoration: none; color : #006699; }
a.mainmenu:hover{ text-decoration: underline; color : #DD6900; }

/* Forum category titles */
.cattitle { font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px ; letter-spacing: 1px; color : #006699}
a.cattitle { text-decoration: none; color : #006699; }
a.cattitle:hover{ text-decoration: underline; }

/* Forum title: Text and link to the forums used in: index.php */
.forumlink { font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px; color : #006699; }
a.forumlink { text-decoration: none; color : #006699; }
a.forumlink:hover{ text-decoration: underline; color : #DD6900; }

/* Used for the navigation text, (Page 1,2,3 etc) and the navigation bar when in a forum */
.nav { font-weight: bold; font-size: 11px; color : #000000;}
a.nav { text-decoration: none; color : #006699; }
a.nav:hover { text-decoration: underline; }

/* titles for the topics: could specify viewed link colour too */
.topictitle,h1,h2 { font-weight: bold; font-size: 11px; color : #000000; }
a.topictitle:link { text-decoration: none; color : #006699; }
a.topictitle:visited { text-decoration: none; color : #5493B4; }

```

```

a.topicitle:hover { text-decoration: underline; color : #DD6900; }

/* Name of poster in viewmsg.php and viewtopic.php and other places */
.name { font-size : 11px; color : #000000;}

/* Location, number of posts, post date etc */
.postdetails { font-size : 10px; color : #000000; }

/* The content of the posts (body of text) */
.postbody { font-size : 12px; line-height: 18px}
a.postlink:link { text-decoration: none; color : #006699 }
a.postlink:visited { text-decoration: none; color : #5493B4; }
a.postlink:hover { text-decoration: underline; color : #DD6900}

/* Quote & Code blocks */
.code {
    font-family: Courier, 'Courier New', sans-serif; font-size: 11px; color: #006600;
    background-color: #FAFAFA; border: #D1D7DC; border-style: solid;
    border-left-width: 1px; border-top-width: 1px; border-right-width: 1px; border-bottom-width: 1px
}

.quote {
    font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 11px; color: #444444; line-height: 125%;
    background-color: #FAFAFA; border: #D1D7DC; border-style: solid;
    border-left-width: 1px; border-top-width: 1px; border-right-width: 1px; border-bottom-width: 1px
}

/* Copyright and bottom info */
.copyright { font-size: 10px; font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; color: #444444; letter-spacing: -1px;}
a.copyright { color: #444444; text-decoration: none;}
a.copyright:hover { color: #000000; text-decoration: underline;}

/* Form elements */
input,textarea, select {
    color : #000000;
    font: normal 11px Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
    border-color : #000000;
}

/* The text input fields background colour */
input.post, textarea.post, select {
    background-color : #FFFFFF;
}

input { text-indent : 2px; }

/* The buttons used for bbCode styling in message post */
input.button {
    background-color : #EFEFEF;
    color : #000000;
    font-size: 11px; font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
}

/* The main submit button option */
input.mainoption {
    background-color : #FAFAFA;
    font-weight : bold;
}

/* None-bold submit button */
input.liteoption {
    background-color : #FAFAFA;
    font-weight : normal;
}

/* This is the line in the posting page which shows the rollover
help line. This is actually a text box, but if set to be the same
colour as the background no one will know ;)
*/
.helpline { background-color: #DEE3E7; border-style: none; }

```

```

/* Import the fancy styles for IE only (NS4.x doesn't use the @import function) */
@import url("templates/subSilver/formIE.css");
-->
</style>
</head>
<body bgcolor="#E5E5E5" text="#000000" link="#006699" vlink="#5493B4">

<a name="top"></a>

<table width="100%" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="10" border="0" align="center">
  <tr>
    <td class="bodyline"><table width="100%" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="0" border="0">
      <tr>
        <td align="center" width="100%" valign="middle"><span class="maintitle">::IT/IS
        Group Project Portal::</span><br /><span class="gen">+++where great mind discuss++<br />&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</span>
        <table cellspacing="0" cellpadding="2" border="0">
          <tr>
            <td align="center" valign="top" nowrap="nowrap"><span
            class="mainmenu">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="faq.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="mainmenu">FAQ</a></span><span class="mainmenu">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="search.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065"
            class="mainmenu">Search</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="memberlist.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065"
            class="mainmenu">Memberlist</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="groupcp.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065"
            class="mainmenu">Usergroups</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;
            &nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a
            href="profile.php?mode=register&sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="mainmenu">Register</a></span>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;
            </td>
          </tr>
          <tr>
            <td align="center" valign="top"
            nowrap="nowrap"><span class="mainmenu">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a
            href="profile.php?mode=editprofile&sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="mainmenu">Profile</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a href="privmsg.php?folder=inbox&sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065"
            class="mainmenu">Log in to check your private messages</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;<a
            href="login.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="mainmenu">Log
            in</a>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</span></td>
          </tr>
        </table></td>
      </tr>
    </table>
  </tr>
</table>
<br />
<table width="100%" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="2" border="0" align="center">
  <tr>
    <td align="left" valign="bottom"><span class="gensmall">
    The time now is Thu Apr 15, 2004 1:14 pm<br /></span><span class="nav"><a
    href="index.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="nav">::IT/IS Group Project Portal:: Forum
    Index</a></span></td>
    <td align="right" valign="bottom" class="gensmall">
    <a href="search.php?search_id=unanswered&sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065"
    class="gensmall">View unanswered posts</a></td>
  </tr>
</table>

<table width="100%" cellpadding="2" cellspacing="1" border="0" class="forumline">
  <tr>
    <th colspan="2" class="thCornerL" height="25" nowrap="nowrap">&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;Forum&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp;</th>
  </tr>

```

```
<th width="50" class="thTop" nowrap="nowrap">&nbsp;Topics&nbsp;</th>
<th width="50" class="thTop" nowrap="nowrap">&nbsp;Posts&nbsp;</th>
<th class="thCornerR" nowrap="nowrap">&nbsp;Last Post&nbsp;</th>
</tr>
<tr>
<td class="catLeft" colspan="2" height="28"><span class="cattitle"><a
href="index.php?c=1&amp;sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="cattitle">IT / IS Forum</a></span></td>
<td class="rowpic" colspan="3" align="right">&nbsp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td class="row1" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"></td>
<td class="row1" width="100%" height="50"><span class="forumlink"> <a
href="viewforum.php?f=1&amp;sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="forumlink">IT / IS Project Discussion</a><br />
</span> <span class="genmed">Discuss about your project here with other people. Any hint ? Problem ? Share it
here.<br />
</span><span class="gensmall">&nbsp; &nbsp;&nbsp;</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"><span class="gensmall">0</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"><span class="gensmall">0</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50" nowrap="nowrap"> <span class="gensmall">No
Posts</span></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td class="row1" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"></td>
<td class="row1" width="100%" height="50"><span class="forumlink"> <a
href="viewforum.php?f=2&amp;sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="forumlink">IT / IS General Discussion</a><br />
</span> <span class="genmed">Discuss about general IT/IS issues. Any exciting news ? Interesting findings ? Post it
here. <br />
</span><span class="gensmall">&nbsp; &nbsp;&nbsp;</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"><span class="gensmall">0</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50"><span class="gensmall">0</span></td>
<td class="row2" align="center" valign="middle" height="50" nowrap="nowrap"> <span class="gensmall">No
Posts</span></td>
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<tr>
<td align="left"><span class="gensmall"><a
href="index.php?mark=forums&amp;sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="gensmall">Mark all forums
read</a></span></td>
<td align="right"><span class="gensmall">All times are GMT</span></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td class="catHead" colspan="2" height="28"><span class="cattitle"><a
href="viewonline.php?sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065" class="cattitle">Who is Online</a></span></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td class="row1" align="center" valign="middle" rowspan="2"></td>
<td class="row1" align="left" width="100%"><span class="gensmall">Our users have posted a total of <b>0</b>
articles<br />We have <b>3</b> registered users<br />The newest registered user is <b><a
href="profile.php?mode=viewprofile&amp;u=4&amp;sid=4679dd99d0ad4cecf3b96f2e2f7d8065">rokhairi</a></b></span>
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td class="row1" align="left"><span class="gensmall">In total there is <b>1</b> user online :: 0 Registered, 0 Hidden
and 1 Guest &nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp; [ <span style="color:#FFA34F">Administrator</span> ] &nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp; [ <span
style="color:#006600">Moderator</span> ]<br />Most users ever online was <b>3</b> on Mon Apr 05, 2004 7:42 pm<br
/>Registered Users: None</span></td>
</tr>
</table>
<table width="100%" cellpadding="1" cellspacing="1" border="0">
<tr>
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