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Manufacturing and Design Engineering Students : Database With MAIN

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Manufacturing and Design Engineering Students: Database with MAIN

Priority	Letter Assigned	Description
Security	A	How secure the database will be and the need for passwords etc.
Ease of Use	B	How easy the database will be to use on a regular basis.
Layout	C	How well the database is lay out, including consistency.
Functionality	D	How well the database functions when instructed to do a task.
Reports Generated	E	How effectively reports can be generated.

	A	B	C	D	E	Total	Weight
A	1	5	7	3	3	19	0.42
B	0.2	1	3	0.33	0.2	4.73	0.11
C	0.14	0.33	1	0.33	0.33	2.13	0.05
D	0.33	3	3	1	1	8.33	0.19
E	0.33	5	3	1	1	10.33	0.23
Total						44.52	1



Background

Third year students in the B Eng (Honours) Manufacturing and Design Engineering course at Bolton St completed a project in conjunction with Men Alone In No-Man's Land (MAIN), a support group for men in Dublin city.

The project was to design a database for the staff at MAIN. MAIN is a community based men's group in inner city Dublin. It is organised and run by men only and offers counselling and support services to men that find themselves feeling isolated, alienated, helpless or hopeless

The Problem and Proposed Solution

The staff of MAIN needed a way of storing and analysing information. Some of the staff were not familiar with computer applications and needed an accessible database that would allow them to securely store data and produce reports. These reports were to be used to help them include relevant data when they apply for funding.

Summary

The aim of the project was to design a system that was efficient, cheap and easy to use.

The students took a systematic approach to the design process, firstly discussing the problem in detail with the client. From this they produced a weight table, to prioritise the client's requirements. As the design progressed the students were in regular communications with the client.

This project was the first chance for the student to produce a solution to a real world problem.

Students involved:

Patrick Joyce Andrew Minion
David O'Callaghan Andrew Richardson

