Enterprise Computing: Hackathon

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Congratulations, Team Sulu!
The only team currently eligible to win Best Team
Operation of the hackathon

- The hackathon begins with a five-minute lecture starting promptly at 09:00, as determined by the lecture theatre clock.
- At 09:05 you will be told where to download the raw content for the website, you then have 45 minutes to develop the website, you are encouraged to discuss with your team.
- At 09:10 “Library mode” begins. Discussion stops, and there should be as little talking as possible.
- At 09:30 the course lecturer will play a distracting, but very engaging, YouTube video. Try not to lose time watching it.
- At 09:45 “Library mode” ends. Discussion may take place again. You have very little time remaining and should move on to finishing-up tasks such as spell-checking and proof-reading.
- At 09:50 team leaders must email the team’s solution to stg@inf.ed.ac.uk. The hackathon is then finished.
Further notes on the hackathon

- Team leaders should download the content first to ensure that each team has a copy of the raw content.

- **Maintainability** of the website is of no concern. At the end of the hackathon you are done with working on this website, and you will never return to it.

- Your website should feature a “Created by Team X” credit, with your team name and your names.

- This is not a race. There is no prize for finishing first. Try to use all the time that you have available to you.

- The aesthetics of the website are entirely up to you. Use whatever colours or themes you like. HTML alone is fine: you don’t need to write any TypeScript, JavaScript, PHP, or any other code. Work in HTML5, not HTML4.
This hackathon is not assessed: it is an in-class exercise.

During the hackathon, conduct yourself as though you were in a computer lab, rather than a lecture theatre.

You may use headphones and listen to music while you are working, if you like to work that way.

I will be the lab demonstrator. Put up your hand if you would like me to come to you and answer a question.

If you have problems downloading the raw content come down to the front with a USB stick and I will copy the files from my laptop.
The problem for the hackathon

- *David Kent Group* are a small local family business operating in the Edinburgh area.
- It is run by one man (David Kent), his mum, and his brother, together with a small number of craftsmen and labourers.
- Their enterprise is building and improving the homes of Edinburgh families. They provide joinery, decorating, plumbing and renovation services.
- Like most businesses, they already have a website to advertise their services, display examples of their prior work, and attract new customers. You are to make them a new, responsive one.
- *Your finished product from this hackathon must be better than the current website for the David Kent Group.*
The current website: http://davidkentgroup.com
The problem with the website content

- The current website for the David Kent Group has literally zero information content.

- From it, you cannot get their phone number, nor email address, nor address in the city of Edinburgh to visit them in person to get them to quote for a job.

- A prospective customer visiting it for the first time might think: “Their server seems to have crashed: I’ll try again tomorrow”.

- That prospective customer visiting the website for a second or third time would likely think: “This company seems to have gone out of business. I will take my custom elsewhere.”

- In the current economy, small businesses cannot afford to push away customers.
The problem with the website implementation: Flash
This is *pro bono* work. No money will change hands because of this work. I am asking you to put your hands to your keyboards for 45 minutes to help a small local company.
The prize for the winning team

- The team who produces the best website in this 45-minute hackathon will earn the title of *Enterprise Computing Best Lightning Hack Team*.

- In addition to the bragging rights, and the pleasure of feeling a warming glow of pride in your chest, *each member of the winning team* earns the right to call on me to write an individual letter of reference for them if it would be helpful when applying for a job, applying for further study, or in a range of other similar contexts.

- This is an *open-ended offer*. The letter can be easily revised to support a second application, and a third, and so forth.

- This is literally a prize *that money cannot buy*. You cannot buy such a letter, you can only earn it (in the next 45 mins.)
What would these letters say?

- “Roosa Tammela impressed me from the very first lecture of the *Enterprise Computing* course. As a team leader she was an incredibly effective advocate, using every opportunity to achieve the best outcome for her team.”

- “I hold Rikki Guy in the highest esteem. In addition to excelling in his studies, he also gave his time selflessly to the *Prewired* initiative, helping local children learn to code.”

- “I have seen Lucy Parker outperform her peers, being the only person in the room able to answer the toughest questions.”

- “In addition to being a brilliant and creative person I have found Matthew Hepburn to be unfailingly pleasant to interact with, good-natured, sincere, optimistic and resourceful.”

- “I have never seen Thomas Reinhart less than enthusiastic about his work. In addition, he has excellent taste in music.”
http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/courses/ec/hack
Time’s up!

- Team leaders, please email your work to stg@inf.ed.ac.uk
- Thank you all for your participation.