Project Description

Organizations require a tool capable of creating, maintaining, and accessing information on projects. The need for an intuitive and versatile web-based application becomes increasingly poignant as the organization experiences growth.

The afore-mentioned projects can be broken down into Plans consisting of one or more Teams. Within these Teams, Contacts fulfill various Roles.

Deliverables

- CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) functionality for each entity: Plans, Teams, Roles, and Contacts
- Ability to add:
  - Teams to Plans
  - Roles and Contacts to Teams
  - Contacts to Roles
- Bulk copy of Teams, Roles, and Contacts from one Plan to another
- Search function for easing users’ access to data specifically of interest
- Auto search when typing pre-existing entities - accelerating Plan creation and navigation
- Installation script capable of easily deploying application across .NET environments
- Documentation - both for users and programmers

Underlying Tools & Design

The controller (Figure 4) acts as a mediator between presentation and the model (Figure 2). Interaction between database entities is diagrammed in Figure 3, while Figure 5 shows the 3-tier architecture used in building the application.

User Interface

The Presentation Tier (Figure 5) interacts with the user according to the options shown in Figure 1. User input is acted on by the view (Figure 4).

By embarking on a design driven development approach, implementation was postponed - ensuring a highly intuitive user interface. Figure 1 shows the end result of a layout vastly evolved from the original.

Further Development

Possibilities for growing the application include:

- Implementation of Team Templates for faster creation of common Team configurations.
- Implementation of default Contact Roles, editable by user and related to Contacts’ skills.
- Integration with pre-existing, more complex database, Sharepoint, and PlanGlue.com
- Ability to interact with external services such as Facebook and mobile phone contact lists
- Adding ability to link Teams to sub-Teams

CSE762:
Web-Services-Based Distributed Systems Project