Mid Term Progress Report

Project Objectives:

There are two major and competing technologies available for developing web-based applications. Microsoft has developed the .NET framework while Sun has developed J2EE framework. Based upon case studies done by many large corporations, it is evident that neither technology has a significant edge over the other. Depending on the requirements of a corporation, one technology might be more suitable than the other.

The goal of this project is to develop the same intranet application using J2EE as well as .NET framework to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each technology. Some of the analysis criteria are ease of learning, interoperability and exception handling. All of the criteria will be discussed later in the development process.

Summary of Progress Made:

Analysis Team:

- Successfully developed a research document on short listed analysis criteria for the differences between two technologies.
- Successfully developed a requirements specification document.

Web Site Team:

- Web site is ready with the link, http://www.iit.edu/~ipro337f03.
- The web site is running with the security login and SSI directives.
- Issue log is ready to use with the email system.
- 'Research articles' posted with references collected from all team members.
- 'Evaluation criteria' posted online.
- Agenda of the meetings added to the list of menu items for the website.

J2EE Team:

- Information of Struts examined.
- J2EE architecture up and running. Tomcat and JBoss.
- Articles reviewed on J2EE.
- Learnt J2EE architecture and various components of J2EE.
- Successfully developed the first JSP pages.
- Successfully connected to MySQL server from sample code on the local host.
- Common J2EE working environment agreed, with JBuilder as the preferred IDE.

C#/.Net Team:

- Working environment of .NET framework up and running.
- Working environment of SQL server set up.
- Database connectivity with SQL server database.
- Learnt C#.
- Established server connectivity from client computers.

Project Plan Team:

- Received a basic project plan template from the Bank One.
- Developed the final project plan.

Project Schedule:

The progress made till now on the project has been explained above. The progress we will make in the coming weeks is as below:

Bank One 10/16 Meeting deliver the following
•Prototypes of interfaces
•Requirement specification
•Mid-term Progress Report
•High-level Designs

Bank One 10/28 Meeting deliver the following
•Test Specification

Bank One 11/25 Meeting deliver the following
•Final Analysis Rpt
•Completed Testing
•Both Applications
•IPRO Presentation
•Abstract
•Final Report

Obstacles encountered:

- Time was consumed in setting up a network to connect the computers of all the members of .NET team.
- The members of .NET team were unaware of the fact that SQL server is not supported by Windows XP and Windows 2000. So, time was consumed in installing and uninstalling the operating systems.
- Time was spent by the J2EE team members to understand the J2EE architecture.
- Time was spent on researching and deciding the evaluation criteria.
- The computer to be set up as a server did not have enough RAM to handle Windows 2003 and SQL server, memory was eventually bought.
- Difficulty was encountered to get a place for the server connected to internet 24/7.