Project Identity

Shampoo/Conditioner Identification Device & Medication Reminder
Week 1
January 29, 2007
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Work Completed

Over the winter break I began reading C++ programming textbooks. I have created three separate notebooks for the Medication Reminder Program Project. The majority of the research and work that writing the Medication Reminder Program entails includes learning and writing the C++ language efficiently. One of the notebooks is the official Lab Notebook for Senior Design II. This notebook will only include pieces of the program when they are “semi-finalized”. The other two notebooks include one for C++ programming notes and the other for Medication Reminder Program Development. The program will include many data points and have numerous different fields where data will need to be stored and manipulated. The list of unique identifiers for the Medication Reminder Program has been created and is still a working list.

C++ compilers and other computer software has been worked with using basic programs. Research has also been done on C++ compilers for the specific Palm® Device being used within the Medication Reminder Project. There is a suite available on the Palm® Website for writing C++ applications for the Palm®. It will be used throughout the development of the Medication Reminder Program.

Future Work

The next week will be spent finalizing the list of data points and unique identifiers for the Medication Reminder Program. From here, small portions of the program may begin to be written as algorithms on paper. A working algorithm of the design should be completed within the following week of Senior Design II.

The Palm® Suite for Developers will also be tested within the following week. It will be used to transfer a simple program written in C++ to the Palm® Device within the Senior Design Lab. If additional software is needed for creating applications for the Palm® Device, they will be looked into at that time.
The design of the external aspects of the Medication Reminder Device has changed slightly since making the final presentation in Senior Design I. Instead of creating a hard outer casing for the PDA as the mechanical aspect for the design, an external medication storage box will be built. The idea for the casing of the device has been changed to a softer material from a hard casing. The idea of a slot on the back of the casing where different attachments may be connected to has been a topic of discussion. The attachments may include, but not be limited to, a belt clip, a magnet for docking the device on the refrigerator, and the option to attach the PDA to the Medication Storage Box for a logical docking place.

Project Review

The majority of the time spent working on the Medication Reminder Device at this point in time is dedicated to learning the C++ programming language. At this point in time, good progress is being made towards writing the Medication Reminder Program. The final list of data points and identifiers will make the beginning stages of writing the program easier than beginning from scratch. Once the list and pieces of the algorithm have been completed, sections of the program can begin being compiled. The three sections, Medication Schedule, Dose Count, and Log, are three separate, but interconnected parts of the program. Creating one of these sections of the program on a weekly basis should allow enough time in the weeks left in the course for troubleshooting.

Hours Worked

13 hours