

UNIVERSITY OF OSLO
Institute of informatics

INF4260 Wonder document

Trafikanten and Opera Software

A widget to show real-time public transport is
Oslo and Akershus

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Introduction

This project is done as an assignment for the course INF4260 – Human computer interaction (HCI) at department of Informatics, University of Oslo. I have chosen to write an assignment related to HCI, Trafikanten and Opera software. Human-computer interface or human-computer interaction is actually about the basics about perception, ergonomics, information processing, cognitive theories, interaction theory, metaphors for interface design and communication. In order to put these subjects together, I have chosen to write about a collaboration product of Trafikanten and Opera software “Real time public traffic viewer”. The program (widget)¹ provides real-time information about public transport like busses and trams for desktop users.

Aim of the project

The aim of this project is to write about the infrastructure, evaluate the system, analyzes the usability and focused on user interaction in the Opera software widget. Oslo and Akershus town council passed a law in 2001 about Oslo Package 2 (O2). According to this package, the infrastructure will be developed for the next 25 years in Oslo and Akershus. Statens vegvesen, Oslo Sporveien, Stor-Oslo Lokaltrafikk, Jernbaneverket and Oslo and Akershus town council are working collaboratively. During the development of O2 have Trafikanten and Opera Software have developed a widget to give facility of these advantage using mobile devices like mobile phone, PDA, computers etc. In Oslo and Akershus, there will be around 275 buss stops equipped with real time system.

Problem area

The focus area in the project will be:

- Analyzing the user group for real time public transport widget.
- Evaluating the current solution using following evaluation techniques.
 - Human interaction methods
 - Usability testing
 - Heuristics evaluation
- Presenting proposals for improvements of the current solution.

Challenges

- This real-time widget is not very advanced for neither advanced or novice users, so the project would not cover a huge area to evaluate using the techniques written above. But the project will also cover the infrastructure and the usability.
- The communication regarding this project with Trafikanten and Opera Software can arise an information gap.

¹ A widget also called GUI widget which is a component of a graphical user interface that the user interacts with and a web widget is a third party item that can be embedded in a web page to show information/data.

- The gap of infrastructure and technical background where these two companies works on different users separate

Method

- Reason why the different methods are being used for this project is to get a quality research to improve the study the subject properly.
- Good techniques form the course book and lecture will also be used to focus on right users. These users will be one part of the evaluations written above.
- The plan will be to come up with some improvements, if these exist.
- Some experience from old project “OperaMini” will also be used as the subject skills. Some previous article and projects will also be used to find more information about the HCI.