**Project Title:**

**Issues we can resolve surrounding the world of Skype**

1. **Title**

Issues we can resolve surrounding the world of Skype

1. **Key words**

Malfunctions, Video loss, Technician, Encryption

1. **Introduction and context description**

For my IPP proposal last year in CCE2060 [Research Methodology and Professional Project Development](https://www.lr-access.mdx.ac.uk/cgi-bin/moodle_lve_cas.pl), I planned ahead to make fixes on the application Skype. This year I have taken it further as I have made much more of the latest careful research, and planned ahead which I will now be expanding on my exploits to conquer something which I believe is possible. My technician will be my guidance who will be helping me with my project.

In August of the year 2003 Skype was found and launched ‘headquarters of Luxembourg 2003’. There are many operating systems that work with Skype. The developers are the Microsoft Corporation and Skype Technologies.

Skype which is a softwareas most of the population knows is also an application which is used over the world by many users. Skype customers have the authority to make voice calls, video chats, conference calls; send files for example images and instant messages. Skype is key in today’s world as it is useful in businesses, for example you’re contacting co-workers. It allows users to connect overseas around the world with friends and family. Skype runs on WI-FI or on a 3G network. As skype is free it has benefited many people as it has helped them save money, travelling and also time. We know that the application can bring people closer and together just by re-connecting with them wherever they are. This was made possible by VOIP which stands for voice over internet protocol. This is a technology which delivers voice communications over the internet, whether it is video calls, voice calls or group calls.

With new features and updates on Skype, it is a fast growing application which has grown every year. Its development has attracted more users.



Here is a bar chart of the growth in calling minutes each year from the year 2005 up and till 2013.

1. **Evidence of requirements**

There will be necessary requirements which are essential that would need to be carried out in order for an implementation to occur. A technician should be involved in order to carry out the enquiry. Together we will structure the project and find a way to implement the issues that will need to be resolved as related to the title. The lists of barriers I wish to overcome by doing fixes upon are video loss to Skype which we know are crucial because many users have problems in this loss. I will also be hoping to add additional security to it as we know that the man in the middle can have an effect in this by being a distraction and violating the privacy between two or more groups off people having conversations. So in addition to what I have said, I will be using Linux and also encrypting this so I can keep these attacks out of site.

1. **Problem definition**

Although I do not have the legal rights because it will violate the rights of skype, I am still willing to do it on an open source using Linux. My added features should be added onto that. My supervisor who is also my technician will help me as we have planned ahead as to what will be needed to do as in meeting on which days and also the timings which will be essential. As I have already the necessary purposes and access to what I will be using, this is a task that I have reviewed. The problems I have researched upon will be my main priority because I will be working hard to prevent these barriers in the future for skype users.

1. **Aims**

My supervisor who is also my technician will help me as we have planned ahead as to what will be needed to do as in meeting on which days and also the timings which will be essential. As I have done research, I know the advantages and disadvantages of skype. As there are many great things we as users love about skype, unfortunately there are downfalls. These are such as the loss of video calling chats, and when they take ages to buffer for it to get back up and running. We must not forget what has been mentioned also the problem of security in trying to keep conversation secure and proper between users. So I will be using the encrypting process to prevent unauthorised access from third party hackers.

1. **Objectives**

**Brief bullet points**

* Add additional features to skype
* Security which should allow secure privacy between users
* To prevent video chats being lost
* Implement with technician physically to overcome the fixes.
* Structuring my time frame
* Using Linux
* Video, Security, Encryption fixes.

The objectives are simple, using a simple structure to add features to skype by keeping users conversations secure with security which will have encryption to prevent hackers and third party members in private conversations. Video losses that wouldn’t be lost in conversations. Again a technician will be involved in helping this task. We will need to use an effective time frame so we do not fall behind, 6 hours on this mission will be essential in a week should be enough. As long as the task is flowing well and with no barriers in the way, this should be a smooth task as we should be fine.

1. **Methods chosen for project implementation**

I have gone in depth myself what I want to do and what methods I should carry out as I have sat down with my supervisor who I will see also in a professional manner as a technician. We have drawn up a time slot to plan ahead my project in which time will play a very important role in. We’ve also written down the steps that would need to be reviewed, gaining important literature knowledge, adding the additional features that need fixes upon and using ultimately the Linux software. I have also researched on Linux and understand that the operating system is also the leading operating system on servers and other important systems such as mainframe computers and supercomputers. Based on that research it is trustworthy for me. We’ve also said that 6 hours a week on my project should be more than enough as on week 24 my deadline approaches. Meeting up once every 2 weeks with my supervisor is also essential and important as I keep up to date with my project and stay focus on my implementations.

1. **Brief product description**

So briefly my product descriptions are on Skype and how I will make it better and safer for all their users.

Video loss will be prevented as we know that can be a huge barrier in the current present. Making it very secure with no hackers, man in the middle attacks where third party members snoop around skype user conversations. We know that this is something that users fear a lot of as significant messages which are vital to them are being sent to the receiver. So of course they would want top security there. This will play a huge part in the project implementations. As mentioned before, encryption processes will also come into play, without it, it would not be possible. All messages will need to be encoded as only the contacts that are having the conversation can be able to read the messages excluding any other third party hackers or members.

1. **Deliverables**

At the end of my project I wish to make sure that video losses are unheard of and unseen as this will be a barrier I will be hoping to surpass. So no more buffering when a video call is lost, and in general no more video call losses!

Not forgetting to make sure that security will be delivered to the users which will be a significant change for the better for the skype customers. Making sure messages are encoded so third party members do not get involved into other people’s conversations and businesses. By keeping a good time frame, this project should have the necessary needs to get the green light.

1. **Outcome/product evaluation/testing approach**

So if my project is on video loss and security to keep the man in the middle attack out, then I will need to test it out to see if my implementations have worked. If it doesn’t work then I would have to test it out to see what is needed to overcome these barriers. I will also have to go back to researching. For example in an area where the signal isn’t too good, I would have to see if video losses occur or not. I will be testing it out on laptops and computers. I will encode the messages between members that are in private conversations and see if third party hackers do get a chance to intervene. I will have to see the outcome ultimately to see if I have met the necessary requirements of my project at the end of every testing and evaluation.

1. **Resources**

I will need a computer to test out the software to see what the outcome is of my product. Not forgetting that I will need the Linux software. For my research I will need to access the internet so I can watch videos and do some reading. I may need books from the library which should help my cause.

1. **References**

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1. **Project Plan including Work Breakdown Structure & Gantt chart**



The above Gantt chart shows that in 1 month I would have to complete my project and it also shows the steps of when such a task should be finished.

Below shows my Work Breakdown Structure.

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