

NEWS PHONE APPLICATION

Concept of Operations

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GROUP 8

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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Modification history:

Version	Date	Who	Comment
v1.0	09/15/10	Tyler Zaino	Baseline ConOp

1 The Current System

Currently there are a countless number of news websites accessible through a mobile web browsers and mobile applications. Each system has their own unique way of administering the news to their readers' phones. Some news outlets have a mobile version of their website that all phones with internet can access via their web browser. Others have created news applications for specific mobile phone operating systems, mainly Android and iOS. These applications typically list the current news stories, and when selected, the application routes the phone to the article on the news website.

2 The Proposed System

2.1 Needs

The proposed system is a mobile news application that is created from an existing news website. This will allow users with mobile devices running an Android operating system to access the current news stories via this application. The application features must include:

- Must start up to an image depicting a current top news story.
- Five sections of stories, US, World, Entertainment, and Sports.
- Display five items per news section with the option to see more news stories.

2.2 Users and Modes of Operation

The users of the mobile phone application will be virtually anyone that is running a cell phone with an android operating system. Only a normal operational mode will be needed. The lack of a maintenance mode is due to the fact that all changes to the system will occur during system updates.

2.3 Operational Scenarios

A typical operational scenario is a user trying to access the top headlines of the day in sports. The user will simply load the application, click the sports tab, and the top headlines will appear.

Another typical operation scenario would be if a user is looking for a news story about an event that occurred in the US on the previous day. The user would load the application and navigate to the US subsection. Once there, the user will click the "Read More" button. The list of headlines will grow, and now the user will be able to scroll through and find the headline they were in search of.

An atypical situation would be when there are too many users trying to access the mobile website at once. This can either be intentional or non-intentional. When this occurs the users will generally experience a slow response time from the application. In the worst case scenario users will experience a denial of service where they will be temporarily unable to access the news stories via the application.

2.4 Operational Features

Must Have

- Consistent access to current news stories – To ensure the application has the most up-to-date news stories.
- News Subsections
- News Archives

Would Like to Have

- Users able to make comments on stories
- Photo gallery

1.2.5 Expected Impacts

This news application will also give the media a new channel in which people will be able to collect their news. It will provide a quicker alternative to trying to load the regular website on a mobile phones built-in browser. The application will allow news to be delivered at a much more reliable and quicker rate. It will also impact both the people the people that follow the news closely, and the others that follow it casually. To the casual user, its quick and simple way to read the headlines on the go. For those who follow the news consistently, this application will provide them with up to the minute developments of everything that is happening in the media.

1.2.6 Analysis

Expected Improvements

- Availability to access the news stories conveniently from a mobile phone.
- An easy to utilize user interface

Disadvantages

- No Apple iOS support

Limitations

- Time constraints

Risks

- None

Alternatives and Tradeoffs

- None