HIGHER TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

COURSE IN COMPUTER STUDIES

DIPLOMA PROJECT

A (CHEMICAL) LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LIMS)

CS/386

BY

KYRIACOU SAVVAS

JUNE 2008

HIGHER TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

COURSE IN COMPUTER STUDIES

DIPLOMA PROJECT

A (CHEMICAL) LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LIMS)

CS/386

BY

KYRIACOU SAVVAS

JUNE 2008



A (chemical) Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)

Project number: CS/386

Project report submitted by: Kyriacou Savvas

Diploma report submitted to the
HIGHER TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Nicosia, Cyprus
In partial fulfilment of the requirements
For the award of the DIPLOMA in
COMPUTER STUDIES

Project Supervisor: Mr. Andreas Hadjiprokopis



SUMMARY

The name of the project is "A (chemical) Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS)". This project is a computer software that will be used in (chemical) laboratory for the management of samples, laboratory users, instruments, standards and other laboratory functions such as invoicing and work flow automation.

A typical LIMS lifecycle is as follow:

A Customer brings a sample to the lab and asks for a chemical analysis. He is presented with an online form and selects the types of analysis required. The LIMS issues a sample ID and put it in the pipeline. Then a suitably trained Analyst picks that sample and makes the requested analysis and fills an online form with the results and additional information. The LIMS keeps a record of all users and all samples. To use LIMS you must be registered to the system and security protocols were constructed to assure the safety of all information associated with the users and samples.

From the beginning I defined goals and objectives of the system. Then started implementing Analysis and General Design Phase and decide how the structure of the database was going to be and spend most of my time implementing the coding of the system and at the same time testing the several modules.

For the completion of the system, Java Development Tool 1.5.0_06 for implementing the code was installed. Thus, Apache Software for building the server of the system was installed. Furthermore, MySQL Query Browser 1.1 and MySQL Server 5.0 for building the database were installed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to thanks my supervisor for the project Mr.Andreas Hadjiprokopis who helped me to understand a lot of issues concerning the project, for his guidance, his valuable suggestions and for the patience he has shown me.

Big thanks to our lectures at HTI who gave me the knowledge to develop that project.

Kyriacou Savvas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>CHAPTERS</u> <u>P.</u>	<u>AGES</u>
CHAPTER 1 - INVESTIGATION PHASE	
Introduction	7
1.1 THE INITIAL INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY	8
1.1.1 Information about the organization	8
1.1.1.1 Goals and objectives for the LIMS system	8
1.1.1.2 Policies	8
1.1.2 Information about the people	9
1.1.3 Information about the work	10
1.1.3.1 Method and procedures for performing the wor	
1.1.4 Conclusion	10
1.2 FEASIBILITY STUDY	11
1.2.1 Introduction	11
1.2.2 Recommendations	12
1.2.2.1 First Recommendation	12-13
1.2.2.2 Second Recommendation	14-15
1.2.2.3 Third Recommendation	16-17
1.2.3 Conclusion	18
CHAPTER 2 - ANALYSIS AND GENERAL DESIGN PHASE	
2.1 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	12
2.2 SYSTEM FUNCTIONS	12
2.3 REQUIREMENTS OF THE SYSTEM	20
2.4 PROCESSING	20
2.4.1 Major Modules	20
2.4.1.1 User Interface	20
2.4.1.2 Networking	20
2.4.1.3 Security	21
2.4.1.4 Database/Storage	21
2.4.1.5 Reporting	21
2.4.1.6 Programming	21
2.5 DATA FLOW DIAGRAMS	21
2.6 DATA DICTIONARY	22
CHAPTER 3 - DETAILED DESIGN AND GENERAL DESIGN PHASE	
3.1 TECHNICAL DESIGN	23
3.1.1 Detailed design specification document	23
3.1.1.1 Backup requirements and recovery procedure	23
3.1.1.2 User interface with the system	23
3.2 TEST SPECIFICATION AND PLANNING	24
3.2.1 Test plan	24
3.2.1.1 Module Testing	24
3.2.1.2 Integration Testing	24
3.2.1.3 Function Testing	24

3.2.1.4 System Testing	25
3.2.1.5 Acceptance Testing 3.3 PROGRAMMING AND TESTING	25 25
3.3.1 The process of Programming and Testing	25
3.4 USER TRAINING	26
3.4.1 User training description	26
3.4.2 User manual	26
3.5 SYSTEM TEST	27
3.5.1 Complete System Test	27
3.6 CONCLUSION	27
CHAPTER 4 - INSTALLATION PHASE	
4.1 SYSTEM INSTALLATION	28
411 Installation Method	28
4.2 CONCLUSION	28
CHAPTER 5 - REVIEW PHASE	
5.1 DEVELOPMENT RECAP	29
5.2 POST-IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW	29
5.2 Activity description	29
5.2.2 Post-implementation review report	30
5.2.2.1 Evaluation of the extend to which the original	
requirements and objectives are being met by	Note: Date
the installed system	30
5.2.2.2 Comparison of the development and operational	
costs with original cost estimates 5.3 CONCLUSION	30 30
3.3 CONCLUSION	30
APPENDIXES	
APPENDIX A – Context/Logical Diagram	31-32
APPENDIX B – Data Elements	33-34
APPENDIX C – Data Structures	35-42
APPENDIX D – Data Stores	43-57
APPENDIX E – Data Process	44-62
APPENDIX F – Data Inputs/Outputs	63-75
APPENDIX G –Gantt Chart	76