

Calendar Manager Requirements (Captured as User Stories)

Introduction

Most of you are familiar with personal productivity software products, such as Microsoft Outlook, which provide calendar management features. If such systems are new to you, consider launching Outlook from one of the lab machines and experimenting with the calendar and task features. You might also want to look at some web-based offerings such as those from Google, AOL, MSN, and Yahoo. It's important that you become familiar with such a system since the project this term is to create such a personal productivity product.

User Stories

User stories are a way of capturing functional requirements from the client's perspective. As such, they provide a mechanism for planning each release, for estimating implementation and testing effort required, and for tracking progress towards release completion. We will be using user stories as the primary mechanism for specifying requirements (what the system is to do) throughout this term. For more information on user stories, consult [Scott Ambler's site on Agile Modeling](#).

The following list contains the basic user stories for the calendar manager that provide the focus for planning, design, implementation, and testing for the first release.

1. Start the program with an initially empty calendar..
2. Add appointment - description / location / date / time / duration or end time - using decent defaults.
3. Delete a specified appointment.
4. Select a date and view its appointments.
5. Exit program (w/o saving any information).
6. Select "today" and view today's appointments.
7. Save calendar to a named calendar file.
8. Exit program with possible saving.
 - a. Exit immediately if the calendar has not been modified since last saved.
 - b. If modified since last save, ask user about saving - if no, exit immediately.
 - c. Save calendar to named file and exit.
9. Open a different calendar given its name (implies closing the current calendar; see related story #8).
10. Select next / previous day and view appointments.
11. Edit appointment to change one or more of its parts.
12. View week (the Sun - Sat week) containing the selected date.
13. Next / previous week.
14. View month (the month containing the selected date).
15. Next / Previous month. Be careful with February, April, June, September, and November.
16. Open a calendar on startup by giving a name of a calendar in the proper format.

CAVEAT

Of course these stories only scratch the surface of what a professional quality calendar manager would provide. You may expect that the client will add additional stories and perhaps change the priority of stories in later releases. Use your knowledge and research into such systems to come up with a base design that can accommodate most of the expected enhancements. It's unlikely you will create a design that can handle all the additional user stories, so expect to do some redesign and refactoring in later releases.