

Summary //

This past week has seen a flurry of research be carried out by each member of the team in response to the initial brief laid out during our client interview. The results have been varied but eye-opening, as the full scope of what is achievable with this project opens up to us. We hope to hold a second meeting with our client in the coming week to discuss what we've found.

Last Report Actions //

Objective	Status
■ Carry out initial research into each of the four main areas identified in our client interview	Complete
■ Research existing technologies or products which make use of such systems, or could benefit from them	Complete
■ Consider other ways in which such systems could conceptually be used	Ongoing
■ Reach a conclusion regarding which of the four areas to focus on	Complete

Individual Work Packages //

Victoria	Deadline/Seen By
■ Carry out in-depth initial research into transfer protocols, standards, and technologies	Johan, Gulliver
Consider other ways in which such systems could conceptually be used, including potential sensor applications	29th October
Johan	
■ Research and analyse various wireless communications technologies	Victoria, Gulliver
■ Analyse and compare the types of sensors available in phones or already in-situ in the environment	Victoria, Gulliver
■ Look into how plug-and-play architecture can be achieved in this context, where different hardware standards or specifications exist across personal devices	Victoria, Gulliver
Gulliver	
■ Find examples of similar systems already in-use and research their approach, with a view to highlighting valuable resources	Victoria, Johan
■ Consider other ways in which such systems could conceptually be used, including potential sensor applications	29th October

Meetings //

Supervisor Meeting - 17th October

Having met with our clients earlier in the week, we again met with our supervisor to discuss the details and gain advice on our next actions. We also discussed as a group our individual tasks for the next week.

Outcomes

- Ambiguity in the brief discussed
- Individual work tasks to carry out directed research set

Group Meeting - 23rd October

In this Skype conference we shared and discussed what each of us has researched, and debated ideas, issues, concepts and our next steps. Much of the meeting was focused on telecommunications protocols and technologies, but other areas covered included issues of sensor accuracy, the potential uses of haptic feedback, and the technical requirements and opportunities for plug-and-play sensor architecture.

Considering the existing documentation and standards that exist for sensor data transfer, and since this area is critical for the success of a project such as MeshDevice, we decided to move forward with a focus on sensor communication protocols. Plug-and-play architecture would go hand-in-hand with this, as the overlap and interdependencies are so significant in this context. Similarly, sensor accuracy and haptic feedback would be best developed as a pair, though we agreed that this was more of a high-level concern, or at least something that would be best left until the grounding of the project (the architecture) is established.

An interesting finding was that a number of other institutions have worked on similar network architectures, including MIT and Microsoft. From what we found, it seems that these ventures are very closely related to what our client is hoping to see from us. Consequently, we hope to have a meeting with them in the coming week to discuss what we can do within this project to push the concept further, or perhaps suggest making use of the resources they've already laid.

Outcomes

- Reached an informed decision regarding which of the four main areas to focus on - Protocols and Plug-and-play architecture
- Set a deadline for a mid-project report to be sent to the clients, detailing our research, actions, and plans thus far
- Scheduled a meeting with our Orange contact, Mobeen, as soon as possible to discuss our concerns
- Delegated tasks to each individual member to conduct deeper, more cohesive research into specific areas

Issues //

Description	Action to be taken
■ Concern over what it is about our project that makes it different from similar projects and systems already put into use by other institutions	A meeting or conference with Mobeen will be held in the next week to discuss this
■ Ambiguity regarding what is expected to be delivered at the culmination of the project	As above

Next Report Actions //

- Arrange a meeting with our Orange contact as a matter of urgency to discuss our concerns relating to existing duplicates of the project, amongst other research points
- Carry out critical, in-depth research and analysis in the areas of plug-and-play architecture and transfer protocols, in accordance with what was discussed in our group meeting on the 23rd October
- Look into what type of sensors are currently in place and in general use throughout the city of London, with a focus on street-side and London Underground sensors
- Begin work on a detailed mid-project report for our clients
- Begin acquiring any resources needed to move forward with the project