Meeting Planner App _XAMARIN .Forms

About The Client

The client is a SAAS services provider and helps organizations dramatically increase their sales performance by leveraging customer, opportunity and product data in new ways.

Product Offerings

The application facilitates customer to schedule meetings while adding supportive questionnaires based on various objectives/templates. The key features include creating meetings from default/user's created meeting templates, while allowing the users to create/update/delete their self-created meeting templates. The users can study the usage pattern within the domain for different default templates and templates created by the other users or themselves.

Key Challenges

➤ The client wanted the application's UI to be consistent on both platforms viz. iOS and Android which required elaborative efforts

➤ Customisation of the existing components offered by Xamarin.Forms, viz, gridview with multiple rows and columns, carousel view to display questionnaires for meeting templates, datepicker was required to render the complex UI

➤ Handling touch gestures with limited support available in Xamarin.Forms

➤ Support on offline mode and manage the application's online/offline state, push and pull of the data and sync with the server

➤ Providing complex features with best user experience

➤ Creating custom controls in Xamarin.Forms

Solution Approach & Methodology

The foremost requirement was to develop iOS and Android application, to assist the customer to plan and schedule meetings while adding questionnaires.

PSI developed the application using Xamarin Studio and Visual Studio as the development platform and C# as development language. We developed the solution to ensure reusability of the interfaces and creating custom controls, customizing various existing components offered by Xamarin.Forms and adding touch gestures using Renderers. The mobile application allows user to choose date, time, company, meeting attendees and product while scheduling a meeting corresponding to a meeting template. Extensible Application Markup Language(XAML) was used to describe user interfaces, to ensure that the UI being rendered using native controls on iOS and Android is consistent on both the platforms. The application supports offline mode also, so SQLite was used to incorporate database operations in the shared code.

Key Highlights of the Approach

1 The application is developed with Xamarin Forms for cost effectiveness and quick turn-around time

2 The application has scalability and configurability features for branding, to help client customize the application, if required in future

3 Supporting offline mode in the application, while allowing data sync at the server level and communication, once internet connection is available

4 Use of Renderers to customize existing Xamarin.Forms components to accommodate platform specific functionalities

Achievements

➤ Creating user interfaces across multiple mobile platforms, by applying shared code

➤ Developed and customised various components in Xamarin.Forms to render complex UI

➤ Enabled gesture support on any view derived object

➤ Created custom controls for drop down menu and expandable listview in Xamarin.Forms

➤ Smooth data sync. with minimal or no interference by user, and hence providing best user experience without any time lag

Technology Deployed

Framework	: iOS SDK, Android SDK, Xamarin.Forms, PHP
Platform	: iOS, Android, PHP Web Portal
Development Platform	: Xamarin.Forms for mobile application, PHP for web services, PHP Laravel framework with Bootstrap for Admin portal
Development Tool	: Xamarin Studio, Visual Studio
Database	: SQLite, MySQL

Project Highlights

Client	SAAS services provider
Location	USA
Duration	Three months
Team Size	2
Delivery Model	Offshore
Engagement Model	Turnkey

About PSI

Pratham Software (PSI) is a global IT services company (with established ISO 9001:2015 & ISO/IEC 27001:2013 practices) providing software product development, consulting and outsourcing solutions to enterprises worldwide. While providing a wide range of solutions, we focus on Outsourced Product Development (OPD), Business Process Management (BPM), Application Development and Maintenance (AMD) and Content Engineering. Our extensive experience in OPD helps us build strong relationships with Independent Software Vendors (ISVs), as we work with them throughout the product development lifecycle. In terms of technology and platform, we work across all major technologies such as Microsoft, Java and Open source and have capabilities and experience in developing solutions for web, mobile, Cloud and social media. For Enterprise customers, in addition to Process Automation, we also offer development and support services in BI and DWH.