



# FreeForums

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# Project Goals

- ✦ An attempt to produce a forum system similar to CSU Forums
- ✦ To investigate emerging technologies:
  - ✦ Java 2 Enterprise Edition
    - Enterprise Java Beans
  - ✦ XML, SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol), DOM, SAX, JDOM
  - ✦ Visual Basic DLLs, XML Parsing techniques

# Summary of the current system

- ✦ CSU Forums is a traditional forum system developed in house by CSU.
- ✦ It only has a web based interface to the central server database that contains the messages.

# FreeForums features

- ★ Web based interface to central server allowing users to post, view and reply to messages.
- ★ Traditional GUI for the Microsoft Windows Platform which can be used as a substitute to the Web client.

# Software deliverables

- ✦ Java 2 Enterprise Edition components – containing the business logic of the system.
- ✦ A web based interface written using Java Servlets and Java Server Pages
- ✦ A Microsoft Windows compatible Desktop GUI client, written using Visual Basic 6

# Documents

- ✦ Project Plan (already delivered)
- ✦ Requirements Definition (1<sup>st</sup> June 2001)
- ✦ System Development Documentation (13<sup>th</sup> November 2001)
- ✦ Project Evaluation Documentation (13<sup>th</sup> November 2001)

# Assumptions

- ✦ Available Hardware to run the server and client side software
- ✦ Available access to a Java 2 Enterprise Edition compatible platform for run the Server side product
- ✦ Available access to a Java Database Connectivity compliant database server.

# Task Breakdown

- ✦ Group 1 Task List – essential tasks that must be completed before the extra functionality is added to the system.
- ✦ Group 2 Task list – additional features that are added, once the essential features are up and running.



# Group 1 Task List

- ★ Prototype of the system – using Servlets, JSP, and Serialized files.
- ★ Data Persistence – addition of Enterprise Java Beans to the system and modifications of the Servlets, JSP to use them.
- ★ Addition of Multi-forum facilities.

# Group 1 task list (contd...)

- ✦ Development of Desktop GUI Client – using dummy data and no connections with the server.
- ✦ XML on client – additions to the desktop client to process XML (dummy data)
- ✦ XML handling on server side – adding the extra layer of XML processing on server side components.

# Group 1 tasks (contd...)

- ✦ XML on client and server – development of the GUI client to accept XML data from the server side components.

# Group 2 Task List

- ✦ Adding extra functionality to the forum system:
  - ✦ Modifying forum details
  - ✦ Removing forums
  - ✦ Modifying forum user details
  - ✦ Removing users from forums
  - ✦ Removing messages.