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: 20-5-2002

ONLINE GROCERY SYSTEM

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ONLINE GROCERY SYSTEM

A thesis submitted to the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (Information Technology),

Universiti Utara Malaysia

by

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ABSTRAK (BAHASA MALAYSIA)

Projek ini bertujuan untuk membangun sistem membeli-belah barangan runcit atas talian untuk Svarikat eGrocer. Svarikat eGrocer ialah pengedar dan penjual barangan runcit yang bertempat di Negeri Kedah, Malavsia dan bermotif untuk berniaga atas talian. Syarikat eGrocer juga mahu mencipta nama perniagaannya atas talian. Pada masa ini, kebanyakan perniagaan eGrocer adalah dalam bentuk jualan runcit. Dengan memahami keperluan pembeli, dan menjual barangan runcit yang segar, Syarikat eGrocer telah berjaya mencipta nama di kalangan penduduk tempatan. Namun begitu, lokasi stor Syarikat eGrocer yang jauh dari tempat membeli-belah utama di Kedah telah menyebabkan ia tidak dapat menarik perhatian penduduk dari luar. Dalam model perniagaan tradisional, Syarikat eGrocer hanya membeli stok yang ia jangka laris dijual dan mempamerkan barangan tersebut atas rak. Manakala model perniagaan atas talian membolehkan eGrocer menjual lebih banyak jenis barangan runcit tanpa kekangan ruangan fizikal, malahan boleh jualkannya kepada pasaran nasional. Justeru, sistem ini menyediakan muka rangkaian yang mudah diguna dan merupakan media pengiklanan yang berkesan untuk memperkenalkan barangan runcit dengan kos yang lebih rendah. Di samping itu, eGrocer akan membina komuniti atas talian yang berfungsi sebagai sebuah tempat perbincangan mengenai isu-isu barangan runcit. Metodologi Kitaran Hayat Pembangunan Sistem telah dipilih untuk membangun sistem membeli-belah barangan runcit atas talian.

ABSTRACT (ENGLISH)

The purpose of this project is to develop an interactive online grocery shopping system for the eGrocer Company, eGrocer is a specialist grocery retailer in the Kedah state of Malaysia that wants to transform its single store business into a thriving online brand. Presently, the majority of eGrocer business comes in the form of grocery retail. By establishing a local reputation for stocking the fresh non-perishable grocery products and understanding customers' requirements, eGrocer gets a lot of customers as a result of word-of-mouth recommendation by satisfied customers. However, the location for eGrocer store is away from the main shopping district and so it does not attract a lot of people who were just passing. In the offline model, eGrocer buys stocks it expects to sell. When the eGrocer model goes online, it is able to sell a greater range of grocery products, cross-sell and up-sell a number of items to a national market. Therefore, the system provides a user-friendly web pages and effective advertising medium to promote grocery products at cheaper costs. Additionally, eGrocer can build online community features that bring together shoppers from around the world to chat, share ideas, and learn about new products. The online community features enable eGrocer to has an alternative route for potential customers to come into the site. The System Development Life Cycle (SDLC) methodology is used to develop the online grocery system.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The Internet has emerged as a significant channel for the electronic transaction of business. IDC (1999) noted that over the next five years the number of individuals in the United States making purchases online will increase at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of approximately 28% from 21.1 million in 1998 to 72.1 million in 2003. Forrester Research (1998), an Internet research firm, estimated that this growing group of consumers, making increasing numbers of online purchases, will cause total U.S. Internet retail commerce to grow from approximately \$20.3 billion in 1999 to approximately \$184.5 billion in 2004, representing a CAGR of over 55 percent.

With the advent of advanced technology, access to huge capital resources, and with lower barriers to entry, gives huge advantages to first-mover sites. Specific advantages for E-commerce include:

Lower Barriers to Entry

While sophisticated Internet sites are becoming very costly, it is still relatively easy and inexpensive to start a business.

The contents of the thesis is for internal user only

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