

**Laboratory Information Management System  
For Faculty of Information Technology**

**A thesis submitted to the faculty of information technology in partial  
Fulfillment of the requirement for the degree  
Master of Science (ICT)  
universiti utara Malaysia**

**By**

**Said Moh -E. Ahmed**

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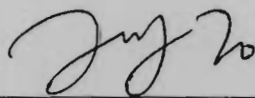
**LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR  
FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LIMS) (FIT)**

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## ABSTRACT

The World Wide Web not only essentially changes the way and improves many things, it also greatly changes how computer software is built. Which profound evolution of software development has caused many in the software industry to change their way of developing software. In this project, Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) for Faculty of Information Technology (FIT) has designed and developed using Throwaway Prototyping methodology with web architecture. Therefore, the software complies with Internet Technology Communication standards and uses an industry standard relational database management system (RDBMS) combined with a platform-independent web browser interface for data entry and retrieval (the 3-tier technology). The resulting system guides the users in the Faculty of Information Technology laboratory workflow steps facilitating the management and tracking of all electric devices, which ensures that the right information in the right form is available to the right person at the right time. System will result in faster work, fewer errors, and smoother workflow for an organization.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

LIMS	Laboratory Information Management System
FIT	Faculty of Information Technology
ELN	Electronic Lab Notebook
PC	Personal Computer
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
IMS	Information Management System
RDB	Relational Database
SQL	Sequential Query Language
WWW	World Wide Web
HTTP	HyperText Terminal Protocol
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
ASP	Active Server Page
PHP	HyperText Preprocessor
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
IE	Internet Explorer
CGI	Common Gateway Interface
URI	Universal Resource Identifier
URN	Universal Resource Name
URL	Universal Resource Locator
WYSIWYG	What You See What You Get
CMS	Content Management System
OS	Operating System
DBMS	Database Management System
UML	Unified Modeling Language
OOSAD	Object-Oriented System Analysis Design
VB	Visual Basic Programming Language
ID	Identification

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.0 Background

Automation in the laboratory has created a demand for similar automation of information management with faster turnaround of data and increased access to information resources. Within the past decade, implementation of new, computerized information management systems designed to meet these needs has forced laboratories to confront the challenge of changing the way they do business. However, few issues can create the same level of turmoil as implementing a new LIMS (George et al., 2000).

Hinton (1995) the fundamentals of a LIMS. It establishes the criteria and goals of a LIMS as they pertain to a quality assurance laboratory. It may also be used as a reference in the design and implementation of a LIMS. The interest in LIMS is increasing; LIMS is a new field and encompasses multi-disciplines. A communication gap has existed between lab personnel and software users. It is hoped that this project will enable these disciplines solve the some problem. Lab personnel must have the ability to describe the necessary LIMS requirements in terms that can be understood by a software developer. Likewise, the software developer needs to

The contents of  
the thesis is for  
internal user  
only

chance and training that will enable staff to be more skillful. Skills that match new opportunities will enhance productivity and promote future brains that the labs will needs specification for a production-quality system.

As a conclusion, the proposed prototype system is a viable solution to be implemented by LIMS for developing web-based application. The research has not yet explored other web-based gadget with HTTP browser, thus making it a comprehensive proposal. Experimentation and evaluation of the prototype using real connection cannot be done due to limited financial budget.

LIMS web based application has the following features that will benefit the users:

Provides direct, simple access to the focused valuable content via few keystrokes or text entry only. Information regarding LIMS is trimmed page to page navigation down to a minimum and hyperlink buttons are used to navigate back. Reduces the amount of vertical scrolling by simplifying the text to display.

Finally, LIMS as a meaningful application turns the conventional information retrieval into simplest web based approach. User can utilize this application via client/server network or internet. The development of LIMS prototype indicates the change of application development. This will lead to extensive improvement of LIMS application that positively impacts the future technology.

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