

TESIS[^] APPROVAL STATUS FORM

JUDUL:

REAL ESTATE AGENCY SYSTEM

SESI PENGAJIAN: 1-2004/2005

Saya SHAI POH YING

(HURUF BESAR)

mengaku membenarkan tesis (PSM/Sarjana/Doktor Falsafah) ini disimpan di Perpustakaan Fakulti Teknologi Maklumat dan Komunikasi dengan syarat-syarat kegunaan seperti berikut:

1. Tesis adalah hak milik Kolej Universiti Teknikal Kebangsaan Malaysia.
2. Perpustakaan Fakulti Teknologi Maklumat dan Komunikasi dibenarkan membuat salinan untuk tujuan pengajian sahaja.
3. Perpustakaan Fakulti Teknologi Maklumat dan Komunikasi dibenarkan membuat salinan tesis ini sebagai bahan pertukaran antara institusi pengajian tinggi.
4. ** Sila tandakan (/)

SULIT

(Mengandungi maklumat yang berdarjah keselamatan atau kepentingan Malaysia seperti yang termaktub di dalam AKTA RAHSIA RASMI 1972)

TERHAD

(Mengandungi maklumat TERHAD yang telah ditentukan oleh organisasi/badan di mana penyelidikan dijalankan)

/

TIDAK TERHAD


(TANDATANGAN PENULIS)

Alamat tetap : 38, Kampung Indah

72100 Bahau, Negeri Sembilan.

Tarikh : 19 October 2004


(TANDATANGAN PENYELIA)

Zahriah Bt Othman

Nama Penyelia

Tarikh : 19 October 2004

CATATAN: ** Jika tesis ini SULIT atau TERHAD, sila lampirkan surat daripada pihak berkuasa.

^ Tesis dimaksudkan sebagai Laporan Projek Sarjana Muda (PSM)

REAL ESTATE AGENCY SYSTEM (REAS)

SHAI POH YING

This report is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Software Development).

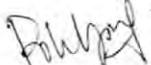
FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MALAYSIA
2004

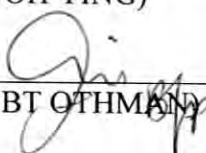
ADMISSION

I admitted that this project title name of

REAL ESTATE AGENCY SYSTEM (REAS)

is written by me and is my effort and that no part has been plagiarized without
citations.

STUDENT : 
(SHAI POH YING) Date : 19-10-2004

SUPERVISOR : 
(ZAHRIAH BT OTHMAN) Date : 19-10-2004

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project is the culmination of 8 weeks of work. No project of this magnitude can be accomplished without the constant help of a number of devoted people. During the accomplishing this project, I have encountered many problems and obstacles. I am lucky to have overcome it with the help of many people. Hence, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to those people who were instrumental in development of this project.

A special thanks goes to my Dowin Real Estate Agency. We greatly appreciate Richard Shai in providing me the necessary information, data and feedback during the entire project going.

Second, I would like to send my sincere thanks to my supervisor, Mrs. Zahriah Othman and Mrs. Maslita and for their valubles suggestion and guidelines in supervising me. The patience and generosity in guiding me through are much welcomed and appreciated.

Last but not least, my sincere thanks goes out to all the people who involved directly or indirectly in accomplishing this project is much appreciated and a note of thanks from me.

ABSTRACT

The developed project is the evidence of the success to achieve the objectives and goals. My project is develops Real Estate Agency System (REAS). This system is designed for real estate agency industry, which is the primary link between owner and potential buyer about property. This project aims at help the real estate agency build a desk system and online system. It provided a powerful database to store all the useful information. This project is taken up with the intention to improve the day-to-day management of real estate and to establish the procedure for the continuous analysis of monthly sales, that consumer buying trends and evaluate the property marketing value. Nowadays, most of the real estate agency already is using the computer to store their property information. But the existing system still not decreases their work due to its obsolete functionality. Currently, there is lack of the functionality to help the owner in estimate their property. The other problems identified include wastage of space storage to keep the data with paper, time consuming and inefficient in salary calculation and analyze the agent performance done manually. So, this project is planning to settle these problems with enhance the existing system's functionality. The modules inside REAS include search engine, property's marketing analysis, sales report, payroll system and data manipulation. The development of this project is referred to the Waterfall Model methodology for its simplicity and backward function. The 6 phases involve are preliminary investigation, analysis, design, implementation, testing and maintenance.

ABSTRAK

Projek yang dibangunkan ini adalah berdasarkan kejayaan untuk mencapai objektif dan sasaran. Projek yang dibangunkan adalah Sistem Hartanah (REAS). Sistem ini adalah direka khusus untuk industri harta tanah agensi, yang mana ia beraksi sebagai orang tengah antara pemilik harta tanah dan pembeli yang potensi. Projek ini bertujuan untuk membantu agensi harta tanah membangunkan satu sistem yang merupakan gabungan antara *internal system* dan *online system*. Sistem membekalkan satu database yang hebat untuk menyimpan segala maklumat yang berguna. Projek ini dibangunkan bertujuan untuk membaiki pengurusan harian bagi harta tanah serta menwujudkan prosedur untuk menganalisa jualan bulanan untuk mengetahui aliran pembeli. Pada masa kini, kebanyakan agensi harta tanah sudah menggunakan komputer untuk menyimpan maklumat. Tetapi, sistem lama masih tidak dapat mengurangkan kerja mereka kerana fungsi sistem sudah tertinggal lama. Sistem lama kekurangan fungsi untuk membantu pemilik harta tanah menganalisa harta tanah mereka dalam pasaran. Masalah lain yang muncul termasuk membazir ruang untuk menyimpan data dalam kertas, memakan tenaga dalam mengira gaji dan agen pertunjukan kena dianalisa sendiri. Oleh itu, projek ini diharap dapat menyelesaikan masalah-masalah dengan meningkatkan fungsi bagi sistem lama. REAS terdiri daripada beberapa modul iaitu enjin carian, analisa harta tanah, jualan laporan, sistem gaji dan mengendalikan data. Pembangunan projek ini adalah berdasarkan *Waterfall Model* kerana keringkasan dan fungsi tukar balik. Enam fasa yang terlibat adalah maklumat carian, analisa, rekabentuk, pelaksanaan, pengujian dan pembaikian.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
PROJECT TITLE	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
ABSTRACT	v
TABLE OF CONTENT	vi
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF ABBREVIATE	xiii
LIST OF APPENDIX	xiv
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Preamble/Overview	1
1.2 Problem Statement(s)	2
1.3 Objective	3
1.4 Scopes	4
1.5 Contributions	5
1.6 Expected Output	6
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Fact And Finding	8
2.2.1 Theory	8
2.2.1.1 System Architecture	8
2.2.1.2 Web Design Concept	11
2.2.1.3 Data Access Technology	13
2.2.1.4 Human Computer Interaction	15
2.2.2 Review Example	15
2.2.2.1 Property Search Engine	15
2.2.2.2 Home Analysis	17
2.3 Conclusion	19
CHAPTER III PROJECT PLANNING AND METHODOLOGY	21
3.1 Introduction	21
3.2 High-Level Project Requirements	22

TITLE	PAGE
3.2.1 Project Facilities Requirement	22
3.2.2 Software Requirement	22
3.2.2.1 Development Tools	23
3.2.2.2 Operating System	24
3.2.3 Hardware Requirements	26
3.3 System Development Approach	26
3.4 Project Schedule and Milestones	29
3.5 Conclusion	31
CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS	33
4.1 Introduction	33
4.2 Analysis of Current System	34
4.2.1 Business Process	34
4.2.2 Problem Analysis	35
4.2.3 Problem Statements	37
4.3 Analysis of To Be System	38
4.3.1 Functional Requirement	38
4.3.2 Technical Requirement	39
4.3.2.1 Software Requirement	39
4.3.2.2 Hardware/Firmware Requirement	40
4.3.2.3 Implementation/Development Requirement	41
CHAPTER V DESIGN	42
5.1 Introduction	42
5.2 Preliminary/High-Level Design	42
5.2.1 Raw Input/Data	43
5.2.2 System Architecture	45
5.2.3 User Interface Design	46
5.2.3.1 Navigation Design	46
5.2.3.2 Input Design	49
5.2.3.3 Output Design	58
5.2.4 Database Design	62
5.2.4.1 Logical Database Design	62
5.3 Detailed Design	64
5.3.1 Software Specification	64
5.3.2 Physical Database Design	73
CHAPTER VI IMPLEMENTATION	76
6.1 Introduction	76
6.2 Software Development Environment Setup	77
6.3 Software Configuration Management	78
6.3.1 Configuration Environment Setup	78
6.3.2 Version Control Procedure	79

TITLE	PAGE
6.4 Implementation Status	80
CHAPTER VII TESTING	82
7.1 Introduction	82
7.2 Test Plan	83
7.2.1 Test Organization	83
7.2.2 Test Environment	83
7.2.3 Test Schedule	83
7.3 Test Strategy	85
7.3.1 Classes of Tests	86
7.4 Test Design	87
7.4.1 Test Description	87
7.4.1.1 Unit Testing	87
7.4.1.2 Integration Testing	90
7.4.1.3 User Acceptance Testing	92
7.4.2 Test Data	97
7.5 Test Case Results	97
7.6 Conclusion	99
CHAPTER VIII PROJECT CONCLUSION	100
8.1 Observation on Weakness and Strengths	100
8.2 Propositions for Improvement	101
8.3 Conclusion	102
REFERENCES	103
APPENDIX	106

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Task of Every Tier Architecture	12
3.1	Browser Statistics	23
3.2	OS Platform Statistics	25
3.3	Hardware Requirement Planning	26
3.4	Project Planning With List of Activities	30
4.1	Software Requirements	39
4.2	Hardware Requirements	40
5.1	Real Estate Professional Fees	44
5.2	Validation Rule for Login Screen	49
5.3	Validation Rule for Property, Owner Manipulation Screen	51
5.4	Validation Rule for Edit Employee Screen	52
5.5	Validation Rule for Transaction Manipulation Screen	53
5.6	Validation Rule for Change Password Screen	54
5.7	Validation Rule for Property Search Screen	55
5.8	Validation Rule for Salary Calculation Screen	56
5.9	Validation Rule for Report Selection Screen	57
5.10	Validation Rule for Property Valuation Screen	58
5.11	Business Rule of Two Entities	63
5.12	Pseudo code of Process 1	66
5.13	Pseudo code of Process 2	66
5.14	Pseudo Code of Process 3	67
5.15	Pseudo Code of Process 4	68
5.16	Pseudo Code of Process 5	69
5.17	Pseudo Code of Process 6	70
5.18	Pseudo Code of Process 7	71
5.19	Pseudo Code of Process 8	72
5.20	Description of Attribute for Owner Table	73
5.21	Description of Attribute for Property Table	73
5.21	Description of Attribute for Transaction Table	74
5.22	Description of Attribute for Buyer Table	74
5.23	Description of Attribute for Job Title Table	107
5.24	Description of Attribute for Owner Table	107
5.25	Description of Attribute for PaySlip Table	107
5.26	Description of Attribute for Property Status Table	108

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
5.27	Description of Attribute for Property Type Table	108
5.28	Description of Attribute for Property Wanted Table	108
5.29	Description of Attribute for Staff Info Table	108
5.30	Description of Attribute for Tenure Table	109
6.1	REAS Implementation Status	80
7.1	Schedule for REAS Testing	85
7.2	Classes of Tests	86
7.3	EP Test Case for Purchase Price	88
7.4	EP Test Case For Postcode	88
7.5	Positive Testing Case for Specific Fields	89
7.6	Negative Testing Case	89
7.7	Navigation Test Case	91
7.8	Login Function Test Case	93
7.9	Add Function Test Case	94
7.10	Edit Function Test Case	94
7.11	Payroll Calculation Function Test Case	95
7.12	Search Function Test Case	96
7.13	Property Analysis Function Test Case	96
7.14	Sales Analysis Function Test Case	97
7.15	EP Test Case Result for Purchase Price	98
7.16	Add Function Test Case Result	98
7.17	EP Test Case Result For Postcode	110
7.18	Positive Testing Case Result for Specific Fields	110
7.19	Negative Testing Case Result	110
7.20	Navigation Test Case Result	111
7.21	Login Function Test Case Result	113
7.22	Edit Function Test Case Result	114
7.23	Payroll Calculation Function Test Case Result	114
7.24	Search Function Test Case Result	115
7.25	Property Analysis Function Test Case Result	116
7.26	Sales Analysis Function Test Case Result	116
7.27	Satisfaction Scale	98

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Various Routes An Application Can Take In ADO	13
2.2	Multi-tier Client/Server Architecture	14
2.3	Manual Search Screen	16
2.4	Property Search Engine of Kim Realty Real Estate Agency	16
2.5	Home Value Analysis Form of Summit County Real Estate	17
2.6	Property Analysis Form of Taylor Place Real Estate	18
3.1	The Activities in the Waterfall Model	27
4.1	Level-0 Data Flow Diagram (System Functionality)	39
5.1	Organization Chart of Dowin Real Estate Agency	43
5.2	Property's Registration Form	44
5.3	REAS Architecture	46
5.4	Navigation Flow of Internal REAS	47
5.5	Navigation Flow of Online REAS	47
5.6	Main Menu	48
5.7	List of Staff Screen	49
5.8	Login Screen	49
5.9	Owner Information Screen	50
5.10	Property Information Screen	50
5.11	Edit Personal Details Screen	52
5.12	Transaction Info Screen	53
5.13	Change Password Screen	54
5.14(a)	Property Search Screen (Internal)	55
5.14(b)	Property Search Screen(Online)	55
5.15	Calculate Monthly Salary Screen	56
5.16	Sale Report Selection Screen	56
5.17(a)	Property Value Analysis Screen (Internal)	57
5.17(b)	Property Value Analysis Screen (Online)	57
5.18	Message Box	58
5.19	Calculate Monthly Salary Screen	59
5.20	Sample Pay Slip	60
5.21	Monthly Sale Report	60
5.22	Search Result	61
5.23	Property Analysis Report	61

FIGURE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
5.24	ERD of Real Estate Agency System	62
5.25	The Context Diagram of Real Estate Agency System	64
5.26	Level-0 Data Flow Diagram for Real Estate Agency System	65
5.27	Level-1 Data Flow Diagram for Process 3, Process Property Searching	67
5.28	Level-1 Data Flow Diagram for Process 4, Property Analysis	68
5.29	Level-1 Data Flow Diagram for Process 5, Conduct Transaction	69
5.30	Level-1 Data Flow Diagram for Process 6, Generate Sale Report	70
5.31	Level-1 Data Flow Diagram for Process 7, generate pay slip	71
5.32	Level-2 Data Flow Diagram for Process 7, generate pay slip	71
6.1	REAS Environment Architecture	77
7.1	Equivalence Partitioning for Purchase Price	87
7.2	Equivalence Partitioning For Postcode	88

LIST OF ABBREVIATE

ADO	Access Data Object
ASP	Active Server Page
DAO	Data access objects
DB	Database
DFD	Data Flow Diagram
ERD	Entity Relationship Diagram
EP	Equivalence Partitioning
EPF	Employee Provident Fund
FK	Foreign Key
GB	Gigabyte
GUI	Graphical User Interface
HCI	Human Computer Interaction
IC	Identity Card
IE	Internet Explorer
IIS	Internet Information Services
LAN	Local Area Network
MB	Megabyte
ODBC	Open Database Connectivity
OS	Operating System
PC	Personal Computer
PK	Primary Key
RAM	Random Access Memory
RDO	Remote data objects
REAS	Real Estate Agency System
SDLC	Systems Development Life Cycle
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/ Internet Protocol
VB	Visual Basic

LIST OF APPENDIX

APPENDIX	TITLE	PAGE
A	Gantt Chart	106
B	Physical Database Design	107
C	Test Case Result	110
D	User Manual	117

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble/Overview

This Real Estate Agency System (REAS) is the combination of internal system with the online application. It divided in 2 parts, that one part is for company internal use only, and other part is web-base application. Although this system divided into 2 different parts but they will share the same database.

This project aims at providing a database of existing buildings, plots, offices of the area, cost, etc for a real estate agency. The relevant information needed can be extracted easily through a user-friendly interface. Information can be modified, updated and deleted as and when required, at any stage depending upon the scenario. The internal system will help in store information, search property, calculate the agent's commission, generate the monthly sales report and analysis the property's marketing price.

The Internet is the most powerful marketing tool of today, having the properties available worldwide 7/24 with advanced features is essential in demonstrating to clients that agency is using cutting edge technology. So the other part is a dynamic database driven ASP web site application, which provides the property information and the services like search engine and property recent marketing.

This system is designed for real estate agency industry, which provides the services for employees, owner and potential buyer about property. The development of this project will follow the Waterfall Model methodology.

1.2 Problem Statement(s)

Nowadays, most of the real estate agency already is using the computer to store their property information. But the current system still not decreases their work, because it not helps the agent in searching the property information quickly. Each agent will assign to handle the specific area. As an agent, he must always go outstanding. So he not will always stay at office. Sometime the owner will come in office and offer his property or client looking for the dreaming property; they lack of the knowledge and need to get professional consultation. It had been the problem if the agent in charge is not around.

So, this project is aims to settle the existing problems. The problems identified are:

- i) Wastage of space storage

Information and transaction of real estate recorded in documents form need a lot of space to store.

- ii) Time consuming and inefficient

Current payroll calculation is did manually where accountant will count the commission gained by agent transaction by transaction due to the commission is based on the property price. Furthermore, the current property searching is done by check the property listing one by one. It is time consuming and inefficient.

- iii) Unable to construct good marketing analysis

Without the aid of transaction trend analysis, it's hard to estimate the marketing trend.

- iv) Analyze the agent performance done manually

The boss always desires to know the agents' performance under his lead. But the analysis done manually is a difficult process, which waste the time, consume the energy and can't prepare a systematic report.

To solve these problems, the functionality of existing Real Estate Agency System will be enhanced to provide more efficient search engine.

1.3 Objective

The objectives the REAS aim to achieve for this specific module are as following:

- i) To replace manual, paper-intensive mechanisms

To create a paper-less office environment, and increase the working efficiency by store the relevant information in database. So that required information can be available on a continuing basis. System can facilitate these work activities by processing high volume of transactions within a tightly defined timeframe

- ii) To reduce the human error factor, improve the accuracy in salary and professional fee calculation

Computerize system enable for error detection and reduce the possibility of wrong calculating. Besides, it can reduce the accountant's work in calculate the professional fee, agents' commission and monthly salary.

- iii) To reduce the amount of work taken up by traditionally property search
To help real estate agency manipulate their property information that decreases the time to search the client's dreaming property from the long list.

- iv) To analyze the monthly sales and property current marketing
Tracking demand history illustrates the complexity of sales analysis. Provide the service to help landlord analyze his property's value by comparison with the current area marketing.

1.4 Scope

This system is designed for real estate agency located in Johor Bahru to manage their handled real estate and publish their own listings from any web browser. The internal system will use by staff of real estate agency for internal use where website is open for the public, but is targeted to who has interesting to own his dreaming property.

The modules involved are:

i) Search engine

This module involve search the properties by property reference no. or property detail such as category, type, location, price and other requirement. So the user can find out his dreaming property quickly anywhere.

ii) Analysis of property's current marketing

A property value will be change time by time. Most of us intuitively know that property values are influenced by many factors, with location representing the primary influence on value. So this module will compare that area recent sales marketing. The comparison result will become user references to adjust the property value.

iii) Sales report

This module is cover generates the monthly sales report for agents. The report can use analyze the agent's performance and indicate which property category is welcomed.

iv) Payroll system

This module is calculates the agent salary base on basic salary and commission gained for each agent's sales.

v) Check/record the information

This module will keep track the transaction information, properties information, client information, landlord information and agent's sales and allow the authorized staff maintain the data.

1.5 Contributions

This REAS will be contributed to the employee of real estate agency, property owner, client, potential client and public. Employee of real estate agency can use this system to manage their daily work. It not only can reduce their work, but also make the work systematically. Manager can use REAS to analyze the agent performance and customer taste. Accountant no needs to calculate the salary, EPF and commission gained transaction by transaction manually. By help of REAS, the salary will be calculated automatically and with accuracy.

Public can get the latest property information via the online system anywhere anytime. For the potential client, they can find out their dreaming property immediately by using the search engine. Beside that, property owner can analyze their property

marketing trend when using this system, a recent sales activity report will be generated to let user make comparison.

1.6 Excepted Output

The Real Estate Agency system (REAS) is expected to achieve the following outcome:

- i) System can perform some basic function and meet some importance criteria such as stability, consistency, reliability and user friendly.
- ii) System able to facilitate the access authentication and ensure only authorized user can access the system.
- iii) A system that will be able to adapt in local business environment.
- iv) Provide desirable front end for system administrator to maintain the database.
- v) System can help to management the information with systematically.
- vi) Online system that will be able provide latest property listing for the user.
- vii) A system that's able to analyze agent performance and sales performance.
- viii) The final implementation should allow for future enhancement as well as additional modules to extend the system functionality.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

An initial literature review was performed which surveyed the field of real estate business. The review covered the theory and concept will use for REAS development.

This chapter also contains all the research has been done on the existing current system including reviews on the features, capabilities, and so on. The weaknesses on existing current system were identified in order for this project to overcome and the strengths of existing property management application were studied so that it can be adapted into this project.

The review of the existing literature is important to have a better understanding on the requirements of this project. Assessing current existing systems or web site allows identification of the weaknesses that are to be overcome in this project. Meanwhile the strengths of existing application were studies so that it can be adapted into this project.

Method of gathering information regarding REAS is necessary in order to establish understanding of the state and future requirement on the system study and provide the groundwork for the system design. As for this project, the main information

sources for system analysis were reference books, Internet surfing, informal survey and interview and discussion with supervisor.

An interview with Dowin real estate agency conducted to identify system requirements, find facts, verify facts, clarify facts and solicit ideas and options. Discussion with supervisor has been practiced from time to time in order to get the help and advices during the writing of report.

2.2 Fact and Finding

2.2.1 Theory

Although people often talk as if theory and practice are different things, as in “that is only theoretical,” nothing is more practical than a good theory (Max Kummerow). Theory helps make sense of complex situations by directing attention to key issues and by guiding methods of analysis.

2.2.1.1 Real Estate Valuation

Two of the major cash flow components of small business operations are the start-up capital requirements for commercial real estate and the ongoing expense of renting and operating the space, which the business is located.

Whether a company leases space or invests in its own land and building, the value for the real estate is of concern to several parties. These parties include potential

lenders, other partners or shareholders, the small business owners themselves and the landlords who rent space to the business. Part one of this series deals with some of the ownership value considerations of real estate, while the second part will explore some of the important areas of leasing the business location.

An American form appraisal called the Uniform Residential Appraisal Report (FANNIE MAE Form 1004) lists the following hedonic character of house that warrant price adjustments:

- i) Sales or financing concessions
- ii) Date of sale/time
- iii) Location
- iv) Leasehold/fee simple
- v) Site/view
- vi) Design and appeal
- vii) Quality of construction
- viii) Age
- ix) Condition
- x) Above-grade room count/gross living area
- xi) Basement and finished rooms below grade
- xii) Functional utility
- xiii) Heating/cooling
- xiv) Energy-efficient items
- xv) Garage/carport
- xvi) Porch, patio, deck, fireplace(s), etc.
- xvii) Fence, pool, etc.

i) Determining Value

Appraisers consider real estate value from three points of view and determine an estimated of value based upon weighing the three valuation methods. These three