

Northwestern University

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

CONSENT FORM

Project Title: *Optimizing the Client/Server Environment Subject to User Satisfaction*

Principal Investigator: *Prof. Gokhan Memik*

Co-Investigator(s): *Prof. Peter Dinda*

Supported by: *National Science Foundation*

Introduction/Purpose:

You are being asked to participate in a research study that supports the design and evaluation of a system that aims at predicting the user satisfaction based on the performance of an application running in a client environment (i.e., laptop or desktop).

You are being asked to participate in this study because you responded to our posters or email advertisements and we have identified that you have the appropriate skills to understand the performance of the applications used in the study.

Approximately 30 persons will participate in this study.

Procedures

As a participant in this study, you will be asked to come to L456 in the Tech Building. Your participation in this study will last for 45 minutes and will involve one visit.

You will be asked to sit in a chair at a computer and play different computer games. The system will manipulate its performance during these games.

Once the games are completed, you will fill out a short questionnaire about your impressions of the system.

At any time in the study, you may decide to withdraw from the study. If you withdraw no more information will be collected from you. When you indicate you wish to withdraw the investigator will ask if the materials already collected in the study can be used.

Risks

Your participation does not involve any risks other than what you would encounter in daily life.

The computer may execute too slowly and make you feel frustrated.

You may withdraw at any time.

Benefits:

There will be no direct benefit to you by your participation in this research study.

Your participation in this study may aid in our understanding of how to make computing power cheaper for users and more profitable for providers.

Alternatives:

You have the alternative to choose not to participate in this research study.

Confidentiality:

Participation in this research study may result in a loss of privacy, since persons other than the investigator(s) might view your study records. Unless required by law, only the study investigator, members of the investigator's staff, representatives of the **National Science Foundation**, the Northwestern University Institutional Review Board, and representatives from the Office for Human Research Protections (DHHS) will have authority to review your study records. They are required to maintain confidentiality regarding your identity.

Results of this study may be used for research, publications, or presentations at scientific meetings. If your individual results are discussed, your identity will be protected because your information will not be associated with your name or other identifying information.

Centralized data collection or registries:

The results of your examinations will be collected in a centralized computer or data registry at the Northwestern University's Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department, Evanston, IL. Results will be stored without names or other identifying information.

Financial Information:

Your participation in this study will involve no cost to you.

You will receive \$20 for your participation in this research study. It will be paid in the form of a receipt that you will be able to exchange for cash. If you withdraw from the study, you will be paid for the portions that you completed.

Subjects' Rights:

Your participation in this study is voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time.

Choosing not to participate or withdrawing from this study will not affect your class standing.

Consent:

I agree to participate in the research study described above. I will receive a copy of this consent form after I sign it.

Subject's Name (printed) and Signature

Date

Name (printed) and Signature of Person Obtaining Consent

