ABSTRACT

Short Message Service and a Look Towards the Implementation of a Viable Commercial Flight Information System Using SMS

Harikrishnan Sreekumar

Short Messaging Service (SMS) messaging has quickly become one of the most viable options to provide timely and direct communications. It can be used as a low cost, yet effective means of textual data transfer in various applications other than personal messaging. These applications may include commercial SMS services such as Flight Schedules Query Systems for airports.

This Project Report explores, the SMS transfer protocol, features, advantages and shortcomings as they apply to an SMS based Flight Information System. The study involved the implementation of a prototype Flight Schedules Query System for Piarco International Airport. The system allows users to submit queries and receive responses for flight schedule data via mobile phones by using SMS messages. The system uses SMS messages in conjunction with a Java application and data stored in a MySQL database.

This report also analyses the requirements, advantages, shortcomings and adaptability of the eventual design, implementation and results of the system. The system can also be adapted for other commercial applications which use SMS messaging for short, quick, cost-effective and ubiquitous from of textual communications.

Keywords: Harikrishnan Sreekumar; Short Message Service; Flight Schedule Query and Response System; Mobile Computing; Serial Port Programming.

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