

Computer User Interface Usability Testing

You are being invited to participate in a research study to determine the usefulness and usability of computer user interfaces. This study is being conducted by Dr. Robert Pastel of Michigan Technological University Computer Science Department and Dr. Pastel's Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) courses. The students are performing the usability tests as part of their project and to fulfill the HCI course requirements.

There are no known risks if you decide to participate in this research study. There are no costs to you for participating in the study. The information you and the tasks that you will perform will determine the usefulness and usability of user interfaces. The questionnaires and the tasks should take less than an hour to complete. The information collected may not benefit you directly, but the information learned in this study should provide more general benefits.

The questionnaires and tests are anonymous. No one will be able to identify you and your answers, and no one will know whether or not you participated in the study except for the instructor of the class who is giving you credit for participating. Should the data be published, no individual information will be disclosed.

Your participation in this study is voluntary. By completing the questionnaires and performing the tasks, you are voluntarily agreeing to participate. You are free to decline to answer any particular question you do not wish to answer or not to perform a task for any reason.

The testing may make use of video conferencing software which will record your tasks on computers screen and from your webcam. The webcam recordings will not be shared, and you may mute the webcam at any time. Before sharing your screen, you should clear your desktop of any open apps except your browser. Also you should clear your desktop of any icons or widget that you wish not to be observed.

If you have any questions about the study, please contact Dr. Robert Pastel, Associate Professor, Computer Science Department, Michigan Technology University, Houghton, MI 49931.

The MTU Institutional Review Board has reviewed the request to conduct this project. If you have any concerns about your rights in this study, please contact Joanne Polzien of MTU-IRB at 906-487-2902 or email jpolzien@mtu.edu.