Bachelor of Computing Systems: Internship at HERA

Student	Academic Supervisor	Project Sponsor
Tobias Kick	David Skelton	HERA
EIT Hawke's Bay	EIT Hawke's Bay	Auckland

Introduction

The Bachelor of Computing Systems degree at EIT includes a compulsory 45 credit internship or project in the final semester of the third year. During this semester, Tobias worked as an IT intern at HERA (Heavy Engineering Research Association) based in Manukau, Auckland.

The company, HERA, gave Tobias the possibility to explore different IT areas through their small-scale IT projects. In addition to the projects conducted at HERA, the student further reflected his projects and tasks in assignments for the Eastern Institute of Technology.

Abstract

This poster illustrates an embedded internship experience undertaken by Tobias Kick, a third year Bachelor of Computing Systems (BCS) student at the Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT). The poster outlines the working environment of the company, the tasks conducted by Tobias, as well as the methodology used for the mini project.

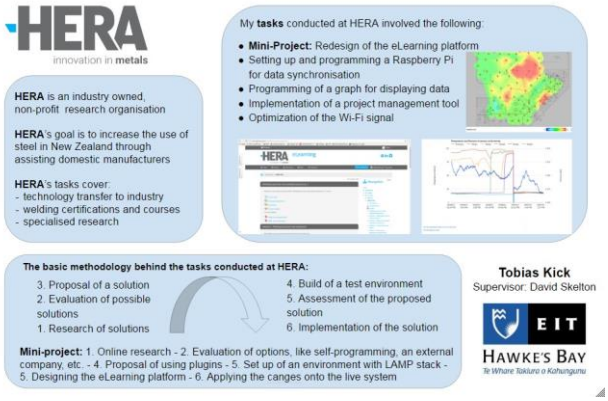

Figure 1. Image of the poster.

Student Work

This IT internship poster describes the mini project and some of the IT projects accomplished by the student. For most of the projects and especially the mini project the following methodology was applied:

1. Research of solutions
2. Evaluation of possible solutions
3. Proposal of a solution
4. Build of a test environment
5. Assessment of the proposed solution
6. Implementation of the solution

In the context of the mini project, the first step was to research into different options, like external companies, self-programming, open source plugins or exploiting existing features. After evaluating them, Tobias proposed to go for the open source plugins. A test environment was built, using the LAMP stack, and the eLearning platform, as well as plug ins could be installed and assessed. After confirmation by HERA, the solution was updated and implemented on their server.

Conclusion

The new design of the eLearning platform allows users to quickly navigate to their needed resources and it lets HERA appear as a modern company when it comes to providing materials to their students. Furthermore, the built test environment can also be used for testing future changes more quickly and will therefore remain a part of HERA's IT infrastructure.