Übung 7 – Mensch-Maschine-Interaktion

Topic: Heuristic Evaluation

Part 1: Essay

(Per-person homework, 1 week)

Familiarize yourself with the principles of heuristic evaluation. Starting points for your research could be e.g.:

- http://www.stanford.edu/group/web-creators/heuristics.htm
- http://jthom.best.vwh.net/usability/heuristic.htm
- http://www.useit.com/papers/heuristic/
- http://www.useit.com/papers/heuristic/severityrating.html
- http://www.infodesign.com.au/usabilityresources/evaluation/conductingusabilityreviews.asp

Explain in your own words (300 words maximum) what a heuristic evaluation is, how it is conducted and what the potential problems and benefits are.

Submission:

- Submission of the report is by email to mmi1@hcilab.org
  Please use a PDF attachment named uebung7-N.pdf (N is your last name). The report must be written in German.

Part 2: Heuristic Evaluation

(Per-group homework, 1 week)

A heuristic evaluation is performed by a team of experts. Perform the heuristic evaluation on of one of the following objects:

- A DVD player,
- a phone book application on a mobile phone, or
- an open-source application of your choice.

Choose a set of heuristics as found in part 1 to evaluate your chosen object.
Find issues that are potential problems and rate the severity. Based on your findings, write a short usability report (at most one page) outlining problems and their severity.
In addition to your report, include a brief description of the object of your evaluation, including a picture, some expressive screenshots, or a link to the product page.

Submission:

- Submission of the report is by email to mmi1@hcilab.org
  Please use a PDF attachment named uebung7-gruppeN.pdf (N is your group number). The report must be written in German.
- Deadline for submission: **Tuesday, January 31st 2006, 8 a.m.**
- Presentation of results: Exercises on January 31st, February 2nd, 3rd. Each group member must be able to explain her/his group's solution in the exercises session.