TRAINING TIME SCHEDULER FOR ZIMASCO SHURUGWI AND SOUTH DYKE DIVISION.
ABSTRACT

The basis of this project was to develop a Training time Scheduler for Zimasco Shurugwi and South dyke division (Training department). The main focus of the system is to try to curb problems that are associated with scheduling of courses, facilitators and venues throughout the whole year. Every year end the department gathers necessary training information from the training needs and begin the scheduling process. This is done on a spreadsheet on rows and columns. To derive an annual training plan it demands a dedicated three weeks (working hour basis) at most. With this at hand it has created an opportunity for me to have an in-depth research on how to computerize and ease the burden that the training department is experiencing.

There were various fact gathering methodologies that were carried out to come up with a comprehensive detail of how the manual system works, the challenges that they face and also their hopes of computerization. The results of the fact gathering clearly highlighted that surely there is a need for developing a computerized training time scheduler that meets the current problems. The system development process came just on time, when Zimasco was upgrading to Microsoft Office 2010. The upgrade managed to integrate the Microsoft Outlook with the training time scheduler allowing the system to auto-generate notifications that will be send to users once scheduled for an event.

The training department adopted the final application and have implemented it on a parallel run to evaluate its benefit. Time and resources were a major drawback to many modifications and enhancements to the system hence I recommend that more time and resources must be given to work on additional modules such as incorporating an sms gateway that automatically notifies specific users over mobile networks. After the system has been fully appreciated it then calls for the department to implement it in other divisions.
I, TINASHE MUDENGE, hereby declare that I am the sole author of this dissertation. I authorize Midlands State University to lend this dissertation to other institutions or individuals for the purpose of scholarly research.

Signature___________________

Date: 25 October 2012
This dissertation entitled “Training Time Scheduler System” by TINASHE MUDENGE meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Information Systems Honors of the Midlands State University, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literal presentation.

Supervisor: Mr. P.T. Denhere.

Signature:..........................

Date: 25 October 2012
Acknowledgements

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the following people who contributed immensely to the success of this thesis:

- My supervisor, Mr. PT Denhere who directed me throughout the research with his meticulous criticism and objective comments. His motivation was valuable towards the success of this project.

- Zimasco Shurugwi and South Dyke division training department for their unwavering support and in believing on my determination to deliver my first software application for the company.
Dedications

I dedicate this project in loving memory of the late Minister of higher and tertiary education Dr. I.S.G Mudenge who had a dogmatic character that contributed indirectly to the molding of who I am. With this on mind I can proudly quote his words - “Fortune and love favour the brave and who dares wins”.
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List of Acronyms

AFS       ALLOY FROM SLAG
APP       ALLOY PRODUCTION & PROCESSING
BBS       BEHAVIOUR BASED SAFETY
GUI       GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE
CAT5      CATEGORY 5
CEO       CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ERP       ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING
GIGO      GARBAGE IN GARBAGE OUT
GM        GENERAL MANAGER
HOD       HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
HOS       HEAD OF SECTION
ICT       INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY
IMAP      INTERNET MAIL ACCESS PROTOCOL
LAN       LOCAL AREA NETWORK
MTA       MAIL TRANSFER AGENT
MUA       MAIL USER AGENT
OSP       ORE SUPPLY AND PREPARATION
RDBMS     RELATIONAL DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
SMTP      SIMPLE MAIL TRANSFER PROTOCOL
TTC       TRAINING TIME SCHEDULER
UK        UNITED KINGDOM
VB        VISUAL BASIC
WGPO      WORK GROUP POST OFFICE
ZIMASCO   ZIMBABWE MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY
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