COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF POPULAR WEB FORECASTING SOFTWARE’S

Anamika Pant

Abstract:- Mobile apps or mobile applications are software designed specifically to run on a wide range of mobile devices including tablet computers and smart phones. The initial norm was the use of websites which was great but not always suitable for all clients as most of these sites were not mobile friendly. Research has shown that the use of these apps are a very good way to increase the revenue of a business as about 50% of search results were from mobile devices and smart phones. Even in other areas like the education sector, the use of software created by app developers in India has become quite widespread.

Key-words:- Mobile Applications, Weather Expert App

Introduction:-

Just like humans weather is also unpredictable. But thanks to today's technology, now we get to know about the weather forecast and stay up to date about climatic conditions. We all are pretty much aware of the weather and its changes. Weather apps and weather widgets of the smart phones are getting better over the years (Rosen et al., 2015). It works better, have more detailed and precise data, and the climate widgets look better with whatever theme you happen to utilize. Weather Expert app is a weather channel which provides correct weather information. It is very helpful for everybody. The daily update of the weather is readily available through the weather app which helps to understand the climax forecasting. Weather Expert is a weather details application which provides functionality like Current Location, Searching Locations, and Adding locations to favourite, Deleting favourites if you don't require them anymore. The user interface of the app i.e. Weather Expert is very much user-friendly. The application offers a sliding
menu to get to the different options accessible and make the application more attractive and effective for the users.

**Features of the Weather Expert:-**

Weather Expert has a lot of features which are the following:

- It is a free weather app which is easily available on the internet and can be download and install easily.
- You can check the real-time weather update of any places like- Melbourne weather, Los Angeles weather, Seattle weather, Muscat weather etc.
- It shows all information of the weather like weather description, humidity, visibility, wind speed, wind direction, pressure, cloud cover, and precipitation.
- This weather app presents daily weather, hourly weather forecasts, weekly weather and monthly weather forecasts.
- Automatically detects your current location by network or GPS.
- You can also search your location in the search bar by typing the location.
- You can add your favourite locations to the favourites list and can also delete them from there if you don’t need it anymore.
- Weather Expert provides a sidebar menu to access different options and features that are available in this app.
- The weather forecast which is provided by this mobile app is totally correct and can be relied upon.
- **One of the best features of Weather expert application is that it acts differently in heavy rainfall and helps the users by warning them. During the heavy rainfall, the application automatically generates a warning and makes the users alert. This is helps the users as regular checking of the application might be boring and hectic too.**
- **Weather Expert is a boon for those who do not even have smart phones as this application just sends simple messages in their handsets. So, each and every**
mobile user can be relaxed as Weather Expert will help them irrespective of their mobile features.

Competitive Market for the Weather Expert

In today's competitive market every day new apps are being made and launched, weather apps being no exception to it. A competitive analysis was done to get an idea of similar apps that were already present in Android and Apple users. Surveys were conducted to find out what type of weather applications users like and what problems they face in these existing mobile applications related to the weather forecasting. Apps like weather forecast, weather are high rated weather apps and have millions of downloads. Users love these apps due to their user-friendly interface, accurate weather details and regular interval updates which are very important for any mobile app (Phan., 2017). To stand out in the market from the other weather apps, Weather Expert needs to improve their user interface and add new features which are not present in other similar apps and needs to update it in a regular interval, so that it can attract the users and they use the same.

The main thing that a weather app should always maintain is showcasing correct weather forecast. This is really very much essential as it is the key features of the weather forecasting application. Most of the users are traveling and busy users who want to confirm the weather forecast so that they can plan according to it. Maximum users avoid weather apps which takes up a large amount of storage space. So the app should be light in weight and most importantly it should be updated on the regular interval. It is also known that weather apps drain out the charge of the cell phone very fast, provide incorrect forecast and temperatures which is a big no for all the users. Weather Expert app if follows all these points then it would soon become an app loved by the users.
Comparison of various weather forecasting softwares:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Application</th>
<th>Weather Expert</th>
<th>Weather Forecast</th>
<th>Weather</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year of launching</strong></td>
<td>1st July 2013</td>
<td>22nd June 2017</td>
<td>30th April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost</strong></td>
<td>Free app</td>
<td>Free app</td>
<td>Free app</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rating in Google Play Store /Apple Store</strong></td>
<td>3.3 stars</td>
<td>4.7 stars</td>
<td>4.7 stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Downloads</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1million</td>
<td>5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unique Feature</strong></td>
<td>It is a much organised app and allows you to add your favourite locations in the favourite list.</td>
<td>It provides interstate travel weather forecasts and forecast weather and wind.</td>
<td>Multiple services &amp; channels in the weather channel app like prediction &amp; backup service for WeatherBug and for weather underground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supported by</strong></td>
<td>Android Version 1.1</td>
<td>Android Version 7.52</td>
<td>Android Version 43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Analysis

From this image we can see that this app provides weather forecast of today, tomorrow and the next day. It shows the exact temperature as well as the speed of the wind, humidity, pressure, sunrise and sunset also.

From this image we can see that this app provides weather forecast of the whole week and what temperature would be present on what time of the day. It also shows the humidity, chance of rain, precipitation, wind chill, dew point, cloud cover, ultraviolet index, pressure, sunrise and sunset.

From this image we can see that this app provides weather forecast of today, tomorrow and next day. It shows the exact temperature as well, humidity, precipitation, sunrise, sunset, dew point and pressure.

Table 1 Comparison Chart of the popular apps of weather forecasting

Conclusion:-

So from here, we can conclude that no matter what type of app it is it should be designed keeping users in mind. The accurate forecast and user-friendly interface are the primary factors for a weather app (Goldstein et al., 2017). Weather Expert was intended at solving the problems which are present in other weather apps. The goals which were achieved by Weather Expert were providing correct weather forecast, getting access to the location or automatically the location gets detected through GPS, making a list of the favourite locations so that you don’t need to search for the locations every time when you need to check. If the design is made more simplified and reduces needless features then Weather Expert would also become one of the top weather apps in a very short span of time.
References:-


