Managing Activities with TV-ACTA

Ethnography
Naturally occurring task management
Existing resources work well
Forgetting is not the big problem
Effort of PIM is the problem

Email is top resource 36%
E-calendar 12%
Lists online and paper 14%

Comprehensive “Task Vistas”

Task Management Design Findings

To solve the list creation & prioritization effort:

- Simple, lightweight, drag & drop To-Do Manager
- At hand on desktop
- Supports multiple views of tasks
- Integrated with email
- Supports time-management
- Can record state in task notes
- Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Design

ACTA Activity Structure: A semantically rich organizing tool

Priority Lists

ACTA Tutorial
AIAA 2007 Spring
PM Workshop Phoenix
BOOK Flights
Lunch, Steve L.
Remote meeting infrastructure
Home Page/Daily
Email
Task Vista To-Do Manager:
A flexible task list resource

Complex task opens into an Activity in Outlook

Details panes show organized information

Dragging an item from Outlook or elsewhere implicitly conveys meaning within the Activity so the system can learn what the user is doing

Drag and drop special-purpose Agenda Component intended to be hooked up to backend system model of state of Activity

Task-specific Components structure an Activity

Task Vista To-Do Manager:

A flexible task list resource

Simple, lightweight, drag & drop

At hand on desktop

Supports multiple views of tasks

Integrated with email

Supports time-management

Can record state in task notes

Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Victoria Bellotti & Jim Thornton
bellotti@parc.com; jthornton@parc.com

Managing Activities with TV-ACTA

Ethnography
Naturally occurring task management
Existing resources work well
Forgetting is not the big problem
Effort of PIM is the problem

Email is top resource 36%
E-calendar 12%
Lists online and paper 14%

Comprehensive “Task Vistas”

Task Management Design Findings

To solve the list creation & prioritization effort:

- Simple, lightweight, drag & drop To-Do Manager
- At hand on desktop
- Supports multiple views of tasks
- Integrated with email
- Supports time-management
- Can record state in task notes
- Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Design

ACTA Activity Structure: A semantically rich organizing tool

Priority Lists

ACTA Tutorial
AIAA 2007 Spring
PM Workshop Phoenix
BOOK Flights
Lunch, Steve L.
Remote meeting infrastructure
Home Page/Daily
Email
Task Vista To-Do Manager:
A flexible task list resource

Complex task opens into an Activity in Outlook

Details panes show organized information

Dragging an item from Outlook or elsewhere implicitly conveys meaning within the Activity so the system can learn what the user is doing

Drag and drop special-purpose Agenda Component intended to be hooked up to backend system model of state of Activity

Task-specific Components structure an Activity

Task Vista To-Do Manager:

A flexible task list resource

Simple, lightweight, drag & drop

At hand on desktop

Supports multiple views of tasks

Integrated with email

Supports time-management

Can record state in task notes

Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Victoria Bellotti & Jim Thornton
bellotti@parc.com; jthornton@parc.com

Managing Activities with TV-ACTA

Ethnography
Naturally occurring task management
Existing resources work well
Forgetting is not the big problem
Effort of PIM is the problem

Email is top resource 36%
E-calendar 12%
Lists online and paper 14%

Comprehensive “Task Vistas”

Task Management Design Findings

To solve the list creation & prioritization effort:

- Simple, lightweight, drag & drop To-Do Manager
- At hand on desktop
- Supports multiple views of tasks
- Integrated with email
- Supports time-management
- Can record state in task notes
- Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Design

ACTA Activity Structure: A semantically rich organizing tool

Priority Lists

ACTA Tutorial
AIAA 2007 Spring
PM Workshop Phoenix
BOOK Flights
Lunch, Steve L.
Remote meeting infrastructure
Home Page/Daily
Email
Task Vista To-Do Manager:
A flexible task list resource

Complex task opens into an Activity in Outlook

Details panes show organized information

Dragging an item from Outlook or elsewhere implicitly conveys meaning within the Activity so the system can learn what the user is doing

Drag and drop special-purpose Agenda Component intended to be hooked up to backend system model of state of Activity

Task-specific Components structure an Activity

Task Vista To-Do Manager:

A flexible task list resource

Simple, lightweight, drag & drop

At hand on desktop

Supports multiple views of tasks

Integrated with email

Supports time-management

Can record state in task notes

Captures participants & makes them easy to contact

Early evaluation shows users:

- Demand low-effort investment
- Require familiar visualizations
- Like task-centric view of resources
- Want to get to participants easily

Victoria Bellotti & Jim Thornton
bellotti@parc.com; jthornton@parc.com