** DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL **
Sharing Free-Form Ink Notes through the Web

Jason A. Brotherton[1], Richard C. Davis[2], James A. Landay[2], Morgan N. Price[3], Bill N. Schilit[3]

[1] College of Computing
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332-0280 USA
+1 404 894 7512
brothert@cc.gatech.edu

[2] EECS Department
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-1776 USA
+1 510 643 7354
{rcdavis, landay}@cs.berkeley.edu

[3] FX Palo Alto Laboratory
3400 Hillview Avenue, Bldg. 4
Palo Alto, CA 94304 USA
+1 415 813 7220
{schilit, price}@pal.xerox.com

STATEMENT

As described in the attached abstract, NotePals, NoteBrowser, and the NoteStore are three applications that together support a novel, lightweight, method of meeting capture based on free form digital ink notes. A demonstration is important to communicate the look and feel of NotePals' unique paper-like user interface as well as to give the community an idea how the three applications work together in a note taking process.

RELEVANCE

This work deals with areas of interest to the CHI community, namely, improving computer-human interaction processes, mobile devices, pen input, CSCW, and hand-held devices. Other research has examined computer-based meeting support tools. Our work is unique in that we focus on *lightweight* support and do not require an expensive, fixed infrastrucure. The rationale for this work comes from our realization that people often leave meetings without a shared understanding and record of the important points that occurred in the meeting.

COMMERCIAL STATUS

NotePals, NoteBrowser, and NoteStore are not commercial products. This research is funded by Fuji Xerox Corporation, an office equipment manufacturer, and in the future the Corporation many decide to commercialize these products.

PRESENTER

The presenter will be Jason Brotherton. Jason is one of the designers and developers of the system.

EQUIPMENT FOR DEMONSTRATION

The NoteBrowser and NoteStore software run on Windows 95 or NT. The NotePals software runs on a Palm Pilot PDA, but we will most likely run the software on a Pilot emulator on a pen computer. Our plan then, is to bring the software installed on a pen computer with a VGA output. We'd like CHI organizers to provide a VGA cable and either an LCD projector, or an LCD panel plus a high-luminosity overhead projector, or some other means of displaying VGA from the pen computer to the audience.

SCRIPT

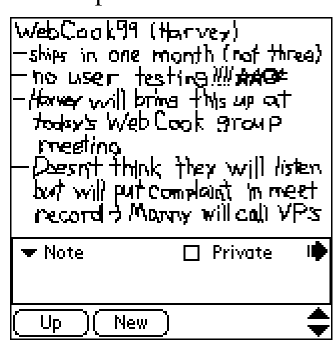
NotePals runs on a Palm Pilot PDA.

Scene 1: Stationery Types

This scene demonstrates the different NotePals stationery types. Each stationery type has its own set of attributes that can be quickly specified with pull-down menus and pop-up menus.

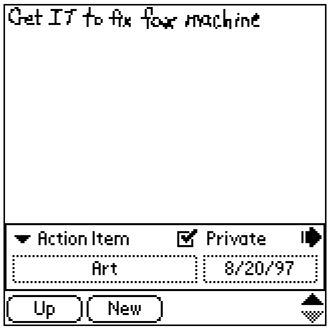
Default Notes

All notes can be public or private. The note type can be specified with a pull-down menu. The default stationery type, "Note," has no special attributes.



Action Items

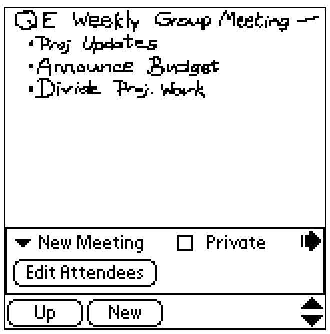
Action Items specify a person who is responsible for the action, and a due date for when the action should be completed.



A person responsible for the item can be assigned by selecting the name from a pop-up menu and the due date for the item can be specified in the same way.

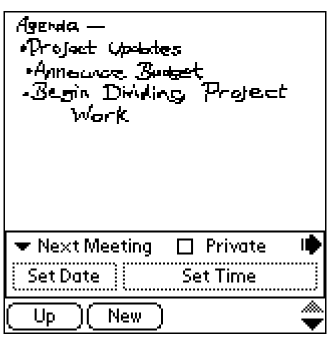
New Meeting

New Meeting notes are created at the start of a meeting. The persons present can be specified by clicking on the edit attendees button.



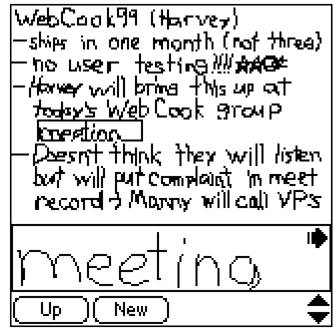
Next Meeting

Next Meeting notes are used to indicate the time and date of the next meeting.



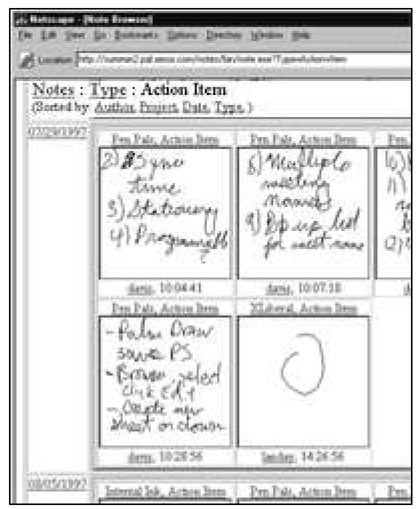
Scene 2: Focus plus Context

Notes can be written directly on the page, but sentences and ink text can be written in a focused region on the screen. This allows for much higher resolution than is normally possible.



Scene 3: Viewing Notes on the Web

NoteBrowser allows the notes created by NotePals to be viewed through the Web. Users start by selecting to view note attributes for "Author", "Project", "Date", or "Stationery Type" (figure not shown). NoteBrowser then displays a listing of all of the values in the note database for that category (figure not shown). By clicking on a value, the NoteBrowser then shows notes that match the specified value for the give attribute. Successive queries can be given in this fashion by clicking on attribute values.



Scene 4: Creating and Modifying Notes on the Desktop

The NoteBrowser also allows for the editing and entry of ink notes from the desktop. Clicking on the *JotIt* button add the note to the ink repository.