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Developing a Multi-modal Listing Service for Real Estate Agency Practice in Nigeria

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Abstract

Fraudsters posing as real estate agents threaten the reputation of real estate agencies in Nigeria. These fraudsters have continually defrauded unsuspecting members of the public. The major cause of this lapse is due largely to the fact that there is no known platform provided in the country that allows members of the public to verify a given real estate agent. This paper aims to provide support to real estate agency practice in Nigeria by developing a multi-modal listing service for verifying registered real estate agents and to also provide information on real estates available for sale, lease or rent. The requirements for the system were gathered through observation, literature survey and user survey. These requirements were then modelled using the Unified Modelling Language (UML). The system is developed both as a web and mobile application using an open source content management system (WordPress). This paper essentially presents the: requirements gathering process, design and implementation of the multi-modal listing service as well as how it compares with other similar services developed elsewhere. The multi-modal listing service developed in this study is a welcome development due to the availability and widespread adoption of the Internet and Internet-enabled mobile devices in Nigeria. The tool can be of use to the National Association of Estate Agents in Nigeria - a body saddled with the responsibility of rebranding the real estate agency profession in Nigeria.

Keywords

Listing service Multi-modal Real estate
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Notes

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