



Faculty of Applied Sciences
School of Interactive Arts + Technology

School of Interactive Arts +
Technology

street address
250 -13450 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0A3 CANADA

mailing address
Simon Fraser University Surrey
250 -13450 102 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 0A3 CANADA

phone: +1 778.782.7474
fax: +1 778.782.7478

Participant Consent Form

March 12, 2009

Dear Participant,

Hello, I am interested in your thoughts and experiences while investigating the new iconic visualization techniques. This is a study that is conducted by Minoo Erfani and Hasti Seifi, graduate students at Simon Fraser University. The purpose of this study is investigating and testing a new iconic visualization technique for displaying search results.

The University and those conducting this study subscribe to the ethical conduct of research and to the protection at all times of the interests, comfort, and safety of participants. This form and the information it contains are given to you for your own protection and to ensure your full understanding of the procedures, risks, and benefits described below.

Procedure: During the session, you will be asked to work with text and iconic visualization technique for displaying search results while I watch you. Once you complete, I will give you a questionnaire to fill about what you liked and didn't like about those iconic visualizations. It would be great if you could try to remember any problems you see with the visualizations and the things you like as you work with those. You can do that through writing down your thoughts using paper and pen or just remember them. I hope you will enjoy your testing session. Please note that you do not have to participate if you do not want to. Also, at any point during the session, you can change your mind and stop if you do not wish to continue, no questions asked.

Risks to the participant, third parties or society: no risks involved

Benefits of study to the development of new knowledge: This study will result in investigating the new iconic visualization techniques for displaying search results.

Freedom to Withdraw: Please note that you do not have to participate if you do not want to. Also, at any point during the session, you can change your mind and stop if you do not wish to continue, no questions asked.

Statement of Confidentiality: The name of the participants will not be confidential but the data and the results will be stored in locked rooms and/or on password-secured storage devices.

Your signature on this form will signify that you have received a document which describes the procedures, possible risks, and benefits of this research study, that you have received an adequate opportunity to consider the information in the document, and that you voluntarily agree to allow the minor named below to participate in the study.

I certify that I understand the procedures:

Name of participant: _____

and I know that I have the right to withdraw from the study at any time.

Signature of Participant _____

Date _____



Faculty of Applied Sciences
School of Interactive Arts + Technology

and that any complaints about the study may be brought to:

Dr. Hal Weinberg, Director
Office of Research Ethics
Simon Fraser University
hal_weinberg@sfu.ca
778-782-6593

I may obtain copies of the results of this study, upon its completion by contacting the researchers named above by sending an email to Mino Erfani (mea18@sfu.ca) or Hasti Seifi (hsa43@sfu.ca). Also our location is in School of Interactive Art and Technology, SFU, Surrey, BC.

Sincerely,
Mino Erfani & Hasti Seifi

Title: Knowledge Visualization Testing
Investigator Name: Mino Erfani (mea18@sfu.ca), Hasti Seifi (hsa43@sfu.ca)
Investigator Department: SFU School of Interactive Art and Technology