Implementing Mobile Services: Does the Platform Really Make a Difference?

JANET L. WESSON
Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
and
DARRYN F. VAN DER WALT
Datascope Consulting CC

_____

This paper discusses an investigation into two different platforms for developing mobile services, namely Microsoft .NET Mobile and J2ME. A mobile student information and services (MSS) application was developed in both platforms. Comparisons were made based on various criteria, both from the developer and the user perspective. The results show that both platforms have certain advantages and that selection of the appropriate platform will depend on the specific situation. Several implications for future developers are provided as well as recommendations as to when each platform is more appropriate.

_____