PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Fizzle Stix

Mass Status for Slack

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Executive Summary

Fizzle Stix focuses on creating applications for the iPhone that increase your productivity. The Mass Status for Slack app aims to reduce the amount of Slack workspaces a user has to visit when they want to have a unified status message.

Mass Status for Slack will use a Slack Marketplace App to access all workspaces a user wants to manage. It offers the ability to individually or en masse update the workspace status message and associated emoji. This app will be a paid offering on the Apple App Store with no advertising or associated user tracking mechanisms.

Problem

If a user wants to use the same status message on every Slack workspace that they belong to, this can be a cumbersome task. They'll need to log in to each workspace, select the status setting, and then enter their chosen message. With the average user belonging to multiple Slack workspaces, this action can be quite tedious and waste time.

Slack was created to help save time and to facilitate efficient communication. When users do not update their statuses accurately, the effectiveness of the Slack tool lowers and stakeholders may require addition communication methods. Users really want to communicate their availability, but they also want low friction and less repetition.

Slack provides an API to set status information. Creating a program to update their status on each workspace using the API is usually beyond the skillsets of most Slack users. And those who possess the skills don't find programming an integration attractive; it is also can be cost-prohibitive.

Goal

Fizzle Stix will create an iOS app that will reduce the friction of updates and unify the status messages of multiple Slack workspaces. This app will give users the ability to sync up multiple workspaces and adjust their status emoji and messages individually or collectively.

This will be a paid app to cover the cost of the initial development. The Fizzle Stix branding will be minimal. There will be no user tracking mechanisms or advertisements.

The application will be continually updated with new features based on user feedback. Some of these planned features are listed in the milestones section below.

Assumptions

The following assumptions are made about the application:

- It will not automatically update statuses on a schedule.

- It will not use custom emoji from each workspace; only the default Slack emoji will be supported.

- The status displays will not automatically update; a user interaction will be required to update the statuses while the app is open.

- The application must handle any authentication mechanism that Slack provides; sometimes users can use an email link to login and the app needs to understand this.

Risks / Concerns

The following risks and concerns have been identified:

- It is possible for Slack to disable the "application" in their marketplace which will render the app useless.

- Users may remove the access to the Slack Marketplace App, or they may leave a workspace, without the iOS app's knowledge.

- There is a limit to the number of times certain API endpoints can be called; we're not clear at this time if that's per application or per workspace.

Technical Requirements

The application must use the OAuth protocol with Slack's Application Marketplace to access the API. Legacy tokens cannot be used. Users should not be required to create their own marketplace applications.

When access is removed, the application should handle this gracefully and not crash. For example, if the user no longer has access to the workspace, the app should catch this error and present the user with the ability to remove the workspace from their list.

When opening the app for the first time, the user's only action is to add a Slack workspace. After they've added and authenticated, they can add additional workspaces or move on.

Then, the user should be given the ability to add a favorite status. This will be available in a list later. For example, they might add a taco emoji with text saying "Out to lunch."

The main dashboard is available whenever they open the app and at least one workspace has been added. All workspace statuses are shown to the user. Pulling down on the screen refreshes the statuses.

Each workspace status can be updated individually. Or all of the statuses can be updated at once. Either way, the status update screen should look relatively the same. It should give the user access to their favorite statuses or the ability to choose a new status.

Workspaces should be able to be deleted.

Favorite statuses should be able to be edited and deleted. A status is an optional emoji and a required text status.

There should be a link to the Fizzle Stix website for contact and support issues.

Out of Scope

This is a limited application and as such, there may be some features that are out of scope.

• Only statuses will be updated, no broadcasts or direct messages will be supported

Milestones

To facilitate scheduling and to control the budget, this project is broken up into a few milestones.

Milestone 1

The initial development of the app with the features listed in this document and the associated wireframe. This should be delivered to the Fizzle Stix testers and stakeholders to test and approve the functionality.

Milestone 2

The app should be added to and approved by the app store. This may take some time as it's dependent on Apple. When this is completed, the launch to production of the iOS app as well as the release of the Slack workspace app should be coordinated and marketed.

Milestone 3

Additional features documented and wireframed. These will be gathered from user input as well as from internal planning.

These may include:

• An iOS widget to display or update favorite statuses