

Paper Reference(s)

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Edexcel GCE

Applied Information and Communication Technology

Unit 7: Using Database Software

May 2008

Scenario

Please open this material immediately. It should be distributed to candidates no sooner than three working weeks before the examination.

Note: There are no practice files for this examination.

The description overleaf will be used as the scenario for the above specification, and will be reissued with the examination paper. This scenario should be used for the purposes of preparing candidates for the examination. This material must not be taken into the examination.

Further details are in the Instructions for the Conduct of Examinations, available from the Edexcel website for this qualification and subject.

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Turn over

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The Green Bay Building Company



The Green Bay Building Company was founded by David Green in 2003. David trained as an architect and has been designing houses since 1985. Over time David had become concerned about global warming and has introduced into his house designs aspects to minimise the carbon footprint of the occupiers. Unfortunately these modifications tend to make the houses more expensive to produce. The building firm

that David worked for at the time did not like the modifications as it meant less profit. As a result David was instructed to remove them from his designs.

Unable to find a building company to take on his revolutionary designs, David decided the only way he was going to get his designs accepted was if he formed his own building company. Consequently the Green Bay Building Company was formed.

Since its inception the Green Bay Building Company has created many successful developments. David has found that some people will pay extra if they think the house is eco-friendly and would pay even more if they thought there would be a fuel saving.

The Green Bay Building Company has recently built a housing development on brown-field building land in Tewkesbury and is about to auction the different plots.

The Auction

The auction will be taking place from May to July 2008. Prospective bidders will apply to the Green Bay Building Company for a userID and password. They may make a bid at any time between the start of the auction and the day the auction is closed. The development has 57 plots with eight different types of house and the number of each housing type within the development varies. As all the plots are more or less the same the bidders will bid for the housing type rather than a specific plot. When the auction is closed the Auction Manager allocates the plots to the highest bidders for that housing type. For example, if there are 10 three bedroom semi-detached houses, the top ten bidders for that housing type will be allocated a plot. Notification will be sent to successful bidders detailing the plot number they have been allocated.

Once bidders have received their userIDs they should be able to sign on to the bidding system. If they supply a correct userID and password they will be taken to the bidding screen. They can then choose which housing type they require. The userID and the bid value of those bids which are currently successful are displayed. For example, if there are eight plots containing a particular housing type then the top eight bids for these are displayed. Bidders can then submit their own bid. If their bid is lower than the lowest successful bid so far then a message is displayed stating that their bid was unsuccessful. If it is higher than the lowest successful bid so far then their bid is accepted. The list of successful bids is then refreshed to display the new list. Apart from the successful bids, bidders should not be able to see any details of other bidders.

The proposed system

You need to create a new database which will hold the data required to undertake the auction and allocate the plots to the successful bidders. You are supplied with some computer generated test data to test out your system.