

Account This!

Group 9

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4 Graphical User Interface

This chapter explains the logic, the concept and the functionality of the user interface that's been planned for use in the AccountThis! bookkeeping system.

4.1 User Interface Overview

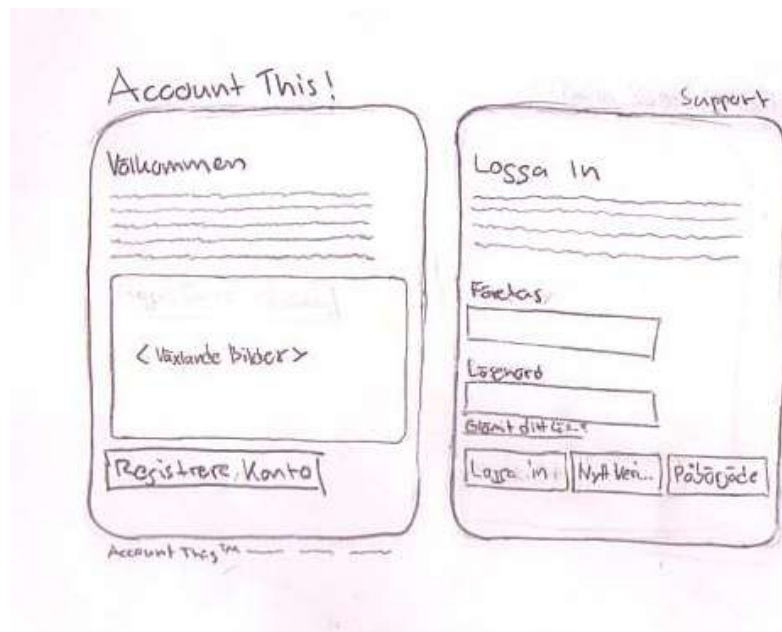
The AccountThis! user interface will serve as the link between the system and its clients. This implicates not only that the interface must – as the chapter concerning design considerations showed – be both easy and efficient to use, but also that it should be able to encourage potential users to sign-up. Attracting users can be done in several ways. While promotion and advertising are two such means, the establishment of a neat user interface is, in this case, a third. Potential clients that have managed to navigate to the AccountThis! webpage must: (1) get the impression that AccountThis! is a reliable and efficient bookkeeping system; (2) be able to retrieve more information about AccountThis!; and (3) find it easy to register. By satisfying these criteria, the system will be much more likely to catch the attention of the masses than it otherwise would have been.

4.2 Concept and Functionality

A comprehensive discussion on alternative user interface designs led us to the solution portrayed below. To meet all the discussed business and clientele needs, we use a user interface that's been divided into three stages. The first stage represents the page the user sees when he/she first enters the site and the two other follow in chronological appearance. While the first stage is more visual than the second stage, the second stage contains more visuals than the third ditto.

4.2.1 Stage 1 – Welcome

It's obvious that visual design can be more or less appealing to people. Although there may be no universal good taste, a user interface may still be classified as being better than another. A good user interface should satisfy the needs of its users in an efficient manner. It would therefore be careless, if not dumb, not to have a login function from the very first page of the system, given that users must login to be able to use the system. Any solution involving more steps would be a clear obstruction to the user. From a business perspective, it's also of dire importance that the first page is able to help entice new clients. To solve this problem, and to satisfy both new and existing users, we've decided to divide the first page of the AccountThis! webpage in two. The leftmost part of the page will consist of flashy images on which short textual pitches have been applied. Whereas this may serve a medium for luring prospective customers to signup, the rightmost part of the page will rather focus on assisting already existing users, as this is where they login. The first fields of the login box (username and password) bring nothing new to the world of the web based systems but the buttons seen below have seldom been seen elsewhere. Next to the ordinary login button are login buttons that will serve as shortcuts by immediately taking the user from the opening page to the desired system function; thereby avoiding the system's launch guide (stage 2).



UI concept image 1

The image above displays the AccountThis! opening page and how it's divided into two boxes. The first contains what could be described as AccountThis! advertisement and the second contains the systems login functionality; including account verification and shortcuts to the respective clients' instances of the bookkeeping system.

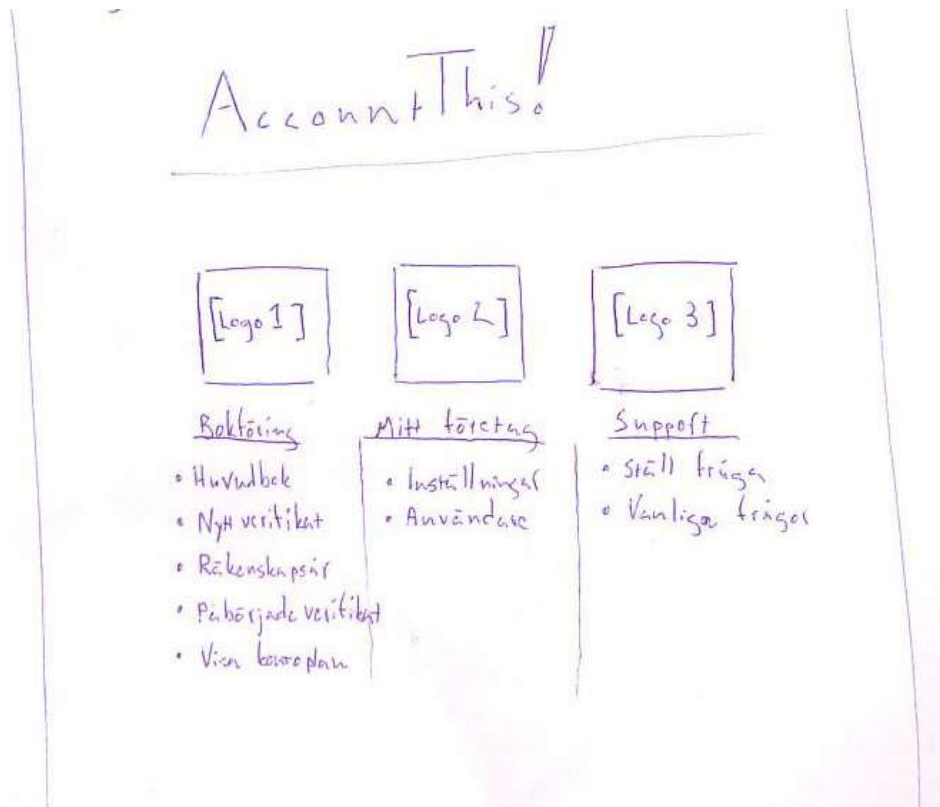
In case the image on the leftmost part of the opening page is pressed, the user will be transferred to a site (with a rather similar user interface) containing more detailed information about the system and the option of opening an AccountThis! account.

4.2.2 4.2.2. Stage 2 - Launch (optional)

Stage 2 is where users arrive when they use the ordinary login alternative. This, the launch page, presents an overview of the system's functionality that may assist users in quickly navigating to the functions they desire to use. The functions are categorized under relevant headings, and the headings in turn are to be associated with symbols to further increase the simplicity of learning AccountThis!.

The planned contents of the launch site are (where font in bold represents headings):

- **Bokföring**
 - Huvudbok
 - Nytt verifikat
 - Räkenskapsår
 - Påbörjade verifikat
 - Visa kontoplan
- **Mitt företag**
 - Inställningar
 - Användare
- **Support**
 - Ställ fråga
 - Vanliga frågor

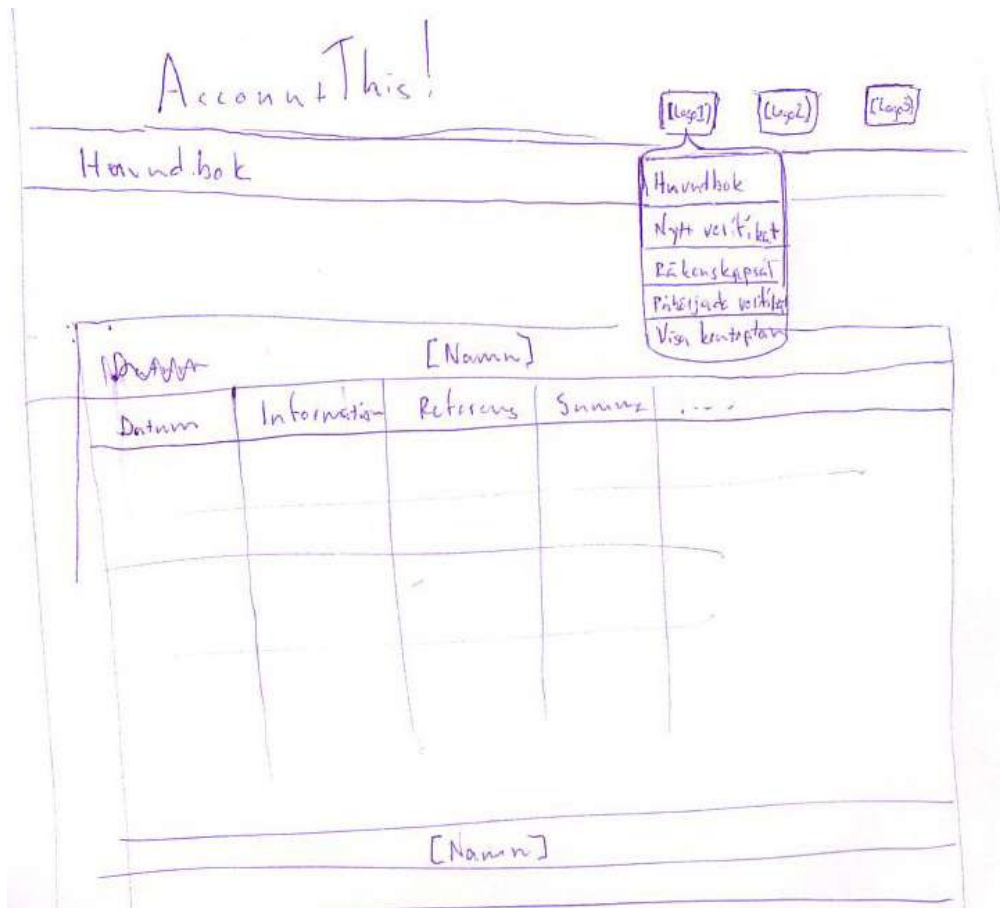


UI concept image 2

The area below the navigation alternatives displayed above may come to include system notifications, news or usage history (these alternative changes to the stage 2 user interface are still under consideration).

4.2.3 Stage 3 - Action

The symbols shown above the respective headings on the launch page, stage 2, will remain visible (but in an altered form) from the stage 3 user interface. As this is the user interface people will encounter when they perform tasks with AccountThis!, space must be made for the important content (such as the information contained in the general ledger). The navigation symbols will, for this reason, be placed in the top right corner of the webpage, where they'll act as dropdown menus when highlighted. The concept image seen below (*UI concept image 3*) displays how the dropdown menus may look, given that a fictive user are currently highlighting the symbol associated with the first heading. Note that the appearing alternatives are the same alternatives/functions as those that were displayed in conjunction with the heading before, when shown on the launch site.



UI concept image 3

4.3 Detailed Mockups

This section contains more detailed mockups of Account This! user interface. Text with yellow background describes the name of the form element.

4.3.1 Register new company

Requirement: User – 1

Use Case: User – Register new company

Registrera företag

Företagsdetaljer

Här fyller ni i era detaljer för vad som rör erat företag.

Namn (@company.name)

Företagsform (@company.form)

Organisationsnummer (@company.organisation_number)

Gata (@company.adress.street)

Postnummer (@company.adress.postnumber)

Ort (@company.adress.city)

Användardetaljer

Här fyller ni i detaljerna för vad som rör den första användaren i företaget.

Användarnamn (@user.username)

Namn (@user.username)

Lösenord (@user.password)

Repetera Lösenord (@user.repeat_password)

Telefonnummer (@user.phone_number)

Email (@user.email)

Gata (@user.adress.street)

Postnummer (@user.adress.postnumber)

Ort (@user.adress.city)

Registrera

4.3.2 User Login

Requirement: User – 2

Use Case: User – User login

Logga in

Namn (@user.username)

Lösenord(@user.password)

Logga in

4.3.3 Update user information

Requirement: User – 4

Use Case: User – Update user information

Redigera användare

Namn (@user.username)

Telefonnummer (@user.phone_number)

Email (@user.email)

Gata (@user.adress.street)

Postnummer (@user.adress.postnumber)

Ort (@user.adress.city)

Redigera

4.3.4 Update company information

Requirement: User – 2

Use Case: Company – Update the company information

Redigera Exempelföretaget AB

Namn (@company.name)

Företagsform (@company.form)

Organisationsnummer (@company.organisation_number)

Gata (@company.adress.street)

Postnummer (@company.adress.postnumber)

Ort (@company.adress.city)

Redigera

4.3.5 Create a new user in a company

Requirement: Company – 1

Use Case: Company – Create a new user in a company

Ny användare i Exempelföretaget AB

Namn (@user.username)

Telefonnummer (@user.phone_number)

Email (@user.email)

Gata (@user.adress.street)

Postnummer (@user.adress.postnumber)

Ort (@user.adress.city)

Redigera

4.4 Ask a question

Requirement: User – 1, User – 2

Use Case: Support – Ask a question

Skicka fråga till supporten

Fråga (@question.content)



Skicka

4.4.1 Create new Fiscal Year

Requirement: Fiscal Years 1

Use cases: Fiscal Years 1

Nytt bokföringsår

År

2008

Använd det här bokföringsåret istället för nuvarande?

- Ja, ändra så att det här blir det nuvarande.
- Nej, skapa det bara.

Create

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4.4.2 Change current Fiscal Year

Use cases: Fiscal Years 1

Bokföringsår

2008

2007
Ändra till nuvarande?

2006
Nuvarande

2005

2004

2003

[New fiscal year](#)

4.4.3 Creating an accounting plan

The interface will look very similar when editing an accounting plan.

Requirements: Accounting Plans 1, 2, 5-7

Use cases: Duplicating an accounting plan, Create accounting plan, Adding accounts to an accounting plan, Removing accounts from an accounting plan

Ny kontoplan

Namn

Konton

Kopiera konton från

BAS 2007

Konto

- Checkkonto
- Fodringar
- Förbrukningsvaror
- Maskiner
- Moms 25%
- Moms 12%

Lägg till konto

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4.4.4 Create a new Voucher

Requirements: Vouchers 1, 5, 6.

Use cases: Create a new voucher, Edit a saved voucher, Create a new voucher row, Edit a saved voucher row, Remove a saved voucher row.

Nytt verifikat

Datum


2008 February 4 - 16 : 34

Beskrivning

Verifikatsrader

Konto	Debet	Kredit
 Checkkonto	125 kr	
 Förbrukningsmaterial		100 kr
 Moms 25%		25 kr

Moms 25% kr kr

 Lägg till verifikatsrad

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