

FIRE SAFETY TOOLS MAC IOS APPS development

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The aim of this presentation is to show the processes followed for the creation of a fire safety application for iPhone/iPad devices. In order to be able to understand the importance of this first app we are going to fill you in on the background of the project.

From the Section of Building Services of our school, there's always been an aim based on two apparently unconnected points: 1. University teaching, research and the professional practice of architecture should not be unconnected activities, but the complex reality of the world of construction means that they are seen as separate. / 2. It is obvious that many technological tools such as PC tablets, smartphones... are being used by the general public in their everyday lives.

Taking advantage of the recent years widespread of technological devices, which have become part of our everyday life, we decided to develop a collection of Apps that may assist to both, students and professionals with the Building Services design requirements.

Nowadays, you can download UNAV-FIRE from AppStore just using your device. UNAV-FIRE was thought to help architects in the complex task of developing an architectural project, which means making calculations that lead to a final result. Based on our experience in the Fifth Year subject Building Services Design, where the architectural students must, in a very short time, find the main values for everything to do with fire safety elements in the projects they design.

All of this makes up the objective of the app, which assists with the design requirements for fire safety in a residential building. Although the Spanish regulations in Basic Document CTE-DB-SI are used as its basis, the essence of the app is not to fulfill any particular regulations, but to provide a rule of thumb which, for the first sketches of the building design, would allow one to see how close the creation of a safe building was from this perspective; a tool that brings teaching and professional practice together in such a way as to be within the reach of anyone anywhere.

With this tool we can determine the occupation density, the number of exits per floor, the maximum evacuation distance and the sizing of the main evacuations means (doors, corridors, landings and staircases).

In the presentation by will also explain the main problems related with the help text according to legal considerations.