

Responsive prototyping and specification guidelines for remote printing application



HP is a leader in personal systems and printers created and distributed globally.

Overview

HP not only provides computing and printing hardware on a global scale, but also provides IT and remote printing services to thousands of companies worldwide.

The Problem

At the time this article is written, HP was in need to revamp their remote printing application that allows for companies to remotely access their printers through the cloud. It was outdated and was in need of a modern and easily accessible redesign.

Team Goals

My team was instructed to focus on the server message block (SMB) displays that users would have to navigate to share access to files, printers, serial ports and other resources on a network.

My Goal

I was assigned to create responsive displays for components that were already created for specific features and to also build specification guidelines that followed the principles of HP's design system.

Big Picture

After the completion of my work, consumers should be able to easily navigate their way to share access to files, printers, and other resources on a network remotely, regardless of the device they use.

People Involved

The people that worked together to ensure my success was the Native Solutions UX Manager TJ, Senior Visual Designer Yan, Visual Designer Hyunil, Interaction Designer Kishan and Project Manager Dakota.

Constraints

The biggest constraint was the ability to properly coordinate and communicate with the team since the team is formed globally from Oregon, Idaho, California, India and South Korea. In the beginning, there were time differences and language barriers that acted as hurdles for me to truly understand the scope of my work. However, with time and proper time management, I was able to get a better understanding of who my teammates were and how they operated. This helped cater to their needs and I was able to reduce the amount of time waiting for responses and increase my recognition of what my international team members were meaning to communicate.

THE PROCESS

Onboarding

After being hired on as a visual designer for the SMB team at HP, I was first introduced to getting acquainted with the design system that every team uses to inform us about typography, iconography, grids and spacing incorporated into every component built for each project. This took several months for me to get a better understanding by checking other people's work and implemented changes that coincided with the design system's guidelines. After getting more comfortable, the Native Solutions UX Manager and Senior Visual Designer started including me more into the creation of components for specific features, and this was the beginning of the majority of my work at HP.

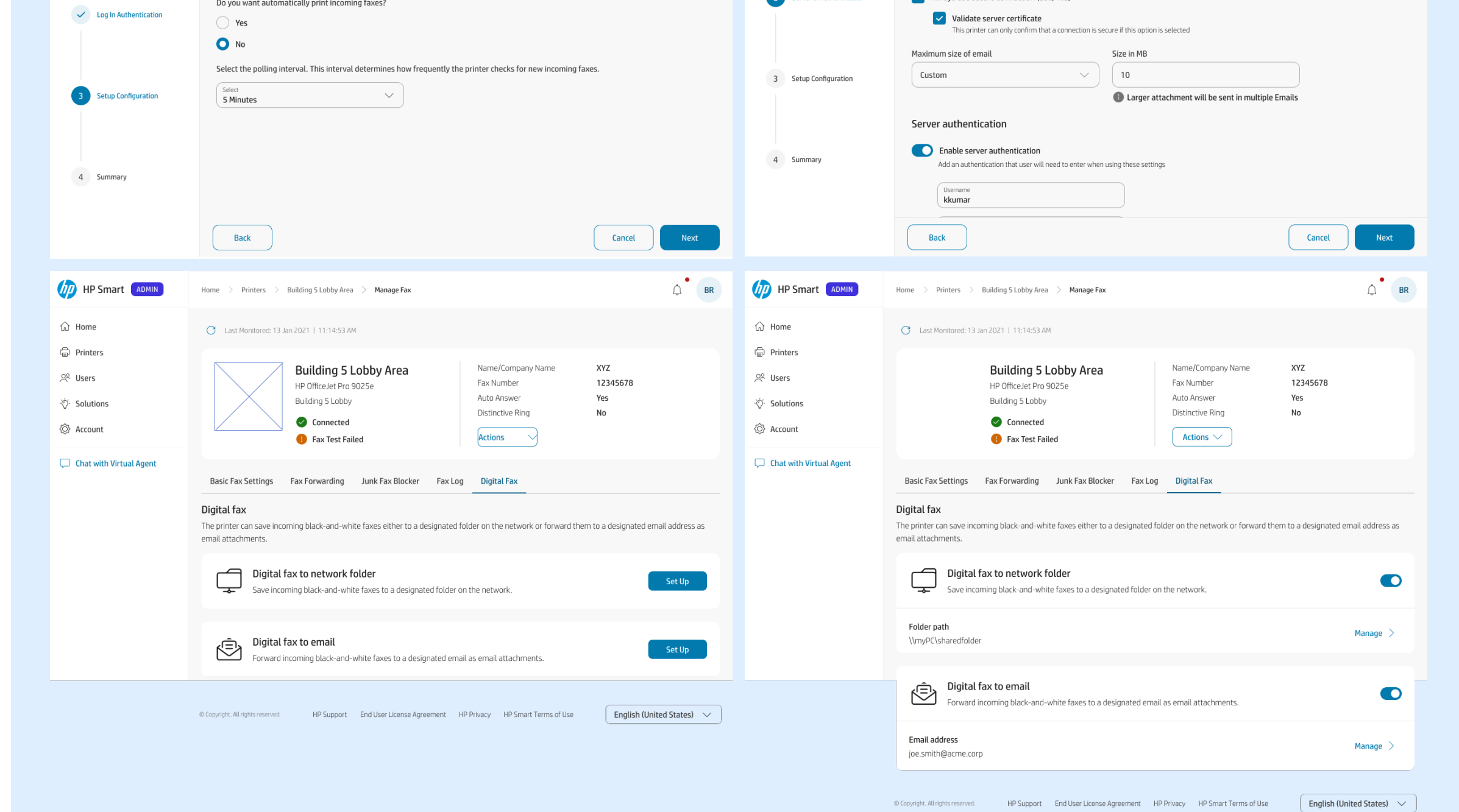
Getting the assignments

All the projects that the SMB team were assigned included creating user flows, high-fidelity and interactive prototypes, and specification guidelines that followed HP's design system but was catered towards each specific feature for a soon-to-be-released overhaul of a remote printing application. TJ and Yan gave me the assignments of creating responsive designs for desktop displays that were already created and also building out more specification guidelines that were unique to our project components. There were three features:

- Digital Fax
- Additional Settings (Tools and rest of settings)
- Scan Destinations

Digital Fax

The Digital Fax feature allows for remote fax capabilities for the consumer. This was the first feature that I was assigned to create responsive displays for four desktop designs already put into place.

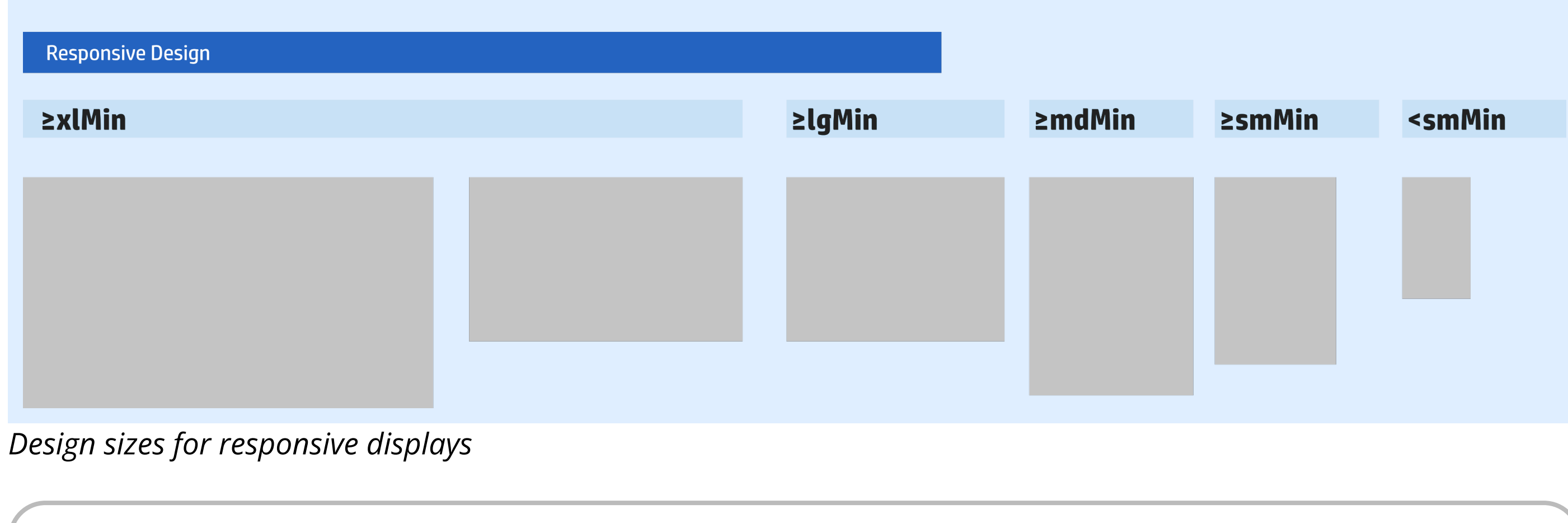


Figuring out auto-layout in Figma

I was first introduced to auto-layout in Figma early on when I onboarded to the team, but it was my first time really utilizing all of the functions for it on this assignment. Getting acquainted with the application took a lot of practice to really incorporate this into a skill, however the result was gratifying as it would be a tool used for later projects. Converting displays to different sizes would've been time consuming and tedious if it weren't for the use of this Figma feature.

Converting desktop displays to responsive displays

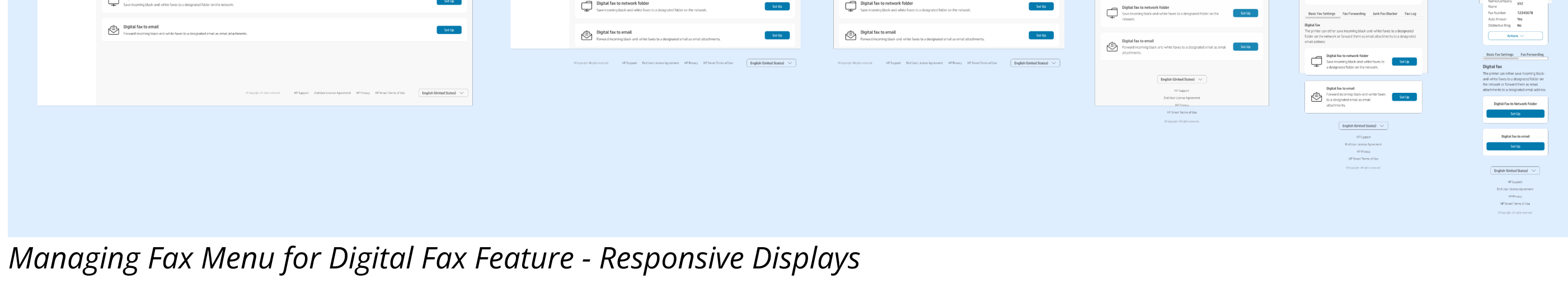
By referencing other projects from other designers, HP's design system and getting confirmation directly from the team, I was able to determine the sizes that the team needed for these displays:



Design sizes for responsive displays

Greater than or equal to xlMin =	1920px by 1020px 1280px by 768px	Greater than or equal to lgMin =	1020px by 768px
Greater than or equal to mdMin =	768px by 1020px	Greater than or equal to smMin =	567px by 876px
Smaller than smMin =	320px by 568px		

By using these as templates, I was able to convert all four of the desktop displays into responsive displays by utilizing all of the tools Figma had to offer, especially auto-layout.

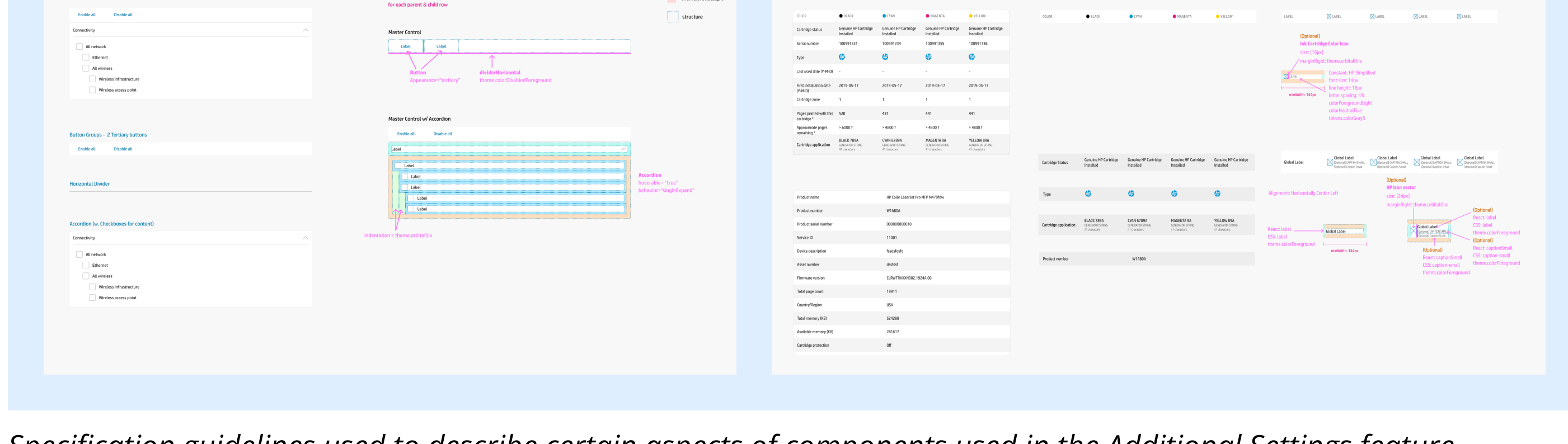


Managing Fax Menu for Digital Fax Feature - Responsive Displays

These displays will be included in the next iterations of the remote printing application, and eventually be incorporated into the live version of that consumers will use.

Additional Settings

The Additional Settings feature allows for other options for the consumer to utilize the full capacity of remote printing. Along with creating responsive displays, I was also assigned to create specification guidelines that followed HP's design system principles but catered towards unique features our project was designing.

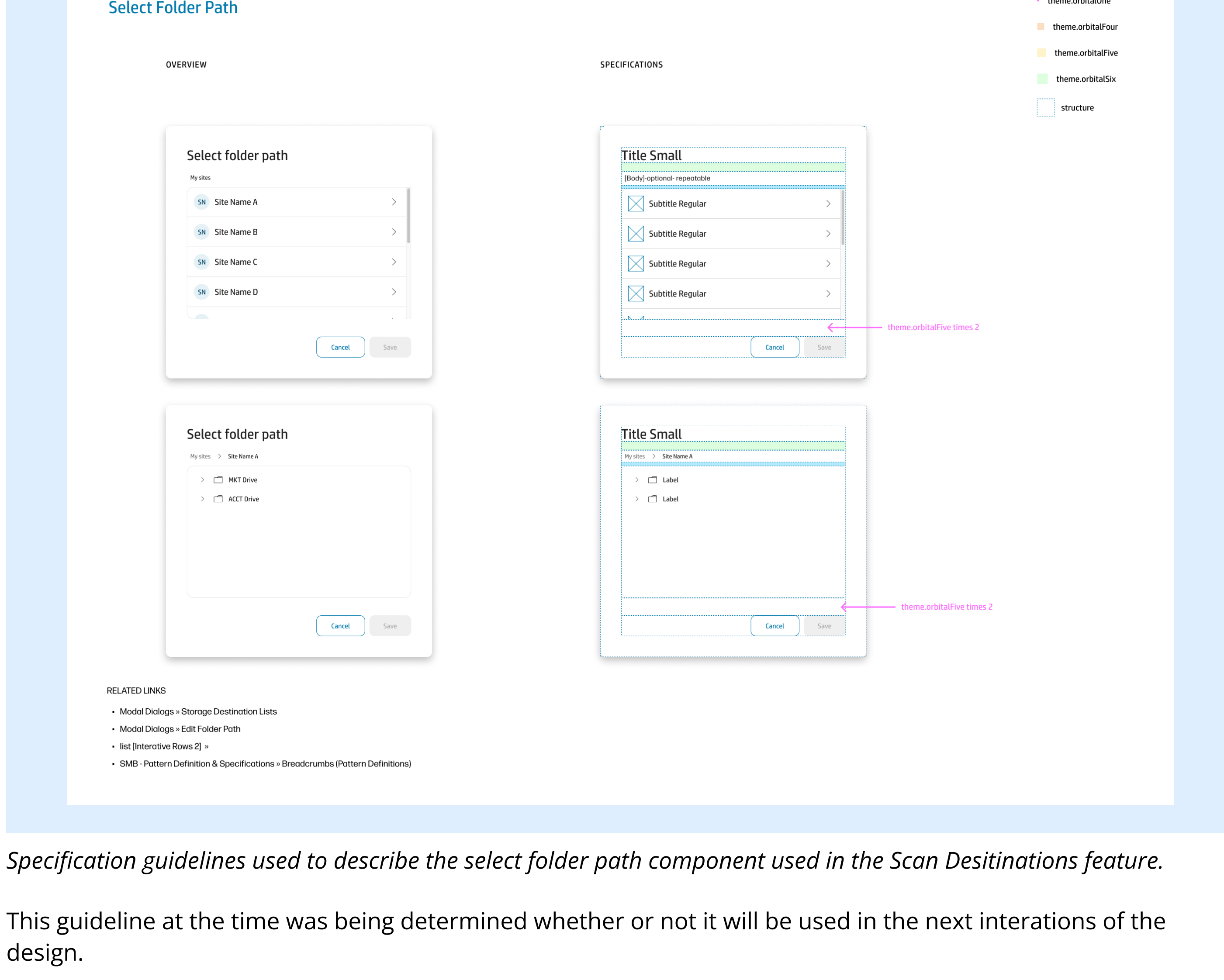


Specification guidelines used to describe certain aspects of components used in the Additional Settings feature.

These guidelines are now used as a reference for other designers to incorporate into their own designs for the SMB project.

Scan Destinations

The Scan Destinations feature allows for the option to scan documents remotely and be saved in the cloud. This was my last project I was assigned to, and it was similar to the Additional Settings project which was to create a specification guideline for a custom component used in the project.



Specification guidelines used to describe the select folder path component used in the Scan Destinations feature.

This guideline at the time was being determined whether or not it will be used in the next iterations of the design.

OUTCOME AND FINAL THOUGHTS

OUTCOME

The results of my work led to prototypes and specification guidelines that are going to be included in the next iterations of the overall design. Although the guideline for Scan Destinations has not been included as of yet, it has provided insight to other team members on how to move forward with iterating the Select Folder Path component into the project.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Working on these projects has led to a thorough understanding of design systems and how to implement their principles in my own design projects. If I wasn't tasked to create responsive designs, I wouldn't have learned so much about Figma's prototyping tools such as using auto-layout. I also gained a deeper understanding on leveraging what has already been created and incorporating my own suggestions through the creation of specification guidelines. I appreciate the time that I had with the SMB team, and without them I wouldn't be as experienced as I am now.