

ENTERPRISE MOBILITY SOLUTIONS FOR RETAIL

Over ten years of a mutually beneficial cooperation which resulted in a top-of-the-line end-to-end mobile enterprise system

Project

Full-cycle development of enterprise mobility, remote ordering and field service solutions which can be run without any extra effort on almost all advanced mobile operating systems. As a result of the services rendered by ELEKS, our customer received an application that is extremely popular with an audience of 4,000 users covering approximately 15,000 stores.

Challenge

As the project has been developing, evolving and improving over an extended period of time, the ELEKS team faced challenges of different complexity. At the initial stage of the project our specialists were supposed to map goals for the application based on the customer's requirements and determine how the customer can have the particular niche within the retail market.

As the project had been evolving, the development team overcame the following issues through the use of sound practices, such as:

- Management of large amount of data
- Device performance if network connection problems occurred
- Occasionally connected scenarios
- Ability to download large amounts of data on devices
- Back-end integration to enterprise services

Customer

Our customer specializes in enterprise and mobile application solutions for wholesale, distribution, and retail industries in the U.S. Our customer's innovative products include automated ordering, price book, sales force automation, and Internet-based solutions within divergent mobile platforms.

Industry

Wholesale, Distribution & Retail

Technologies

• Mobile Solution:

- PalmOS version: C++, gsoap, StyleTap (Windows Mobile, iOS, Android), typical barcode scanners and Bluetooth printers.
- .NET version: .NET Compact Framework 3.5, C#, SQLite, Resco MobileForms Toolkit, typical barcode scanners and Bluetooth printers.

• Back-end Solution:

ASP.NET Web-services (SOAP), ADO.NET, MS SQL Server 2008, ASP.NET 3.5 (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), ADO.NET, DevExpress, Delphi 7



Business Benefits

- Occupied market niche and strengthened market positions year by year
- Stable application with good performance
- High level of satisfaction on the part of the end-users
- Earned reputation due to streamlined product
- Reduced time-to-market due to efficient cooperation process

Solution

When the application development was in its initial stage, using the right platform for mobile development and runtime services was the first milestone. At that time, Palm OS was the perfect development platform since it was first oriented to create solutions for scanning devices.

Later on, with the increasing number of both mobile devices and mobile OS, we opted for StyleTap platform as one of the best options to run applications originally written for Palm OS handheld devices on Windows Mobile smartphones, Symbian OS, iOS and Android devices.

As to the solution scope, it can be regarded as complex solution which consisted of the mobile application, server side and web portal development to connect the enterprise back-end services in a secure and scalable way.



Project Scope

- **Business Analysis**
 - Competitors analysis
 - Content and materials analysis
 - Scope analysis
 - Planning development and deployment
 - Validation and verification
- **Application Design**
 - Building application skin
 - Wireframes design
 - Selection of graphics and fonts
- **Development**
 - Application creation
 - Integration with databases
 - Integration with web services
- **Quality Assurance**
 - Functional testing
 - Integration testing
 - Usability testing
- **Documentation Services**
 - Support with User Guide
 - Support with Online Help
 - Support with Release Notes
- **Project and Process Management**
 - Project scope definition
 - Development of budget and schedule
 - Establishing communication protocols with customer
 - Budget and schedule tracking
 - Post-project evaluation to ensure customer satisfaction

Tool's Advantages

You will find below the list of the advanced features the tool includes, but is not limited to:

- **Smooth and rapid ordering**

The entire period from the moment of order creation to the warehouse takes less than ten minutes.

- **Check out details of the delivery tickets**

Item details appear instantly when an item is scanned or searched for, eliminating the need for paperwork.

- **Wireless access to the price book**

Saves money and precious time typically wasted on paperwork.

- **Up-to-date item-level details**

Once an item is scanned, application displays the item's tag price, last order details and date, the minimum purchase quantity and more.

- **User-friendly approach to inventory management**

Visibility and automated control of your inventory and stock levels multiplied by the ability to generate orders based on current inventory in stock.

- **Validation of location before the order**

Helps wholesalers to take into account all the location and ship-to information to save costs and reduce shipment time.

Delivered Result and Future Steps

The customer received a stable application that works smoothly and quickly, even with the large amount of data. The application is fitted with a user-friendly interface assuring intuitive interaction of the user with it. Moreover, the application is continually customized by our specialists to meet the specific requirements of the customer's end-users on top of a high satisfaction level. This creates great ROI for our customer. At the present stage, the application is being actively enhanced and supported.

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