

B2B System for Planning, Auctioning and Order Tracking

Web-based Planning & Order Tracking Solution Case Study





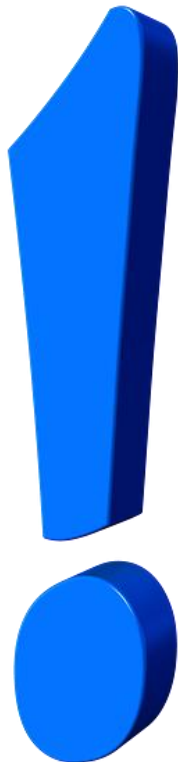
Summary

This is a B2B application. It was created for meeting the client's needs of an end-to-end solution towards creating budget and plans, designing items to be procured, getting the best prices from across the globe and finally analyzing the plans against the actual creation of order for suppliers.

Challenges

The client earlier had an outsourced platform that allowed them to create items and get prices on their items. These items were again checked, first by the owner of the platform and then the client users, who were able to decide and create the auctions on these items. Along with this, the client got to use the analysis module which allowed them to plan quantities to be ordered for the items. However, the tracking format was not as per what the client desired. So the client users ended up doing a lot of manual work which was tedious.

Taking into consideration the above problems, the client approached us to provide a solution to these problems. The features desired were from the existing modules and usage. But the new application should allow buyers to create and link all the components, starting from creating Plans, to creating items to fulfill the plans, inviting suppliers to bid for items, getting and comparing bids, awarding bids, getting order info, gaining ability to assign styles to particular plans and analyzing the outcome of the orders placed against the plans to check for order fulfillments.



Solutions

The design and the features to be given for the application were finalized with the client after the initial study. The solution took care of not only the limitation of the existing system but also enhanced a lot of features that allowed the Client team to take instant decisions and modify their orders according to the latest status and updated market requirements.

- The new application created each requirement as a module that would work independently and would only involve other information where required.
- It allowed the user to create items from scratch. At the same time, the application also had a data interchange format in the form of an interface. This automated the creation and update of items from the parent mainframe system automatically.
- Bidding units were created for the Items. To get more pricing benefits, multiple items could be clubbed together.
- Suppliers to be invited can be selected from a list.
- Actions on the Bid unit are emailed to the concerned parties. This includes any bid info, ignore info, invitations, etc.
- A Bid can be awarded. Note: awarding is referential for the supplier.
- The final orders are created in a different system but all details get automatically imported via an interface.
- Analysis of the orders against created plans is given in the form of different reports.

For this application, we also provides full back-office support and have been greatly involved in the maintenance. All master data entries, periodic checking of data, performing UAT for new releases, giving inputs to the client towards the introduction of new business features, etc. The Back-office can coordinate independently and follow up with the different parties which are involved in the data management for the site. This frees up the client staff for performing actual business functionality rather than spending time towards maintaining the site information.

About DSS

Today DSS has expertise in working on a wide range of frameworks.

We are constantly looking for the latest offerings on the web, be it open source or enterprise frameworks, to use and give the customer the best solution for their requirements.

Take advantage of our flexible engagement terms to meet your requirements. This can be in the form of fixed price projects or outsourcing of work on a T & M basis. Whether you need enhancements to be done or maintenance for your Java projects or even providing services in the form of Back-office to support your operations, DSS has the solution for your needs.

Technology

Benefits

Being Web-based means it is online and the latest information is available to all users. At the same time, it allows the client users to go on buying visits and updating data as and when required directly to the site.

- Web-based solutions means instant availability from any location around the world. Users can update data from any location and simultaneously have access to authorized data updated by others.
- Data is centrally stored and available to all modules. There is upload / download / online / offline content which requires synchronization. This not only reduces data latency but also allows the latest reports based on data updated till that point.
- The relevant data are linked to each other. Even though Items and Orders come from separate systems, the mapping fields are checked and relevant entities are linked E.g. Orders are linked to existing Items in the application.
- Application has a high level of authorization. Every user is created with their specific rights. These rights can restrict users to viewing only Items allowed for them (or their departments).
- Interfaces to get Item, Order and Basic Forecast data from existing older mainframe systems via interfaces.
- Tracking of changes for relevant entities.
- Zkoss • EJB3 and JPA • PostgreSQL • Glassfish ESB • JBoss

