

Web-Based Legacy Application Overhaul Increases Intuitiveness, Scalability & Performance

Company Profile

Client: A Fortune 500 Food and Beverage Manufacturer that manufactures and markets a number of branded food products worldwide including fruit spreads, shortening and oils, baking mixes and ready-to-spread frostings, juices and beverages, syrups, jelly products, and fruit industrial products. The client's brands are sold to consumers through retail outlets in the US and Canada, with some products exported.

Business Challenge

The client wanted to redesign and redevelop their existing legacy system housing thousands of recipes for the public's use. Overhauling this application was needed to address the current business needs, leverage the latest technologies and implement an application that is more intuitive, scalable, and capable of better performance.

The application serves as the central recipe content management system for a collection of brand websites. After the client's staff posts recipes into this application, the recipes are published to the appropriate brand website.

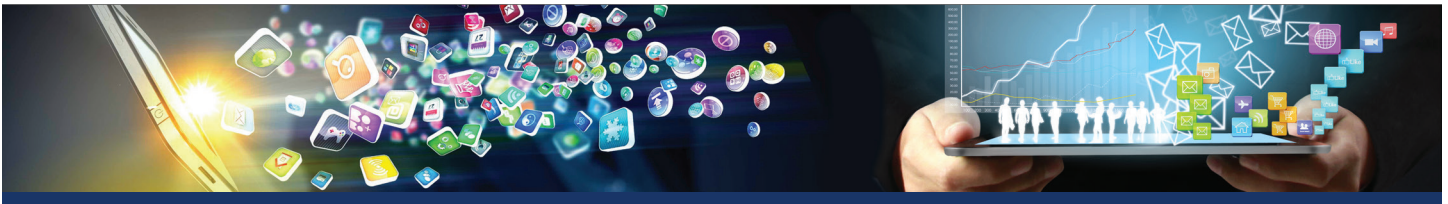
Workflow was a major issue when accomplishing this objective. The workflow mechanism in the existing application was cumbersome, requiring excessive effort to accomplish basic processes such as creating and editing recipes.

How Corbus Helped

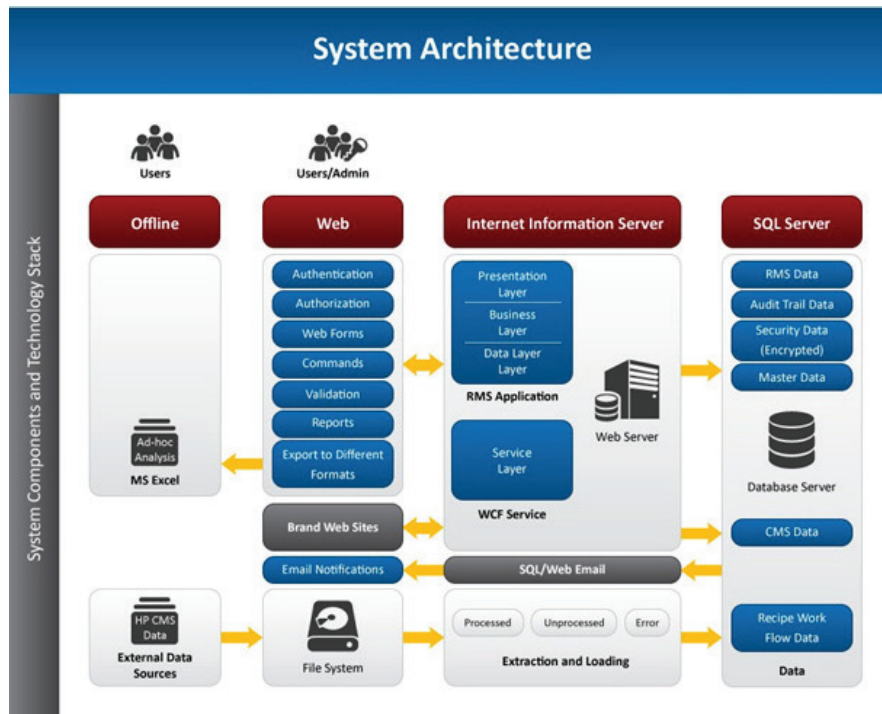
- ✓ Corbus held design discussions and conducted a requirement analysis session with the client's team. As a result, Corbus implemented the required customizations and improvements in the application, including:
- ✓ Redesigning the application to make it scalable for future enhancements and compliant with the latest technology.
- ✓ Building flexible web services using the latest framework
- ✓ Employing Entity Framework for application's data management and SSRS (SQL Server Reporting Services) for various reports and data exports. Both frameworks are highly scalable

- ✓ Reducing user wait time when partial (versus full) page content needs to refresh
- ✓ Designing an intuitive user interface (UI) to meet the latest HTML standards
- ✓ Creating a role-based access matrix management admin interface where the Super User (admin) can assign privileges to others on different application sections
- ✓ Enabling users to see the recipes they sent to others via email, with an application mailbox
- ✓ Allowing users to quickly and easily search for recipes with the addition of a search screen

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Results

Corbus met the client's primary need by implementing an intuitive UI with the latest HTML standards. Additional benefits include:

- ✓ Reducing users' time when posting content by 50%. Corbus removed the need to refresh full pages when only part of the content needed refreshing.
- ✓ Increased user-friendliness. Corbus improved the recipe search results and features and incorporated saving search criteria for future use.

Technology

- ASP.NET 4.0
- Entity Framework 4.0
- SQL Server 2008 R2
- C# 4.0
- WCF