

LEGACY SOFTWARE MODERNIZATION FOR A HEAT EXCHANGER MANUFACTURER

Our customer is one of the leading global manufacturers of heat exchangers, specializing in customized solutions suitable for extreme environmental conditions. They supply heat exchangers for many sectors, including transportation, energy, oil, gas, chemical, marine, heavy industries, food, beverage, HVAC and refrigeration.

Domain:
engineering, heat exchanger manufacturing, heating & cooling systems

Budget:
>200.000\$

Duration:
1 year

Challenge

The engineering toolset, which the customer had been using for more than two decades, had become complex and outdated. The problem was that the software was based on old technologies and was developed by people who were no longer with the company. Its maintenance required added manual effort which led to higher process costs. "We need a state-of-the-art solution" - that's what our customer emphasized on during the **Clarification Call** with us. The customer wanted to have a modern software that would provide calculation results in a quick and easy way, as it is one of the key factors in heat exchange industry which affects the client's decision in choosing the supplier.

The customer's pain points:

- slow and poor performance
- strong dependency (if the system stopped working in the head office, it stopped working everywhere)
- outdated approaches to user identification and authorization
- the necessity to maintain their own environment, which took a lot of effort and was risk-prone
- the problem of data backup and storage (local installations are not the most optimal backup solutions)
- old-fashioned design and unintuitive functionality



Tasks:

- to improve the efficiency of Sales/ Order management process including further development of the tools and applications used by the customer
- to stabilize the current system, retaining all of the system's components and business logic
- to integrate the tools with the customer's authentication system
- to upgrade UI by making it more current while minimizing changes in UX, thereby lowering the barrier to entry
- to use SharePoint as a document management and storage system

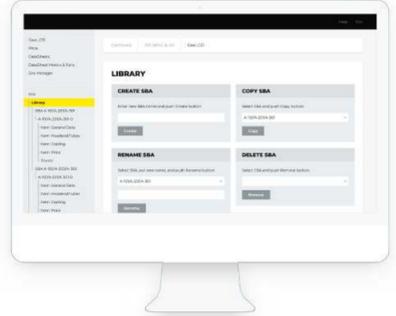
Solution

The volume of work was quite substantial. It required a thorough analysis phase. At the start, the stakeholders in the customer company couldn't come to a common understanding of what the project goals were. To make sure that the project implementation result will reflect what the customer really needed, it was decided to start with the **Pre-Discovery workshop**: we clarified all the details, discussed the customer's pain points and chose the direction for further analysis. It prevented the project from going in the **wrong direction** from the very beginning and created a proper base for the **Discovery phase**

In this phase, we defined the tasks, planned the resources and the stages for implementation, and made the estimation of the project. This approach helped avoid wrong strategic decision-making and contributed to a successful project implementation: migration of the legacy system to Azure Cloud (fulfilling all the customer's requirements) and implementation of the new UI.

Deliverables of *instinctools team:

- Architecture improvements and technical solutions compatible with Azure Cloud
- Project Charter with settled release processes and communication plan
- CI/CD
- UX/UI strategy and the implementation of new designs



Benefits for the customer:

- minimizing errors and efforts for testing
- making the maintenance process easier
- lowering maintenance process costs to a minimum
- reducing spent on workload (less time spent on requirements engineering and easy reuse of working modules)
- unifying the whole process of equipment configuration
- getting their software up to modern standards which makes addition of new features and upgrade of the existing ones cost and time effective

Technologies

- Java 11
- Spring Boot
- Spring Security
- Spring Web
- Gradle
- Microsoft Graph
- Spring Cloud
- Spring JDBCC

Cloud Technologies

- Docker
- Azure DevOps
- Azure Pipelines
- Azure Container Registry
- Azure AD
- Azure AKS
- Azure App Configuration
- Azure Key Vault
- Azure Monitor
- Azure Files
- Azure SQL Database
- Microsoft SharePoint