

Produce procurement system

The Client

The customer is a large chain of retail stores in the US.

The Challenge

The customer's process of buying produce was quite antiquated. Produce buyers generated orders in pencil and paper and these orders were manually entered into the overall purchase order system. The customer required to speed up the process and provide better and more information to the buyer at the time of order generation.

The Solution

Our team designed and implemented a web-based automated produce procurement system. The buyer enters orders through an online form that is very similar to the old paper form. During the order entry, the buyer has access to current inventories, over a year of procurement history by item, and the volume status of items against outstanding contractual commitments. Upon completion of the order request, the information is immediately sent to the mainframe purchasing system, where it is directly issued to the vendor. Vendor conformations are retrieved from the system and passed on to the buyer. As a result, produce ordered through the new system was usually delivered the next day.

The Benefits

The new produce procurement system brought in tremendous efficiency to the ordering system. The system provided instant access to current inventories, purchase history and other details, which helped in making the right decisions. The order management system was streamlined with minimal human intervention and drastically improved quality of service and turnaround time.

The Technology