ABOUT THE CLIENT

Bar Patrol is an interactive web portal or precisely an automated tracking system, specifically built for the liquor industry. Instigated by a more than 25 years experienced enthusiast, Dave Allred- the one man army (Founder/ CEO/ Owner), Bar Portal is aimed towards altering the conventional way the bars and restaurants are managed. Allred's idea of introducing automation in the entire management system of the restaurants was the mainstream behind the provocation of Bar Patrol and it really came out to be a change maker and thrived the industry profits in an exquisite way.

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

The foremost goal of the project was to be able to include and unite as many bars and restaurants as possible via the Bar Patrol web portal and iOS app, which called out for an excellent synching between the two.

The client's major concern was to integrate a large database of bars and restaurants thereby, making his clients order, manage, process, and generate invoices for their outlets in a far-stretched automated and easier way. Well, this idea seemed to be next to perfect, but what needed to implement it impeccably was an adequately robust database management system and so was our, the team Clavax's major goal for the smooth functioning of the project.

Further, Dave wanted to incorporate some stupendous features in the software, he wanted the user to be able to manage the inventories, sales, suppliers, reports, products, vendors, and much more. Accordingly, our goal was to integrate the software in such a way that facilitates his clients in every possible aspect, making his idea a sure and grand success.

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CHALLENGES

Bar Patrol appeared to be easy in the beginning, but as we moved ahead with the initial planning of the project, we found it more interesting and challenging. Since the major concern of the project was to incorporate a user interactive management or tracking system which a large number of users, i.e. restaurant and bartenders, owners, and managers can use with immense ease and increase their overall profits to a far greater extent; team Clavax decided to build an all-new website with a high-end support system. Developing such an interactive and automated web portal was apparently not that easy, we came across certain obvious challenges, some of which were:

Providing a smooth syncing between the web portal and the iOS app was the major challenge we encountered in the project. Even a small syncing gap could have ruined the entire efficiency of the software, therefore, this issue demanded our major attention.

The client required the data to be user specific, which again was a definite challenge for our development team since it called out for a unique user id concept.

Another challenge we came across was, incorporating a fully automated report calculation feature in the software which was supposed to perform certain complex calculations, say analyzing the quantity of a particular product in a specific recipe and accordingly calculating its cost and requirement for the further usage.

As per the client's requirements, huge data was expected to strike the portal, which only an immensely robust and reliable database management system could withstand with. Figuring out for such a resilient DBMS was also proved out to be one of our challenges with the project.

SOLUTIONS

Acquainted with the above-mentioned challenges, team Clavax went through some elite and interactive meetings and discussions and came out with some adequate solutions for all these issues.
Let's have a look at them:

Firstly, as we were most concerned about the sync issue, we opted for a ZF2 API, the reason being, the website was also supposed to be developed with Zend 2. Further, as we initiated with it, an issue arose with Auto Sync, which we dealt with a Microsecond Time Stamp. It led to a smooth auto sync between web and app in every 1 minute/ 90 seconds (not confirmed).

Further, the enormously huge data was also a giant issue to be stored, handled, and managed appropriately, for which we found MySQL to be the best remedy, and we were right! It did work really well for the required task.

✓ Then the issue of user specific data was there to deal with, we used the concept of the primary and foreign key for that, and it too worked well for it.

✓ Manual entries were going to be a tough task for the user, that might have even been the reason for users to abhor the software, team Clavax put the option of uploading and downloading the CSB files, which again worked quite well for the required issue.

RESULTS

The collaborative excellent strategies and buoyant logics of team Clavax came out to be a huge success of Bar Patrol. The precise requirements and ideas from the client's end performed well in the whole scenario and it became easy for us to implement the exact the chunks during the entire development phase of the project.