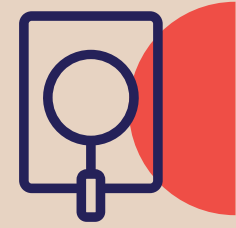


**From Legacy to Limelight:
Transforming
Merchandise
Management With
Google Cloud**

 Case Study



Overview

Enabling South African investment giant's retail transformation

The client, South Africa's leading investment and holding company specializing in discount retail and fintech sectors, partnered with us to modernize its merchandise management system (MMS) on Google Cloud. We spearheaded a comprehensive overhaul that included developing a cutting-edge application integrating business and engineering transformations to foster sustainable growth. We also developed a unified MMS platform with foundational features shared among group entities for enhanced adaptability in future retail expansions. The project also involved phasing out outdated legacy MMS applications across retail branches and streamlining operations for heightened efficiency and competitiveness.



Challenges

Addressing retail modernization impediments

Given its legacy setup, the client faced several hurdles in its merchandise management systems. For instance, the existing systems struggled to accommodate the demands of sustainable business growth, lacking scalability and capacity on demand. Moreover, outdated applications hampered agility and flexibility, limiting the company's ability to introduce new business models and expand product categories.

Complicating matters further, multiple retailers operated with disparate legacy applications, resulting in redundant systems of record. They had to navigate a complex technological landscape, grappling with hyper-complex integrations across various satellite systems, including on-premises, SaaS, and third-party solutions.



Solution

Crafting an integrated solution for retail innovation

We devised a comprehensive strategy to revamp the client's MMS platform that included:

Domain-led, composable, layered approach within a hybrid integration framework, seamlessly integrated with the Google Cloud Platform's native ecosystem.

Thorough assessment of the existing landscape and architecture, followed by the definition of a robust target architecture.

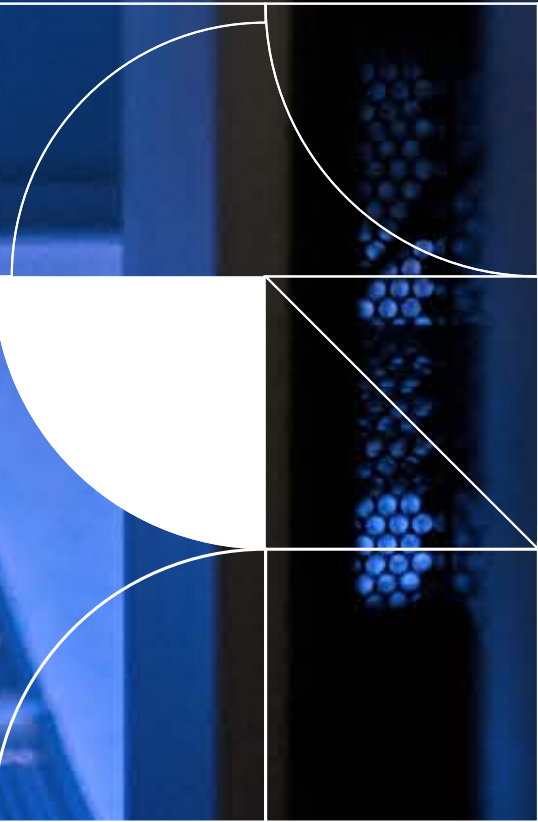
Implementation of DevSecOps pipelines to ensure swift and secure development processes.

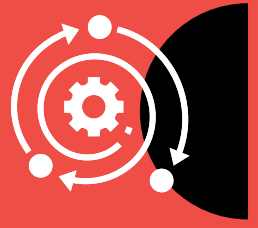
Adoption of responsive web design principles and the utilization of micro frontends to enhance user experience and adaptability.

Implementation of the Strangler pattern to facilitate the gradual replacement of legacy systems.

Addressing cross-cutting concerns through rigorous unit testing, regression testing, user acceptance testing, and seamless data migration and cutover procedures.

Adoption of a phased approach to develop a greenfield application, incorporating core requirements tailored for all retailers.





Impact

Transformative impact
on retail operations

The client registered several benefits post-implementation and a significant transformation in its performance. Key outcomes included:

A modern, unified MMS platform on Google Cloud, equipped with essential features tailored for retailers.

Increased operational efficiency through streamlined automation across various processes.

Provision of enhanced flexibility, enabling seamless adaptation to new business models and the expansion of product categories in alignment with the growth vision.

Capacity scalability in tandem with business demand, leveraging GCP's auto-scaling capabilities to optimize resources during peak and off-peak hours.





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