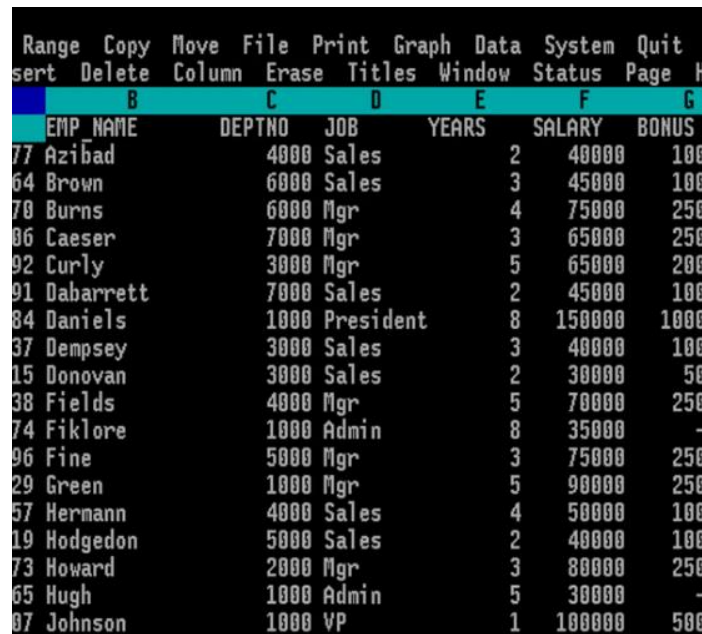


Case Study: Re-platforming Joseph Heler's Dairy Logistics Software

Joseph Heler is a dairy logistics company based in the United Kingdom that specialises in the production and distribution of cheese. In February 2017, Heler contacted us to re-platform a legacy system they used to reverse invoice their farmers. Heler's legacy system was a spreadsheet created in 1983 called Lotus 123, which had not been updated by IBM since 2002. This application was difficult to maintain and had a number of limitations which did not meet the company's growing business requirements.

Lotus123 Spreadsheet:



	Range	Copy	Move	File	Print	Graph	Data	System	Quit
	Insert	Delete	Column	Erase	Titles	Window	Status	Page	Help
	B	C	D	E	F	G			
	EMP NAME	DEPTNO	JOB	YEARS	SALARY	BONUS			
77	Azibad	4000	Sales		2	40000	100		
64	Brown	6000	Sales		3	45000	100		
70	Burns	6000	Mgr		4	75000	250		
06	Caeser	7000	Mgr		3	65000	250		
92	Curly	3000	Mgr		5	65000	200		
91	Dabarrett	7000	Sales		2	45000	100		
84	Daniels	1000	President		8	150000	1000		
37	Dempsey	3000	Sales		3	40000	100		
15	Donovan	3000	Sales		2	30000	50		
38	Fields	4000	Mgr		5	70000	250		
74	Fiklore	1000	Admin		8	35000			
96	Fine	5000	Mgr		3	75000	250		
29	Green	1000	Mgr		5	90000	250		
57	Hermann	4000	Sales		4	50000	100		
19	Hodgedon	5000	Sales		2	40000	100		
73	Howard	2000	Mgr		3	80000	250		
65	Hugh	1000	Admin		5	30000			
07	Johnson	1000	VP		1	100000	500		

Also, it had to be locally installed on a PC, preventing portability and limiting communication. Furthermore, it was shown to be 30% inaccurate, losing the company time and money.

Process

Analysis:

Lomature provided an overview of the development process to Joseph Heler set up scoping meetings and interviews with key personnel to get a better understanding of their requirements and what they expected. This information was then assessed, and in June 2017, a proposal was created for the initial analysis service. This was a review of the legacy system: its functions, capabilities, limitations, and how it could be re-platformed into a modern application. In the case of Heler, this meticulous analysis took ten days, following which, a full proposal of the project requirements was completed.

Project Mapping:

The comprehensive proposal included the cost, time frame, and a step-by-step development process which was required to complete the project successfully. Lomature proposed a cloud-based system that was modern and flexible and could meet the company's growing

business requirements. A contract for full re-development of the reverse invoicing software was agreed in December 2017.

Development:

Lomature utilise agile practises throughout its business to manage the development of the new application. The detailed designs, are split into stories and each story spans no more than two to three week sprints. The development was completed on time and within budget by April 2018. Lomature facilitated and managed the entire development phase with very little input from Heler, allowing them to focus on their core business.

Heler then carried out user acceptance testing (UAT), where accuracy and functional requirements were assessed and bugs identified. These bugs were subsequently fixed by Lomature in another round of development.

Implementation and Training:

Following completion of development, Lomature provided tailored user-guides and face to face training to ensure seamless integration with Heler's business.

Hosting:

Lomature now provide 24-hour support and hosting in their PCI compliant virtual private cloud. System migrations are also implemented by Lomature along with further training and updated user-guides.



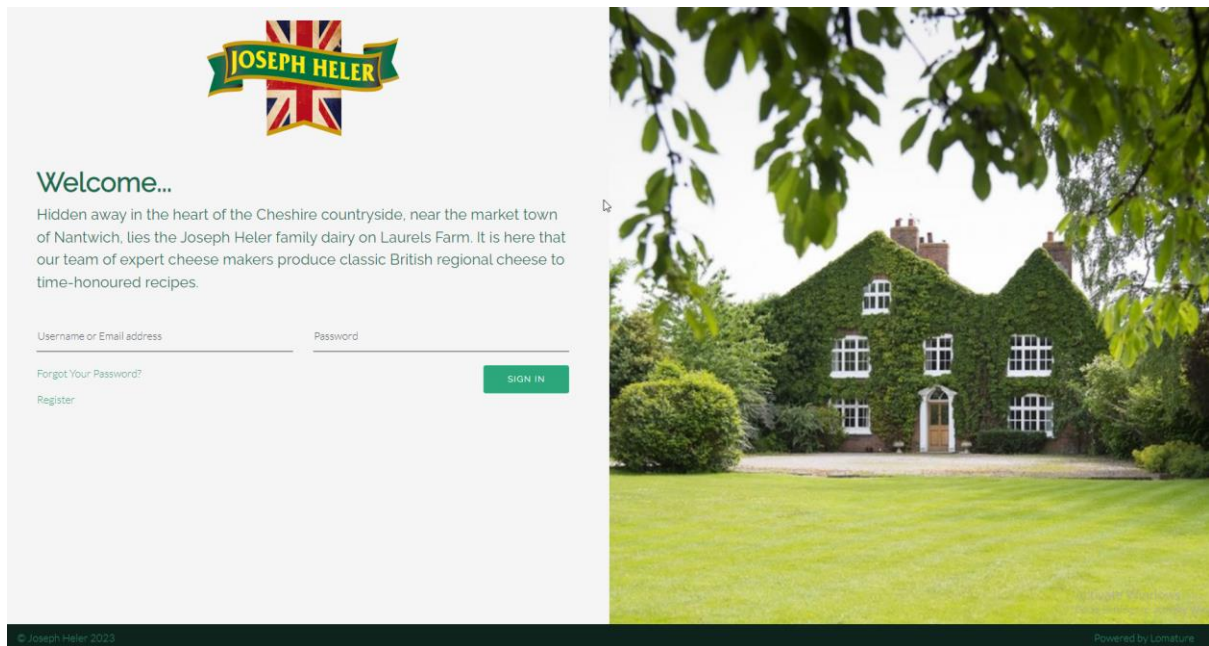
Challenges

The archaic Lotus application presented a number of challenges. To start with, setting up an environment in which the application could function proved difficult, as it only worked on older machines.

Analysis of the software was also trying due to the general shortage of documentation, and a limited knowledge of the technical aspects of Lotus within the client's organisation.

An over-arching challenge that loomed during the entirety of the process, was the possibility that, due to its age, Lotus 123 could fail. This would have had catastrophic ramifications for Heler as a business, preventing them from generating payments for their valued farmers.

Solution:



The system developed by Lomature for Joseph Heler Cheese, is a cloud-based solution that offers a range of benefits. One key advantage of this system is that it enables Joseph Heler to streamline their invoicing process by automating the calculation of payments to farmers. This not only saves time and reduces the potential for errors, but it also helps to ensure that farmers are paid promptly and accurately. Additionally, the cloud-based nature of the system allows for scalability, meaning that it can easily be adapted to accommodate growth or changes in business needs. The system also provides real-time visibility into invoicing and payment data, allowing for greater transparency and accountability. Overall, this system represents a significant improvement over traditional manual invoicing processes, offering enhanced efficiency, accuracy, and convenience.

Real-time invoicing data visualised in dashboards:



Conclusion

Re-platforming Joseph Heler's legacy system to a modern cloud-based system was a success. Lomature worked closely with Joseph Heler to ensure that the new system met their requirements and effectively dealt with the unique challenges their business faces. The new system was delivered on time and within budget, and provided Joseph Heler with the flexibility they needed to adapt to their growing business requirements. An example that epitomises the success of this project is the improvement in the time it takes for Heler to generate their monthly invoices, which has decreased from 2 weeks to a day.

The re-platforming of legacy systems can be challenging, but with the right development partner, businesses can successfully modernise their systems and improve their operations.