



Custom Development in the Cloud – An Inventory Management Solution

“Leveraging Explore Consulting’s technical expertise, we were able to bring a complicated software vision to reality. Their team really understood the business needs, how to leverage modern technology to build a scalable and flexible solution, and have delivered a state-of-the-art platform that will provide a competitive edge for our organization.”

- Ben Wellner, Information Technology, HR Spinner

Background: HR Spinner is a Washington-based produce packaging distributor founded in 1916. With humble beginnings selling wooden shoo to the tree fruit industry in the Yakima Valley, the company quickly grew and established offices in Wenatchee to serve the northern tree fruit industry of Washington state. Today, as business continues to expand, HR Spinner is now the largest box machine program in the Pacific Northwest.

Issue: Prior to partnering with Explore Consulting, HR Spinner identified the need for increased visibility into packaging inventory management amongst their customers. Lack of accurate inventory management posed a high risk of customers not having sufficient packaging resources to pack their produce in a timely manner to ensure optimal freshness. Additionally, the lack of insight into general inventory trends limited HR Spinner’s clients’ ability to forecast their business needs due to limited data.

Solution: HR Spinner partnered with Explore Consulting to provide their clients a streamlined, easy-to-use and completely custom-designed solution for packaging inventory management. The result was a cloud-based, single page application that was uniquely built for HR Spinner and their customers. The custom application allows for multiple integration points and is accessible from any mobile device. Featuring a sleek user dashboard, the custom application offers real-time visibility into key inventory data. General ease of use allows even non-technical team members to use and manage the inventory management application. Additionally a complex security layer was implemented

Company Snapshot

Industry: Packaging Distribution

Solution: Custom Inventory Management Tool

Technologies Used: Node.js / jQuery / Express Backbone / PostgreSQL Database Engine / Bootstrap / Heroku Cloud Hosting

to manage single or multi-company access. This ensures each individual subsidiary within a multi-subsubsidiary company is only able to access their own data. As the application is cloud-based, updates to the system are automatic and do not require manual employee effort to initiate the changes.

Results: Explore Consulting’s custom application solution has allowed HR Spinner to take their customer offerings to the next level and now serves as an inventory management best practice tool. The easy-to-use interface has enabled all those involved in the inventory management process to utilize the new application. Leveraging additional insight into packaging inventory, HR Spinner’s clients are now able to better prepare for their packaging needs, ultimately leading to increased productivity and profit. As a packaging supplier, HR Spinner is also able to utilize their customers’ packaging data history to better assist them with their upcoming production needs. This overall increase in efficiency has helped to grow HR Spinner’s industry-leading business and further emphasizes their ongoing dedication to their clients and the needs of the Northwest produce industry.



Dashboard: Business at a Glance

Access a snapshot of your company's inventory and accounting needs via a single homepage dashboard.



The Packaging Inventory system developed for HR Spinner is accessible from any device with a browser and is responsive to accommodate current and future hardware and OS configurations.

The screenshot displays the HR Spinner web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with options like HOME, ITEMS, TRANSACTIONS, REPORTS, and SETUP. Below this, there are filter options for reports, such as 'All Companies', 'Filter by Location', and 'Filter by Category'. The main content area features a table with columns for ITEM ID, ALT ID, DESCRIPTION, UOM, ON HAND QTY, MIN ORDER QTY, LOCATION, CATEGORY, COMMODITY, VARIETY, and BRAND LABEL. Below the table, there are sections for 'TOP 10 LBS - LAST 7 DAYS' with a pie chart, 'LOW INVENTORY' with a list of items, and 'PENDING RECEIPTS' with a list of incoming orders.

This screenshot shows a detailed view of an inventory item within the HR Spinner system. The item ID is 05100410, and the description is '2 LAYER 100% TOPS VALLEY FRUIT'. The interface includes dropdown menus for 'Category' (None), 'Type' (Tops), 'Commodity' (Apple), 'Variety' (None), and 'UOM' (Each). Below this, there is a table showing the item's status across different locations: 'Walla Walla Packing Plant' (0 on hand, 0 pending), 'Wahatone Packing Plant' (8280 on hand, 0 pending), and 'Yakima Packing Plant' (0 on hand, 0 pending).

About Explore Consulting

Based in Bellevue, Washington, Explore Consulting was founded in 2001 and is a professional services company dedicated to providing innovative and cost-effective solutions for their customers' database and IT systems needs. Having specialized in cloud-based solutions for more than 14 years, Explore Consulting is the largest and most experienced NetSuite reseller and

solution provider in the Northwestern United States. Explore Consulting is well-known as a leader cloud-based systems development, with more than a decade of supporting custom development needs from NFL Scouting and the NFL Combine to RECAPS for the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Sounders. For more information, visit www.exploreconsulting.com.