

Retail Case Study 2: Accelerating Inventory Innovation with RFID and Cloud Services

Overview

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a major retail client faced significant disruption to its inventory management initiatives. Guidacent was engaged to lead a project recovery effort, leveraging agile scrum sprints and cross-functional coordination to deliver innovative RFID inventory services. The project's success had a broad impact, transforming inventory operations and setting a new standard for efficiency.

The Challenge / Opportunity

- **Project Recovery:** The pandemic stalled progress on inventory innovation, requiring rapid recovery and renewed momentum.
 - **Cross-Functional Coordination:** Success depended on seamless collaboration between development, product management, and external vendors.
 - **Innovation at Scale:** The goal was to deliver advanced RFID inventory services that could scale horizontally and support future growth.
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Guidacent's Solution

Guidacent led a team of 10 developers through classic scrum sprints, driving the project from concept to production:

- **Agile Delivery:** Managed the project using iterative scrum sprints, ensuring transparency, adaptability, and continuous improvement.
 - **Prototype to MVP to v1:** Delivered a working prototype, a minimum viable product, and the first production release of horizontally scaling inventory services.
 - **Modern Technology Stack:** Built the solution on AWS, leveraging Apache Kafka for real-time inventory messaging and scalable cloud infrastructure.
 - **Stakeholder Engagement:** Coordinated closely with product management and vendors to align requirements, validate solutions, and accelerate delivery.
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Results



- **Transformational Impact:** The new RFID inventory services enabled activities such as store inventory to be completed in just four hours with four people—a process that previously required days.
 - **Scalable Architecture:** The horizontally scaling services set the foundation for world-class inventory capabilities.
 - **Rapid Recovery:** The project restored momentum and delivered tangible value to the client, positioning them for continued innovation.
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Best Practices Highlighted

- **Agile Project Management:** Used scrum sprints to maintain focus, adapt to change, and deliver incremental value.
 - **Cloud-Native Design:** Leveraged AWS and Apache Kafka for reliability, scalability, and real-time data processing.
 - **Collaborative Execution:** Fostered strong partnerships across development, product management, and vendors.
 - **Iterative Delivery:** Progressed from prototype to MVP to full production, ensuring early wins and continuous improvement.
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Conclusion

Guidacent's leadership and technical expertise enabled the client to recover from pandemic-related setbacks and achieve breakthrough results in inventory management. By combining agile methods, cloud technologies, and collaborative execution, Guidacent delivered a solution that dramatically improved efficiency and set a new benchmark for inventory innovation.

Ready to accelerate your digital transformation?

Contact Guidacent today to discover how we can help your organization deliver innovative solutions at scale.

