Azeez — Freight Calculator Quote

Project: Cargo Credible [azeezali]

Status

Published

Last Updated

August 14, 2025

Exported On

August 14, 2025 15:57

Document ID

BEN-537

Project ID

604153a5-820e-4e10-a48b-2c2fd8899888

Created By

Benmore Technologies

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No attachment available

Freight Calculator Development Quote

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT QUOTE PRESENTATION

PURPOSE OF THE PRESENTATION

This presentation is designed to collaboratively define the scope of your Minimum Viable Product (MVP) for the Freight Calculator. Our objective is to prioritize high-impact features that align with your market entry timeline, ensuring an efficient path forward for your freight rate calculation platform focusing on accurate pricing, vehicle management, and user engagement through rewards programs.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Identify the essential features for the Freight Calculator MVP, derived from detailed freight industry requirements and pricing accuracy discussions.

- Prioritize features based on value, user experience, and competitive advantage considerations.

- Establish a clear and realistic scope for delivery within 2.5 months.

COMMITMENT TO SCOPE

By the conclusion of this session, our goal is to finalize an MVP scope that meets your primary objectives while aligning with available resources and go-to-market timeline. This refined scope accounts for the complexity of multi-step onboarding, VIN integration, dynamic pricing calculations, and user retention features.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Freight Calculator is a comprehensive freight rate calculation platform designed to provide accurate shipping quotes for owner-operators, dispatchers, and fleet managers. It streamlines the quoting process through intelligent vehicle profiling, automated VIN lookup, operating cost integration, and dynamic rate calculations. The platform includes user management, saved quote history, and a referral rewards system to drive user engagement and platform growth.

Development Scope

The project encompasses critical features distributed across two and a half (2.5) months for Phase 1 MVP development. Each feature is aimed at establishing comprehensive user onboarding, accurate rate calculation engine, and essential engagement features needed to demonstrate value and capture market share in the freight calculation space.

QUOTE DETAILS

Month 1

Priority	Feature Name	Feature Description
HIGH	User Authentication & Profile System	Secure user registration and authentication with profile management supporting different user types (owner-operator, dispatcher, fleet manager, other) with role-based access control and secure session management.
HIGH	Multi-Step Onboarding Flow	Complete 5-step onboarding process with progress tracking, form validation, and data persistence including user type selection, vehicle selection/VIN entry, setup completion flow, and user experience optimization.
HIGH	Vehicle Management System	Comprehensive vehicle database with manual entry (make/model, MPG, payload) and VIN lookup integration for automatic vehicle specification population with error handling, data validation, and fallback options.
HIGH	Database Architecture & API Foundation	PostgreSQL database design and implementation for users, vehicles, quotes, and operational data with proper indexing, relationship management, and RESTful API foundation.
MEDIUM	VIN Lookup API Integration	Third-party VIN decode API integration (NHTSA free tier + premium backup service) with automatic population of vehicle specifications, error handling, rate limiting, and manual override capabilities.

Total Cost for Month 1: $3,500

Month 2

Priority	Feature Name	Feature Description
HIGH	Google Maps API Integration	Complete address validation, geocoding, and route distance calculation integration with Maps JavaScript API and Distance Matrix API for accurate mileage and location data with caching optimization.
HIGH	Dynamic Rate Calculation Engine	Advanced pricing algorithm incorporating vehicle specifications, operating costs, route data (via Google Maps), fuel prices, and market factors with real-time calculation, rate optimization, and edge case handling.
HIGH	Load Details & Route Management	Comprehensive interface for entering load specifications (weight, dimensions, type) and route information with Google Maps address validation, autocomplete, automatic mileage calculation, and route optimization suggestions.
HIGH	Operating Costs Configuration	Advanced user interface for entering payment frequency, fixed monthly costs, fuel expenses, and other operational expenses with calculation integration, cost validation, and preset templates.
HIGH	User Dashboard & Analytics Foundation	Central dashboard displaying recent quotes, saved rates, user statistics, quick access functions, and basic analytics with responsive design and data visualization components.

Total Cost for Month 2: $3,500

Month 2.5 (Final 2 Weeks)

Priority	Feature Name	Feature Description
HIGH	Rate History & Quote Management	Complete saved quotes system with advanced search, filtering, organization capabilities, quote comparison tools, and bulk operations allowing users to efficiently manage and reuse previous calculations.
HIGH	Referral Rewards System	Complete referral tracking system with unique referral codes, reward point calculation, redemption interface, automated reward distribution, and fraud prevention with comprehensive analytics dashboard.
HIGH	Quote Export & Sharing Features	Professional quote generation with customizable PDF export, email sharing, branded quote templates, client information management, and rate breakdown visualization for professional presentation.
HIGH	Mobile-Responsive Design & Optimization	Full mobile optimization ensuring seamless functionality across all devices with touch-friendly interfaces, optimized performance on smartphones and tablets, and progressive web app capabilities.
HIGH	System Testing & Production Deployment	Comprehensive testing of all calculation algorithms, user flows, API integrations, edge cases, performance optimization, secure production deployment with monitoring, backup systems, and complete documentation.

Total Cost for Month 2.5: $1,750

TOTAL PROJECT COST: $8,750

"Note: The 2.5-month accelerated timeline includes comprehensive testing, quality assurance, and production deployment preparation. The complexity of accurate freight rate calculations, VIN API integration, Google Maps integration, and user engagement features requires efficient development methodologies and parallel workstreams. This timeline accounts for standard freight industry practices and common calculation variables. Any additional carrier integrations, advanced analytics features, or significant changes to the core calculation engine after this definition may require re-evaluation of the timeline and budget."

API COSTS & CONSIDERATIONS

VIN Lookup API

- **Primary:** NHTSA VIN Decode API (Free, 5 requests/second limit)
- **Secondary:** VINDecodeAPI.com ($19.99/month for 1,000 requests) or similar premium service
- **Estimated Monthly Cost:** $20-50 depending on usage volume

Google Maps API

- **Maps JavaScript API:** $7 per 1,000 map loads (first 28,000 free monthly)
- **Geocoding API:** $5 per 1,000 requests (first 40,000 free monthly)
- **Distance Matrix API:** $5 per 1,000 elements (first 40,000 free monthly)
- **Estimated Monthly Cost:** $0-100 depending on user volume (likely free for MVP)

Total Estimated Monthly API Costs

- **Launch Phase (0-500 users):** $20-70/month
- **Growth Phase (500-2000 users):** $50-150/month

> *"Note: API costs are separate from development costs and will be ongoing operational expenses. Google Maps provides generous free tiers that should cover initial usage. VIN lookup costs scale with usage but remain relatively low. We recommend starting with free tiers and scaling premium services as user base grows."*

Technical Implementation Details

- **Backend Framework:** Node.js with Express.js for API services and calculation engine

- **Frontend:** React with responsive design for multi-step forms and dashboard interface

- **Database:** PostgreSQL for user data, vehicle profiles, and quote history

- **Authentication:** JWT-based authentication with secure session management

- **External APIs:**

- VIN Decode APIs (NHTSA + premium backup)

- Google Maps APIs (JavaScript, Geocoding, Distance Matrix)

- API rate limiting and caching strategies

- **Real-time Updates:** Dynamic calculation updates and form validation

- **Deployment:** Railway/Render for backend, Vercel for frontend with CI/CD via GitHub Actions

Success Metrics for Phase 1 MVP

- **User Onboarding:** 90%+ completion rate for the 5-step setup process with intuitive user experience

- **Calculation Accuracy:** Reliable rate calculations with 99%+ uptime and sub-2-second response times

- **VIN Integration:** 95%+ success rate for VIN lookup with proper fallback to manual entry

- **User Engagement:** Active dashboard usage with saved quote functionality and referral system adoption

- **Mobile Experience:** Full functionality across all devices with responsive design

- **Production Readiness:** Deployed system capable of handling concurrent users with monitoring and support

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