**Cue Time Systems - Local Setup Guide (XAMPP + Azure SQL Connection)**

This document provides step-by-step instructions to set up the Cue Time Systems project using XAMPP and connect it to the Azure-hosted "bennys" database.

**1. Install XAMPP**

1. Go to https://www.apachefriends.org/index.html
2. Download the latest version of **XAMPP for Windows**.
3. Run the installer and install XAMPP in the default directory: C:\xampp
4. After installation, launch the **XAMPP Control Panel**.
5. Start the following services:
   * **Apache** (required)
   * **MySQL** (optional, used for local databases)

**2. Place Project Files**

1. Copy the entire Bennys\_clean project folder into C:\xampp\htdocs\
   * Final path should be: C:\xampp\htdocs\Bennys\_clean

Install Microsoft SQL drivers

* https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/connect/odbc/download-odbc-driver-for-sql-server?view=sql-server-ver15

**3. Required PHP Add-ins / Extensions**

To connect to Azure SQL Server from PHP, ensure these extensions are enabled:

1. Open C:\xampp\php\php.ini
2. Search for and **uncomment** (remove ; from) the following lines:
3. extension=pdo\_sqlsrv

extension=sqlsrv

1. Save the file and restart **Apache** from the XAMPP control panel.

If these extensions are not available:

* Download the SQLSRV and PDO\_SQLSRV extensions for your PHP version from Microsoft's GitHub: https://github.com/microsoft/msphpsql/releases
* Choose the ts (Thread Safe) versions for your installed PHP version (e.g., php\_pdo\_sqlsrv\_80\_ts.dll for PHP 8.0)
* Copy the .dll files into C:\xampp\php\ext\
* Then edit php.ini to enable them as shown above.

**4. Database Connection Configuration**

The Azure SQL connection is embedded in each PHP page where needed. Here is the standard format used:

$server = 'tcp:mis4173.database.windows.net,1433';

$database = 'bennys';

$username = 'bennysadmin';

$password = 'Poolhall1!';

$conn = new PDO("sqlsrv:Server=$server;Database=$database", $username, $password);

$conn->setAttribute(PDO::ATTR\_ERRMODE, PDO::ERRMODE\_EXCEPTION);

No additional configuration is required if the Azure credentials are valid and your firewall allows outbound connections on port 1433.

**5. Access the Project in a Browser**

Once Apache is running and project files are in place:

1. Open your web browser
2. Navigate to: http://localhost/Bennys\_clean/
3. The index.php dashboard will load

From here, you can access:

* Customer List, Add, Edit, View, Delete
* Rental Summary Report (with print and export)
* Customer Rental Search (with print)
* Mock Email tools (including single-customer emailing with Benny's logo)

**6. Project Enhancements Included**

* Export to CSV functionality
* PDF printout using dompdf
* Mock email with attachment/image upload support
* Sidebar navigation with Benny's branding
* Azure SQL integration via PDO

The entire project resides in C:\xampp\htdocs\Bennys\_clean and is self-contained.

You may zip the folder and share it along with this document.

**7. Optional Tools Used**

* **Dompdf** for PDF generation (placed in Bennys\_clean/dompdf/)
* **Email mocks** display customer contact previews, simulate newsletter messages

Project complete and ready to demonstrate!

If you need to reset or clone the environment, simply re-copy Bennys\_clean to another machine with XAMPP and follow the steps above.

✅ Created by: Christy Suits & Assistant ❤️ Powered by PHP + Azure SQL + Benny's spirit