

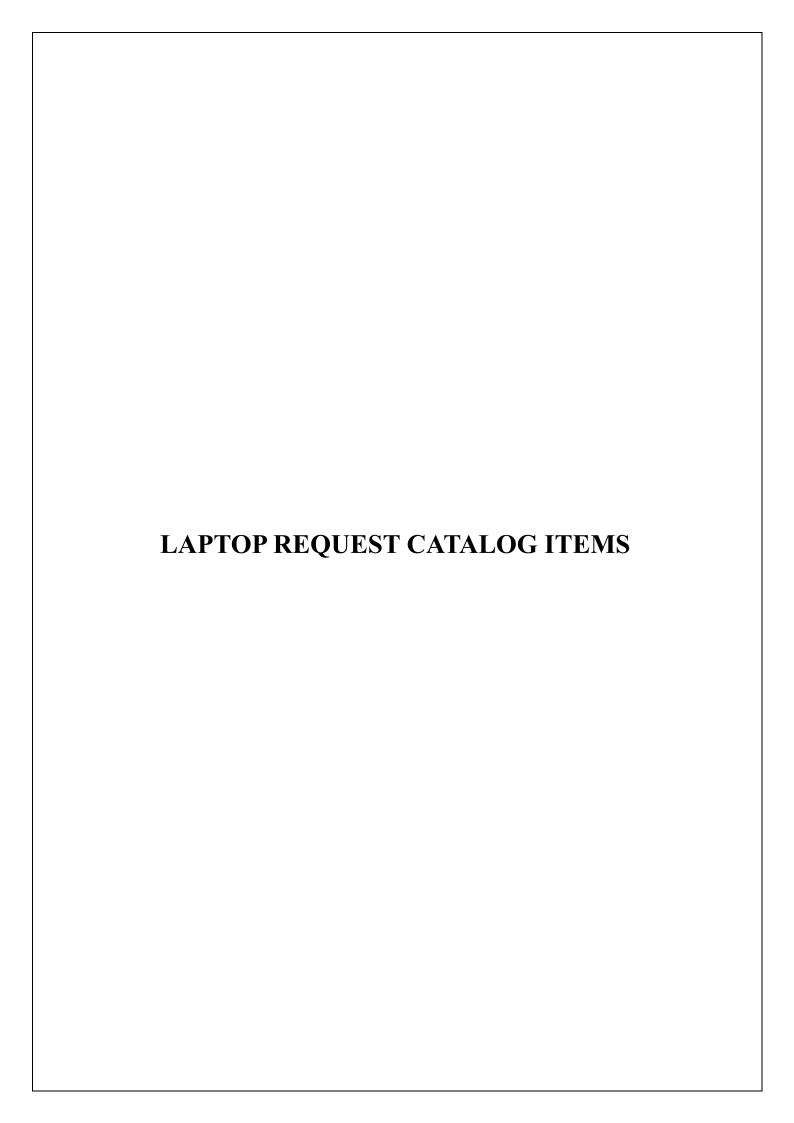


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TITLE: LAPTOP REQUEST CATALOG ITEMS

Team Members:

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Abstract

The "Laptop Request Catalog Item" project is designed to automate and streamline the process of requesting laptops for employees using the ServiceNow platform. The solution replaces traditional manual request methods, such as emails and spreadsheets, with a centralized and user-friendly Service Catalog item. It enables employees to easily submit laptop requests, automates the approval process, and allows IT and HR teams to efficiently manage and track hardware distribution. By implementing this catalog item, the project aims to enhance operational efficiency, improve visibility of asset requests, and ensure timely fulfillment while reducing administrative overhead.

Introduction

In many organizations, managing laptop requests manually leads to delays, miscommunication, and tracking issues. To address these challenges, the "Laptop Request Catalog Item" project was initiated using ServiceNow, a leading IT Service Management (ITSM) platform known for its automation and workflow capabilities. This project focuses on creating a dedicated Service Catalog item that allows employees to request laptops directly through the ServiceNow portal. The system automatically routes requests for approval, assigns tasks to the IT fulfillment team, and provides real-time updates to users. The key objectives of the project are to simplify the laptop request process, automate approvals, and provide better visibility and accountability in hardware management.

Problem Statement

Before the implementation of this solution, the laptop request process was handled manually through emails or verbal communication, resulting in inefficiencies and lack of transparency. Requests were often delayed, approvals were missed, and there was no centralized record of who requested or received laptops. This manual process also increased the risk of asset mismanagement and made tracking difficult for IT administrators. The absence of automation and a structured workflow led to poor user experience and unnecessary administrative burden. Therefore, the project aims to develop an automated Service Catalog item in ServiceNow that standardizes the laptop request process, ensures proper approvals, and provides clear visibility across all stages of the request lifecycle.

Methodology/System Design

1. Design Approach

The solution is designed using ServiceNow Studio and Service Catalog. The design follows a user-centered approach to ensure simplicity for requesters and efficiency for approvers. The catalog item includes predefined fields for laptop model selection, justification, and urgency. ServiceNow's Flow Designer is used for workflow automation, and approval rules are configured using Approval Policies.

2. System Architecture

The architecture integrates the Catalog Item with ServiceNow's Request Management, Asset Management, and CMDB modules. When a user submits a laptop request, a Request Item (RITM) and Task (SCTASK) are automatically created. The workflow routes the request through the approval chain and fulfillment team. The fulfillment team can update the request status, and upon completion, the laptop details are recorded in the CMDB.

3. User Interface (UI) and User Experience (UX)

The Catalog Item form is designed with clear, concise fields and dropdown menus for laptop models. Conditional visibility is applied so users only see relevant options. The interface uses ServiceNow's standard catalog UI to ensure consistency with other request items. A progress tracker displays each request's status (Submitted \rightarrow Approved \rightarrow Fulfilled).

Implementation Details

1. Platform Setup

A new instance of ServiceNow was configured with roles and groups such as *IT Fulfillment Team*, *Approvers*, and *End Users*. Users were assigned roles to control access to the catalog item and request records.

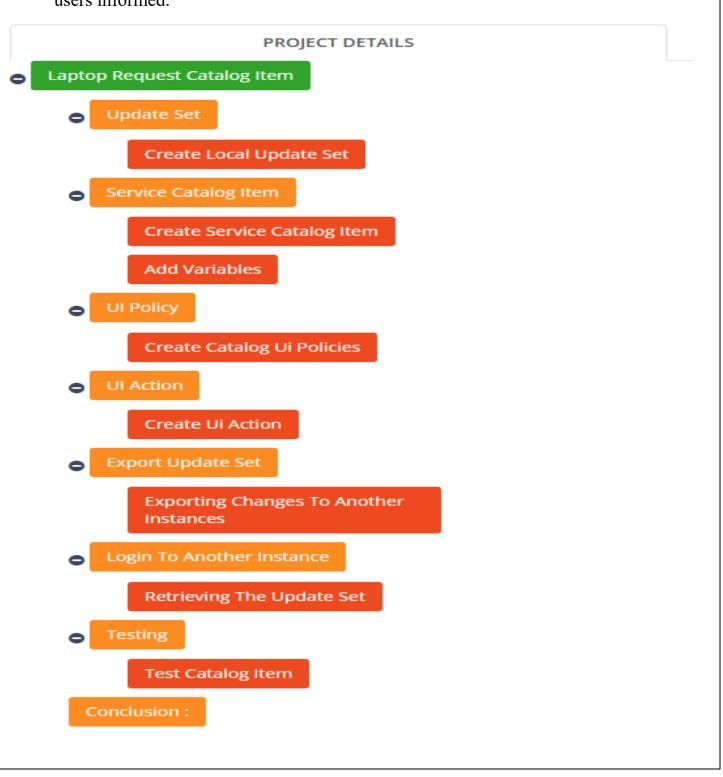
2. Development and Customization

Using ServiceNow Studio, a custom Catalog Item titled "Request a Laptop" was created under the IT Services category. Custom fields (e.g., Laptop Model, Business Justification, Delivery Location) were added. Scripts and UI Policies were implemented to validate input and show/hide fields dynamically. Catalog Client Scripts ensured real-time updates based on user selections.

3. Workflow Implementation

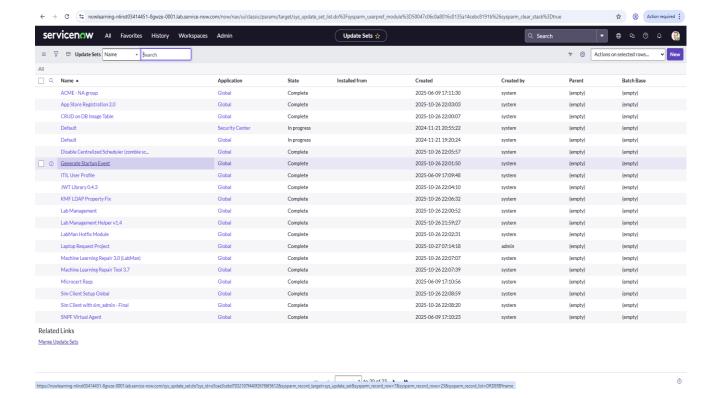
A workflow was developed in Flow Designer to handle:

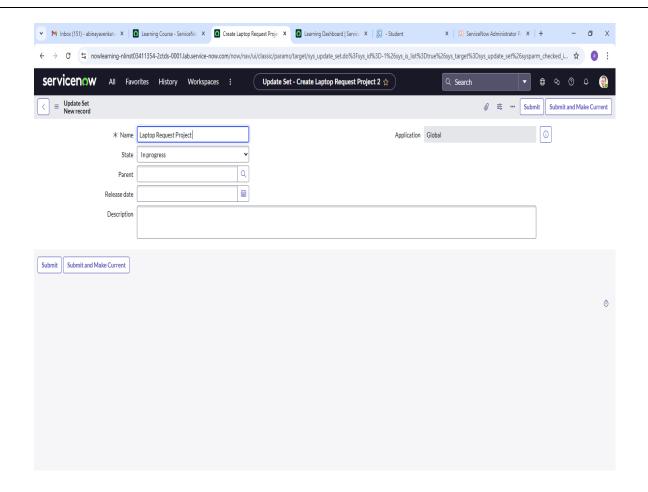
- 1. Manager Approval Automatically routed to the requester's line manager.
- 2. **IT Fulfillment** Task assigned to the IT team for provisioning.
- 3. **Closure** Update Status set to "Completed" when the laptop is issued. Notifications were configured for each stage (submission, approval, completion) to keep users informed.



STEP 1: Create Local Update set

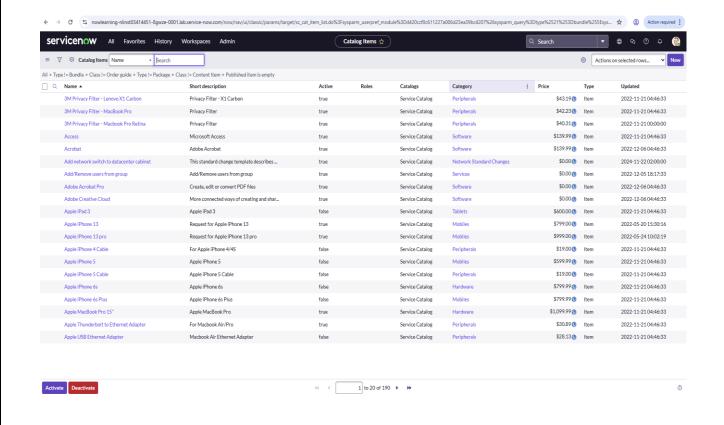
- 1. Open service now.
- 2. Click on All >> search for update sets
- 3. Select local update sets under system update sets
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create a update set as: "Laptop Request"
- 6. Click on submit and make current
- 7. By clicking on the button it activates the update set.

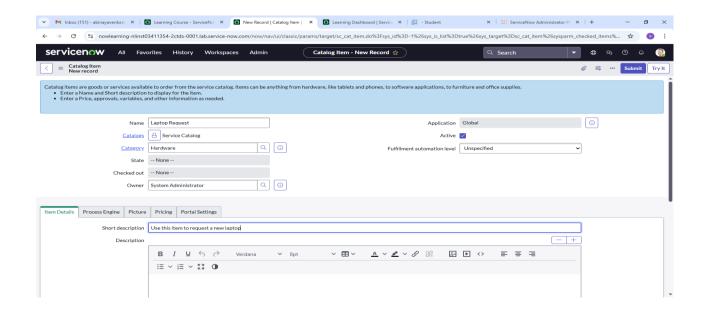




STEP 2: Create Service Catalog Item

- 1. Open service now.
- 2. Click on All >> service catalog
- 3. Select maintain items under catalog definitions
- 4. Click on New.



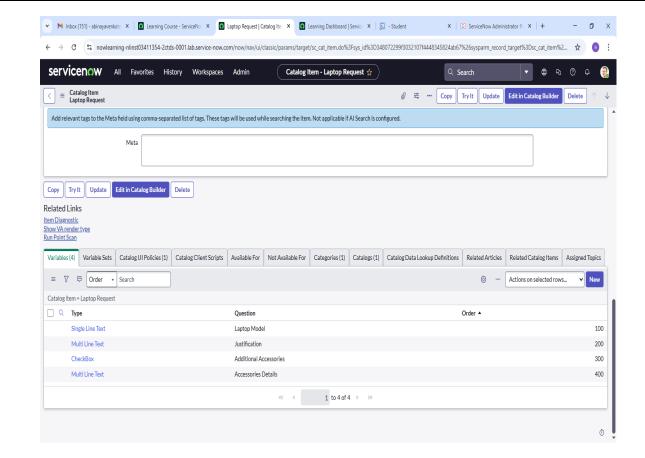


5. Fill the following details to create a new catalog item

Name: Laptop Request Catalog: service Catalog Category: Hardware

Short Description: Use this item to request a new laptop

6. Click on 'SAVE'



STEP 2.1: Add variables

Step1:

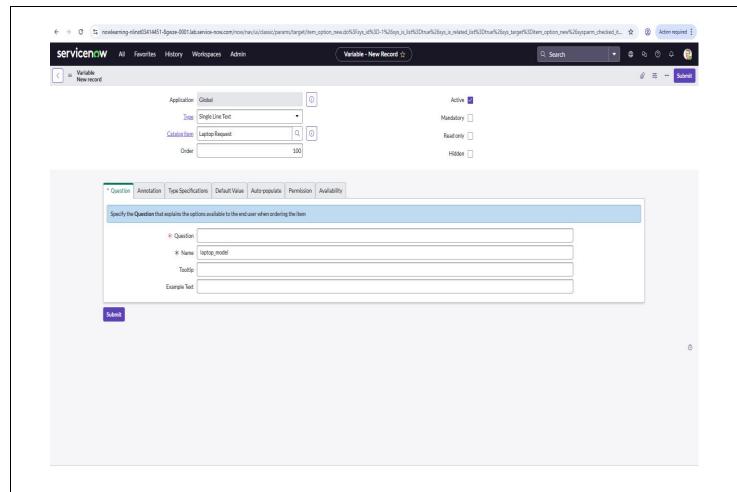
- After saving the catalog item form scroll down and click on variable(related list)
- Click on new and enter the details as below
 - 1. Variable 1:Laptop Model

Type: Single line text

Name: laptop model

Order:100

- Click on submit
- Again click on new and add Remaining variables in the above process



2. Variable 2:Justification

Type: Multi line text

Name: justification

Order:200

3. Variable 3:Additional Accessories

Type: Checkbox

Name: additional_accessories

Order:300

4. Variable 4: Accessories Details

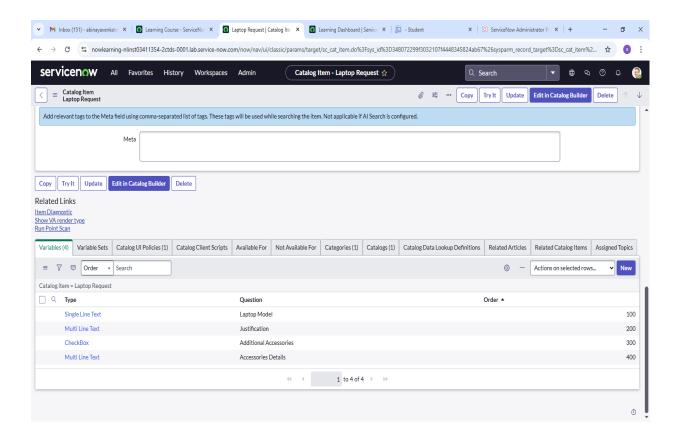
Type: Multi line text

Name:accessories_details

Order:400

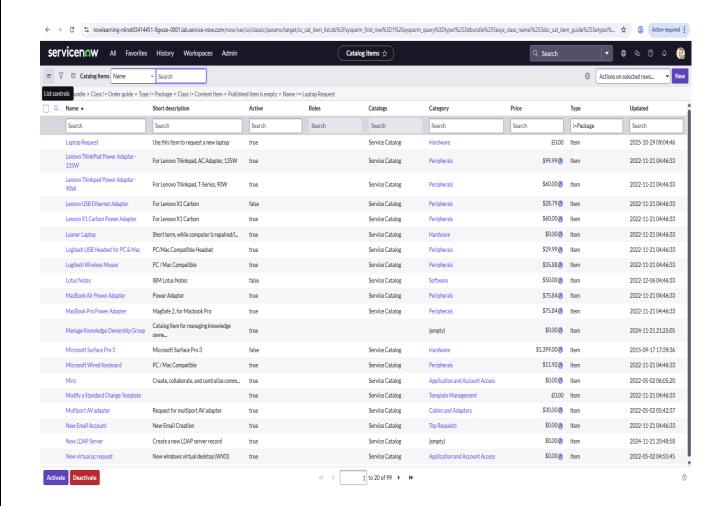
Step2:

- After adding above variable which are added to newly created catalog item
- Then save the catalog item form

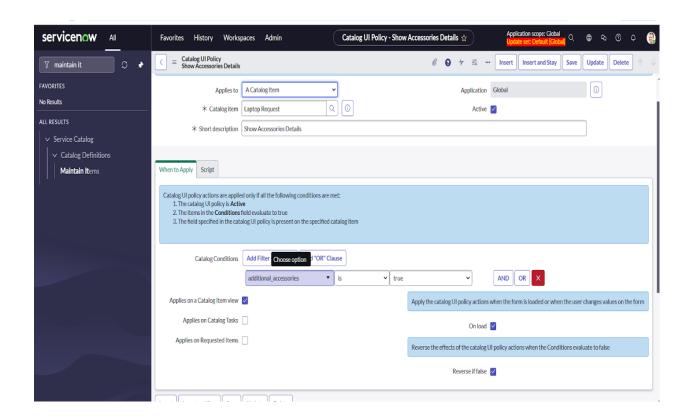


STEP 3: Create Catalog Ui policies

- 1. Click on all>> search for service catalog
- 2. Select maintain item under catalog definition
- 3. Search for 'laptop request' which is created before
- 4. Select 'laptop request' and scroll down click on "Catalog Ui policies"
- 5. In the catalog ui policies related list tab click on new
- 6. Give short description as: show accessories details
- 7. Set the Catalog Condition in the related list tab 'when to apply[field: additional_accessories, operator: is, value: true]



The screenshot above shows the Catalog Items list in ServiceNow, which displays all available services and products that users can request through the Service Catalog. Each record in the list represents a catalog item, such as hardware, software, or access requests. Important details such as the Name, Short Description, Category, Price, Type, and Active Status are shown for each item. In this example, the "Laptop Request" item is used to allow employees to request a new laptop, while other items like Lenovo Power Adapters, Loaner Laptops, and MacBook Accessories belong to the Hardware or Peripherals categories. The Active column indicates which items are currently available to users, and the Roles field defines access permissions. This list view helps administrators easily manage, activate, or deactivate catalog items, ensuring only relevant and approved services are visible to end users



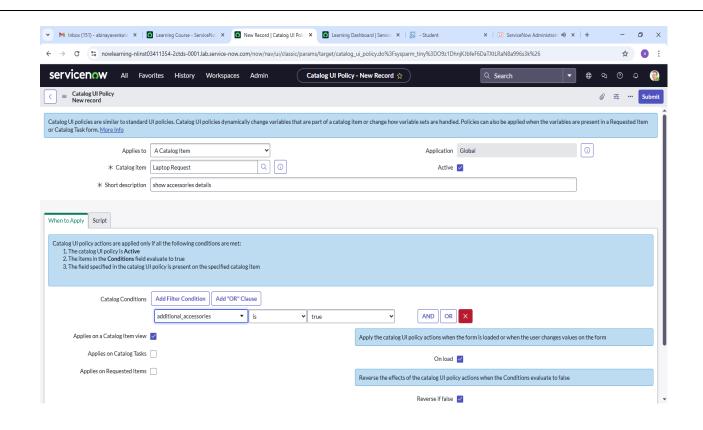
- 8. Click on save.(do not click on submit)
- 9. Scroll down and select 'catalog ui action'
- 10. Then click on new button
- 11. Select variable name as: accessories_details

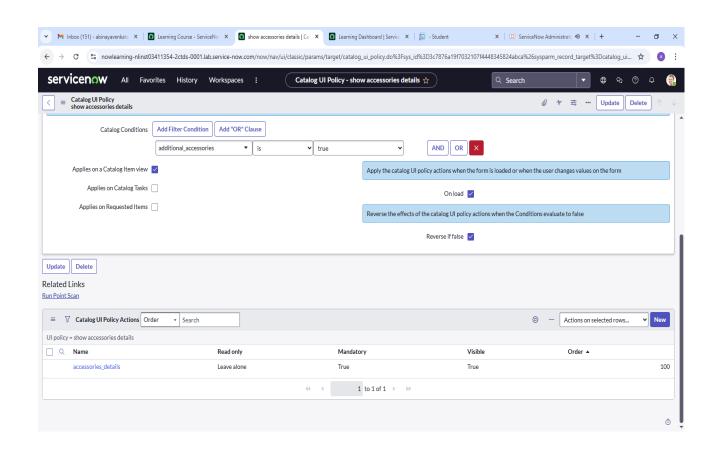
Order:100

Mandatory: True

Visible: True

12. Click on save and again click save button of the catalog ui policy form





STEP 4: Create ui action

- 1. Open service now.
- 2. Click on All >> search for ui action
- 3. Select ui actions under system definition
- 4. Click on new
- 5. Fill the following details to create ui action

Table: shopping cart(sc_cart)

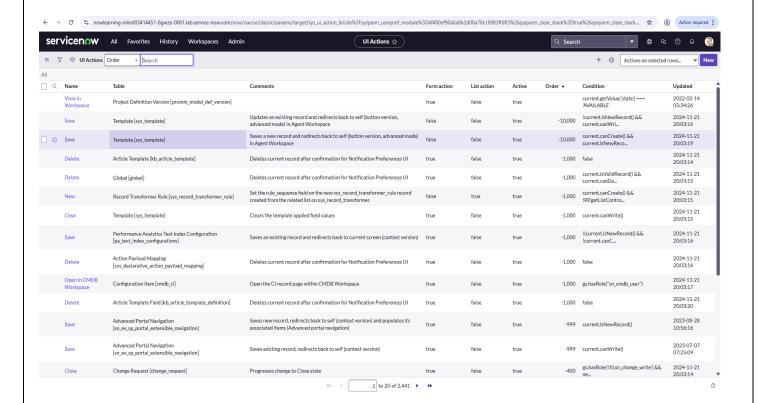
Order:100

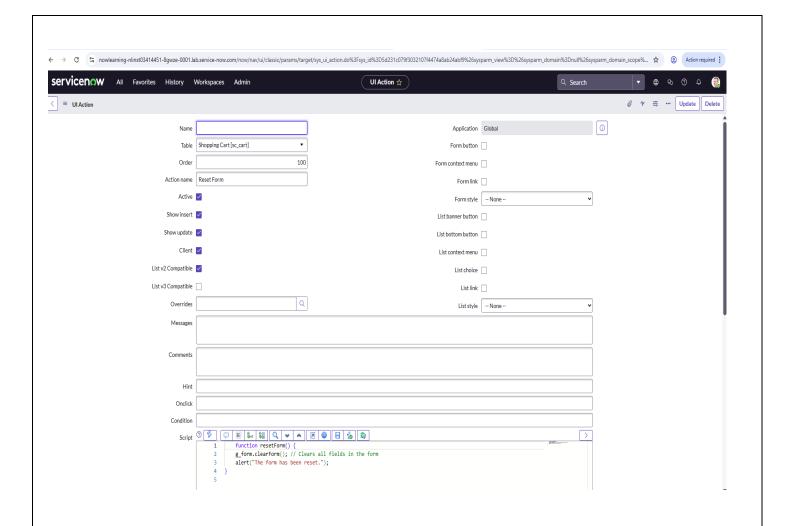
Action name: Reset form

Client: checked

Script:

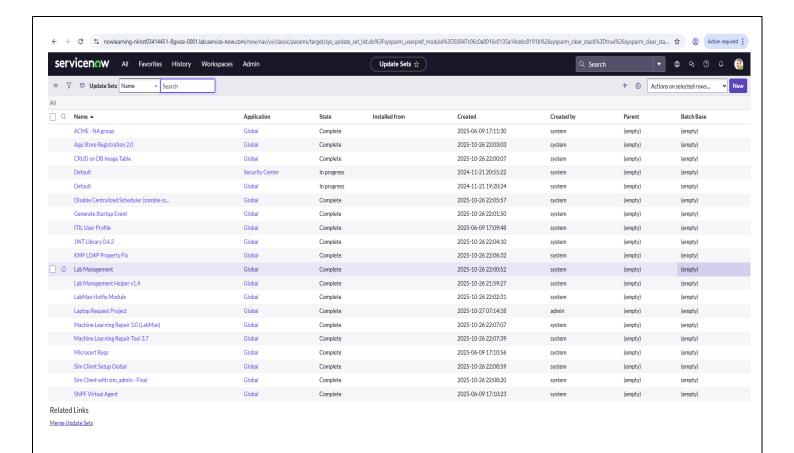
```
function resetForm() {
  g_form.clearForm(); // Clears all fields in the form
  alert("The form has been reset.");
}
Click on save
```





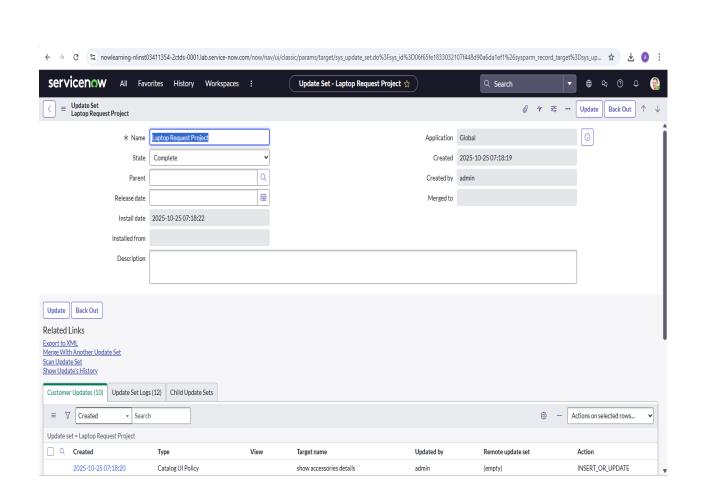
STEP 5: Exporting changes to another instances

- 1. Click on All >> search for update sets
- 2. Select local update set
- 3. Select created update set i.e. 'Laptop Request Project'
- 4. Set the state to 'Complete'
- 5. In the related list Update tab, updates are visible which we perform under this update set.
- 6. Click on export to XML ,it download one file



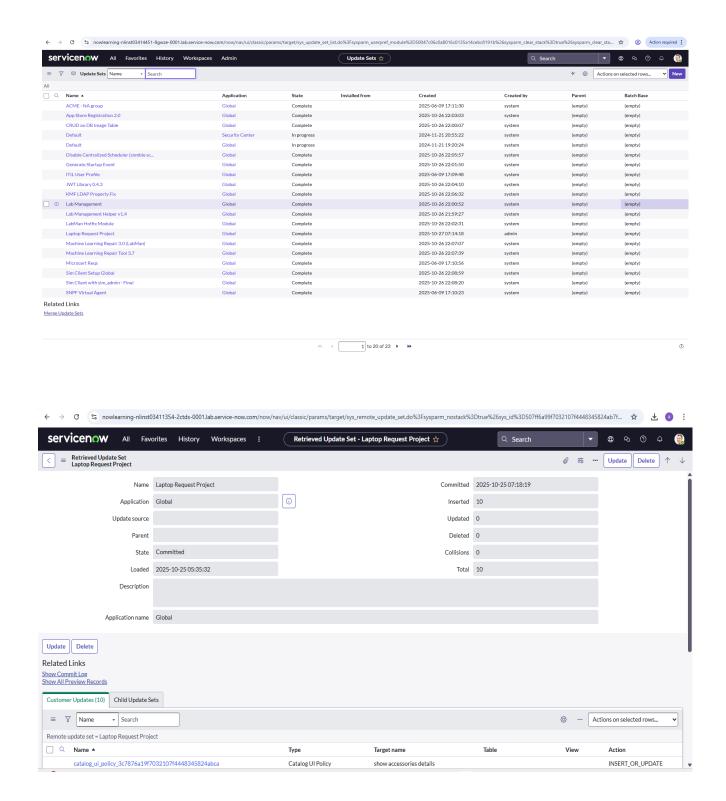
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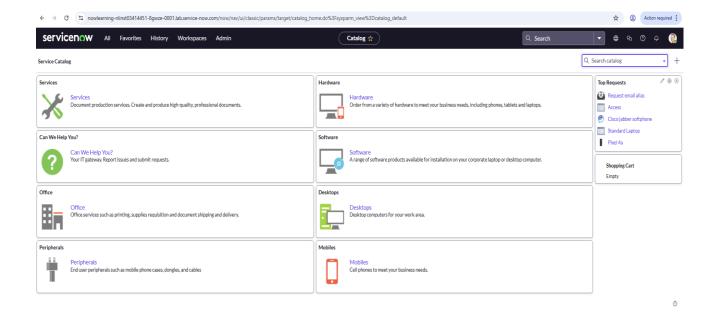
STEP 6: Retrieving the update set

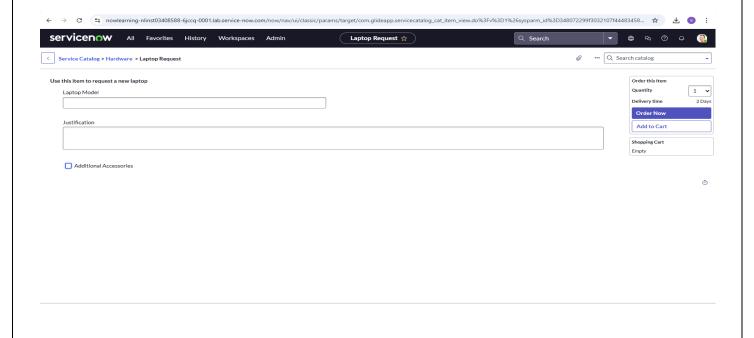
- 1. Open another instance in incognito window
- 2. Login with credentials
- 3. Click on all>> search for update sets
- 4. Select "Retrieved update set" under system update set
- 5. It open retrieved update set list and scroll down
- 6. Click on Import update set from XML



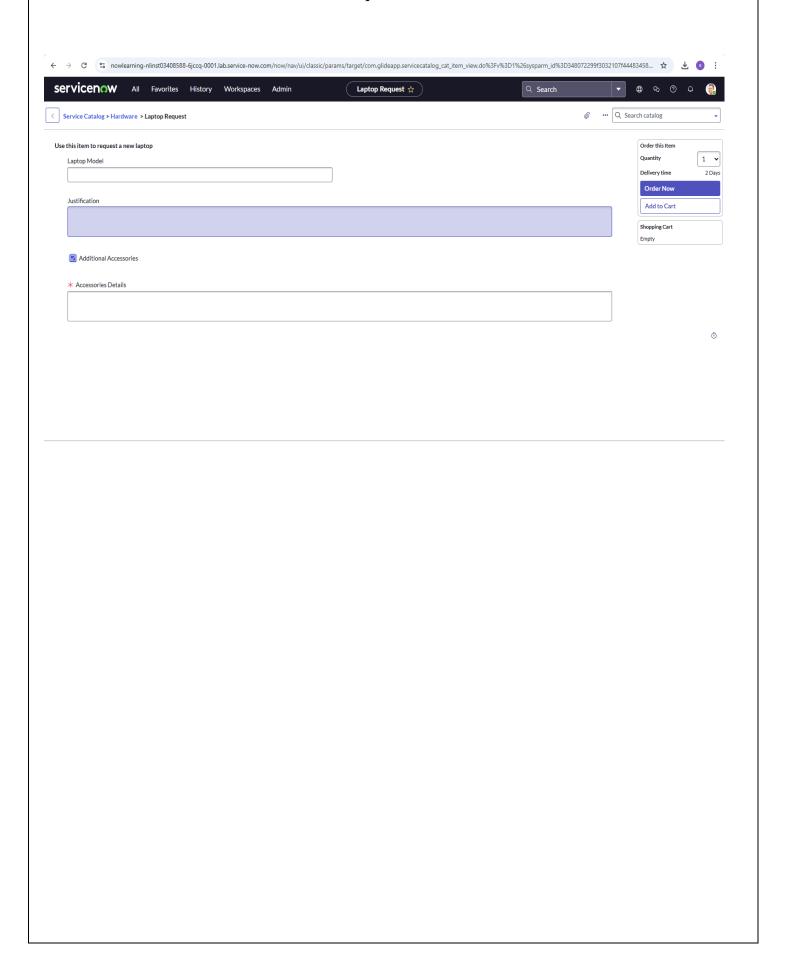
STEP 7: Test Catalog Item

- 1. Search for service catalog in application navigator in target instance
- 2. Select catalog under service catalog
- 3. Select hardware category and search for 'laptop request' item
- 4. Select laptop request item and open it
- 5. It shows three variables only





- 1. As per our scenario, when we click on additional accessories checkbox then accessories details fields is visible and that should be mandatory
- 2. Now see the results, it fulfills our requirements.



Conclusion and Future Scope
The "Laptop Request Catalog Item" project successfully transformed a previously manual and inefficient laptop request process into a fully automated and transparent system using ServiceNow. By introducing a standardized Service Catalog item, the project enhanced user experience, reduced processing time, and ensured proper tracking and accountability for each laptop request. The automated workflow streamlined approvals, fulfillment, and notifications, resulting in improved coordination between employees, managers, and the IT department. Overall, the implementation not only optimized resource management but also contributed to better governance of IT assets. In the future, the system can be further enhanced through integrations with inventory management and procurement modules to enable automatic stock updates and purchase orders, making the process even more efficient and intelligent.