

Catering Business Platform Analysis Project

Seneca Polytechnic

Course Code: SYD366NDD

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- **Software Comparison**

- a. **BetterCater**

- i. Record Purchases: BetterCater successfully allows recording of purchases, which is crucial for managing costs and inventory.
 - ii. Categorize Ingredients: The application effectively categorizes ingredients, assisting in organized inventory management.
 - iii. Build Recipes and Record Calories: BetterCater does not support recording calorie counts for recipes, which might be necessary if Jason wants to provide nutritional information. This feature is missing and would require modifications or additional solutions.
 - iv. Record Sales: The product adequately records sales, providing Jason with the necessary data to track revenue and analyze business performance.
 - v. Schedule and Map Deliveries: BetterCater lacks the capability to map deliveries, which is a significant drawback for Jason since efficient route planning is essential for cost control in a delivery-oriented business like his.
 - vi. Price Point and Affordability: The product costs \$684 annually, which needs to be evaluated against the business's budget and the ROI it offers, considering the missing features.
 - vii. Device and OS Compatibility: The product is compatible with devices and operating systems that Jason uses, such as iPhones and laptops, ensuring accessibility and ease of use.

- b. **Total Party Planner (TPP) Analysis**

- i. Record Purchases: TPP may not handle purchase recording as effectively as other options, potentially impacting cost and

inventory management. This could be a significant drawback if accurate and detailed purchase tracking is crucial for the business. This feature is only included with an extra subscription.

- ii. Categorize Ingredients: TPP excels in categorizing ingredients, providing strong functionality in organizing ingredient data. This feature is crucial for effective inventory management and aligns well with the needs for ingredient organization.
- iii. Build Recipes and Record Calories: TPP offers good functionality for recipe building and calorie recording. It supports managing recipes and nutritional information reasonably well, although there may be room for improvement.
- iv. Record Sales: TPP has limitations in recording and managing sales, which could affect the ability to track revenue and analyze business performance effectively. This may be a critical concern if robust sales tracking is needed. This feature is only included with an extra subscription.
- v. Schedule and Map Deliveries: TPP scores low in scheduling and mapping deliveries, which might affect the efficiency of delivery logistics. This could lead to higher fuel costs and less effective route planning.
- vi. Price Point and Affordability: TPP is more expensive compared to other options, with an additional subscription fee of \$400/month to access all necessary features. This could be a concern for businesses with limited budgets, especially if sales are only slightly over \$30,000.

- vii. Device and OS Compatibility: TPP provides excellent compatibility with various devices and operating systems, ensuring accessibility and ease of use across different platforms. This feature is beneficial for users accessing the system from multiple devices.
- viii. User-Friendly UI: TPP offers a user-friendly interface comparable to other software options, providing an intuitive and accessible user experience.
- ix. TPP meets many of Jason's requirements but may need additional modifications or incur extra costs to fully align with all needs.

c. HoneyBook

- i. Record Purchases: The HoneyBook can record purchases for business. When he files his income taxes, Jason will not need to find all the receipts to report expenses anymore.
- ii. Categorize Ingredients: The system doesn't support categorizing ingredients which will take a lot of time for Jason to find each ingredient from inventory.
- iii. Build Recipes and Record Calories: It doesn't support building recipes and recording calories. Jason could create a project and add recipes to the project to alternatively save them. However, we can't record calories.
- iv. Record Sales: HoneyBook records purchases and creates a sales bar chart to check daily/monthly sales. It would be beneficial for him to keep track of sales in the long term.
- v. Schedule and Map Deliveries: The HoneyBook does not support schedule and map delivery. Thus, it will take a lot of work for Jason to keep track of his delivery orders.

- vi. Price Point and Affordability: Prices are different depending on what kind of membership Jason will choose. Considering his business size, the premium one is suitable which is \$792 dollars for a year. It is pricey for a product that can't track delivery orders.
- vii. Device and OS Compatibility: The HoneyBook supports both Android and Iphone. It's also compatible with device and OS system.

d. MarketMan

- i. Record Purchases: After ordered the ingredients that in the Report page, Jason can check the purchases by supplier or items
- ii. Categorize Ingredients: The system supports categorizing ingredients with many categories, so he can find what he wants easily.
- iii. Build Recipes and Record Calories: It supports building recipes but not with recording calories. So, Jason can not have calories on the recipe and show it to customers.
- iv. Record Sales: MarketMan provides the records purchases and the sales bar chart to check the sales. It would be easy for him to keep track of sales.
- v. Schedule and Map Deliveries: It can schedule the inventory order by day; however, it does not support map delivery. Therefore, it may not be good for Jason to keep track of his delivery orders.
- vi. Price Point and Affordability: If transferred the price from Canadian dollar to US dollar, the range was from \$328 to \$588. Considering his business size, the highest one will be

\$7,080 Canadian dollars annually. It is more expensive than others.

- vii. Device and OS Compatibility: MarketMan supports Android, iPhone, and website. Therefore, Jason can access the software with many devices anywhere.

e. Caterease

- i. Record Purchases: Caterease effectively supports the recording of purchases, which is essential for Jason's efficient management of inventory and costs. This feature plays a critical role in ensuring smooth business operations.
- ii. Categorize Ingredients: The software provides robust functionality for categorizing ingredients, helping Jason to manage his inventory more systematically and locate specific items quickly when needed.
- iii. Build Recipes and Record Calories: While Caterease offers a recipe-building feature, it does not include the ability to record calorie counts. This could be a limitation if Jason needs to provide nutritional information to customers, potentially requiring additional solutions or modifications.
- iv. Record Sales: Caterease facilitates comprehensive sales tracking, allowing Jason to monitor revenue and analyze the performance of his business effectively. This feature is vital for informed decision-making and long-term planning.
- v. Schedule and Map Deliveries: Caterease includes features for managing delivery schedules and planning routes, which is crucial for a delivery-oriented business like Jason's. Efficient route planning can significantly reduce costs and improve operational efficiency.
- vi. Price Point and Affordability: The annual cost of Caterease is \$2,388. This price point should be evaluated in the context of the business's budget and the return on investment it offers.

However, considering the range of features provided, it may represent a competitive choice for Jason's business.

- vii. Device and OS Compatibility: Caterease is compatible with a variety of devices and operating systems, including iPhone, Android, and desktop platforms. This compatibility ensures that Jason can access the system easily from any of his preferred devices.

- **Why We Chose BetterCater Software**

Since the business currently has modest sales and is focused on building up its finances, investing in expensive, sophisticated software like Total Party Planner might not be practical. Instead, BetterCater offers a more cost-effective solution that supports essential business operations without the high price tag. By using BetterCater as a model, we can ensure that our business processes are streamlined and efficient, while staying within budget. This approach allows us to focus on designing core functions and manage resources effectively, making BetterCater a suitable choice for his current needs and future growth.

- a. **Affordable Solution**: It helps manage business operations efficiently without the high costs associated with more complex software.
- b. **Streamlined Operations**: Simplifies key tasks such as tracking ingredients, managing inventory, and handling orders, allowing the business to run smoothly.
- c. **Ease of Use**: User-friendly design makes it easier for new owners to learn and use the software, saving time on training.
- d. **Scalability**: Provides essential features that grow with the business, making it adaptable as the business expands.
- e. **Focused Features**: Offers practical tools tailored to the specific needs of a catering business, helping to manage daily operations effectively.

- **User Story**

As the owner of this business, I (Jason) would like to record ingredients so that I can easily see what I've purchased, and how much inventory that I have.

Acceptance Criteria:

- 1) Must be able to record critical information about each ingredient.
- 2) Allow deletion of ingredients, in case the owner makes a mistake. Owner must be prompted to confirm and the ingredient must not be involved in any purchases or sales.
- 3) Must be able to easily retrieve ingredient information.
- 4) Must be able to retrieve a list of ingredients by ingredient type.

- **Reasons why your group feels that the user story is important**

- a. **Tracking Ingredients Accurately:**

- i. Recording ingredients helps the owner know exactly what has been bought and used.
- ii. Prevents running out of important ingredients or over-purchasing, saving money and reducing waste.

- b. **Correcting Ingredient Entries:**

- i. Ability to delete incorrect entries ensures records remain accurate.
- ii. Helps avoid confusion and keeps track of the right ingredients.

- c. **Finding Ingredient Information Quickly:**

- i. Easy retrieval and sorting by type improves stock management.
- ii. Facilitates better organization and visibility of available ingredients.

- d. **Overall Benefits for a New Catering Business:**

- i. An organized system for recording ingredients aids in managing inventory.
- ii. Helps avoid shortages and plan purchases more effectively.
- iii. Streamlines operations by allowing easy addition, deletion, and retrieval of ingredient information.

- iv. Supports efficient planning and decision-making, contributing to smoother business management.

- **A Use Case description that allows for data to be added or updated**

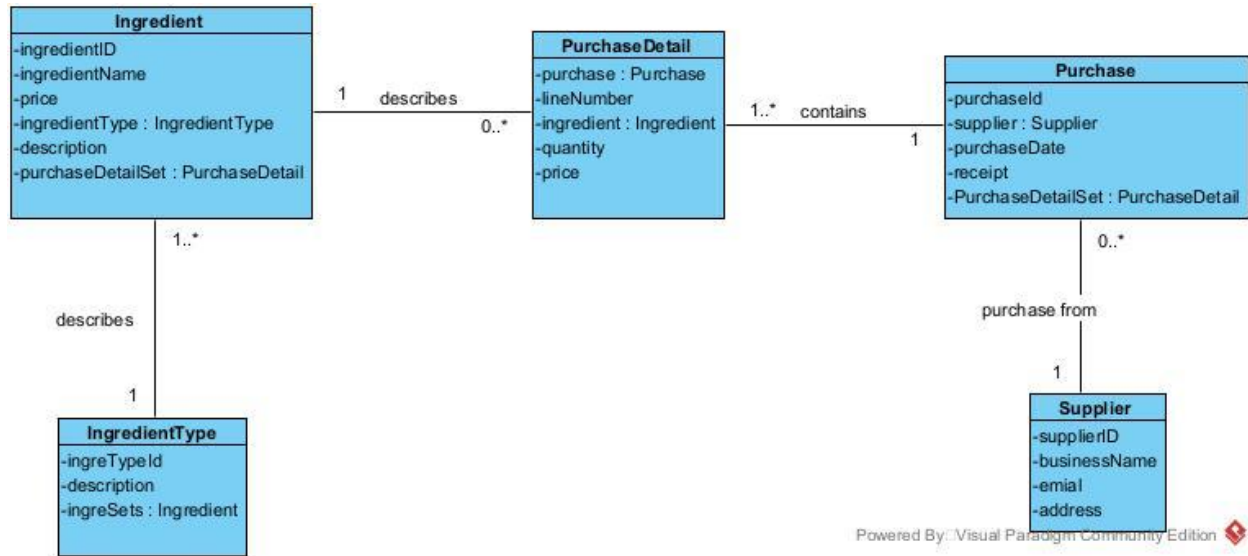
Use Case Name	Create ingredient Information		
Triggering Event	A new ingredient of interest to the business		
Brief Description	Allows the Owner to record a new ingredient.		
Actors	Owner		
Related Use Cases			
Preconditions	Owner has opened the Dashboard.		
Post Conditions	Ingredients are saved to the database and now can be purchased.		
Flow of activities	Actor		System
	1.	Requests to add a new ingredient	<p>Displays a list of ingredient types and prompts for selection.</p> <p>Prompts for ingredient name, ingredients, description, price</p>

	2.	Enter name, description, and ingredients. Selects ingredient type	name, description and price must be entered. ingredient type must be selected Generates identifier Data is valid Displays ingredient Prompts to save
	3.	Request to save	Saves the ingredient and returns to the main menu
Exception Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owner chooses to cancel adding the ingredient 		

- **A Use Case description that allows for data to be queried**

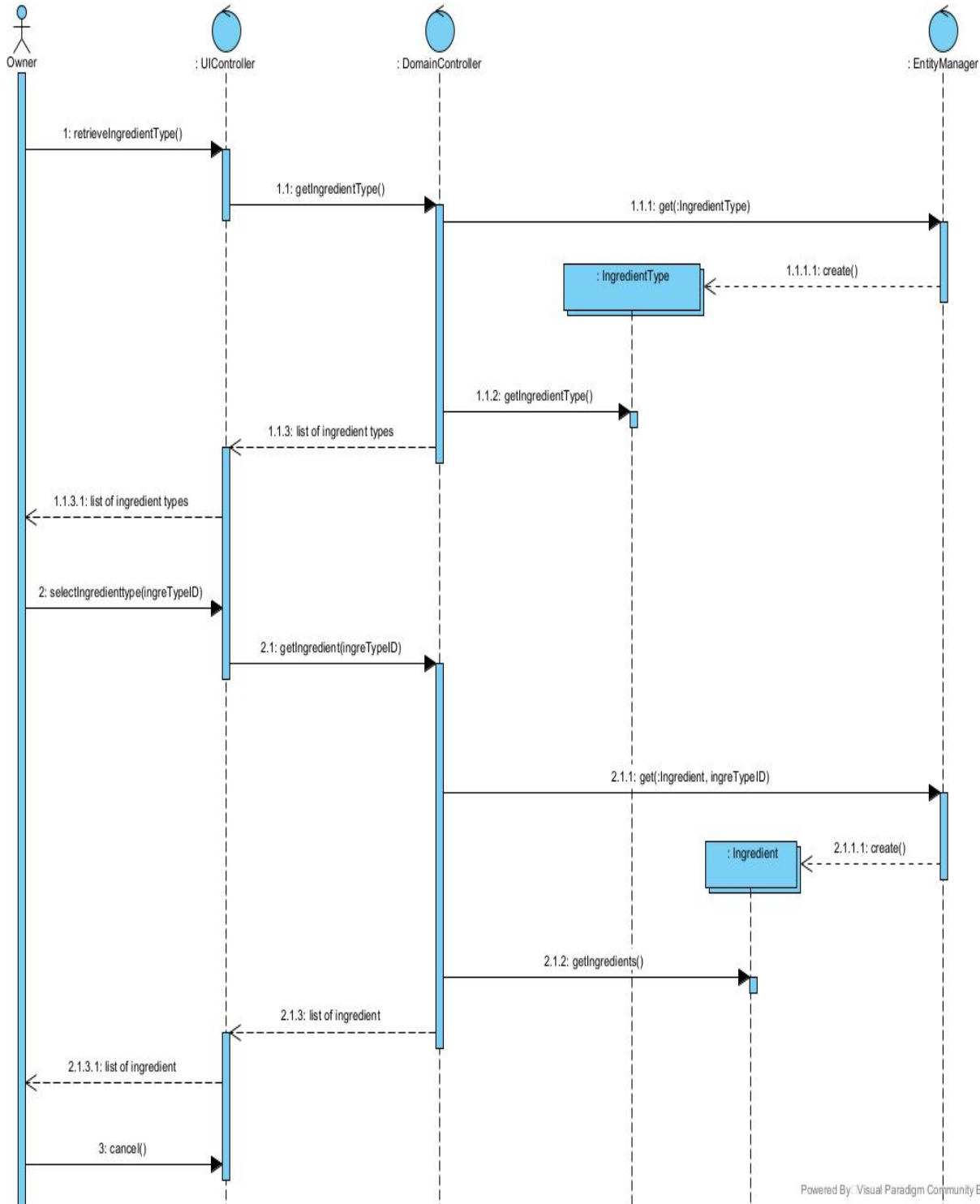
Use Case Name	Query ingredients by ingredient Type		
Triggering Event	List of ingredients required		
Brief Description	Allows the Owner to query ingredients		
Actors	Owner		
Related Use Cases			
Preconditions	Owner has opened the Dashboard.		
Post Conditions	ingredient information provided to the actor.		
Flow of activities	Actor		System
	1.	Requests to ingredients	Displays a list of ingredient types and prompts for selection
	2.	Selects ingredient type	Displays a list of ingredients for that ingredient type
Exception Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner chooses to cancel query ingredients 		

- Class diagram to support your use case descriptions



- Sequence diagrams to test your use case descriptions

a. Create ingredient Information



b. Query ingredients by ingredient Type

