**Cork Institute of Technology**

**Design Document**

**Cloud Development Frameworks Assignment 2**

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# Section 1 - Introduction

This document outlines the design of the ‘*Super Carz*’ site that that I decided to implement for my final project. The code base is based on the Assignment 1 code base, with the necessary improvements and additions required to make the application functionally complete.

The main purpose of the site I have implemented is to allow users to view and purchase high-end cars. It is comprised of a number of services, each of which is outlined in depth in Section 2 of this document.

The application is currently hosted on IBM Bluemix and is available at LINK for viewing[[1]](#footnote-1).

TODO – Add details of admin and non-admin user.

# Section 2 - Microservices Overview

This section outlines the operation of each of the services that comprise the application.

## Cart Service

### Purpose

The purpose of the cart service is to provide an in-memory storage area for items that a customer has added to their cart on the site which they may wish to purchase later when they checkout.

The cart service runs on port 3003.

### Functionality Provided

The cart services provides three main pieces of functionality:

1. The ability to add a quantity of an item to a customer’s cart. The item is identified by a unique product ID. If an item with this product ID already exists in the cart, then the items will be combined.
2. The ability to delete an item from the customer’s cart.
3. The ability to retrieve the current contents of a customer’s cart as JSON.

## Catalogue Service

### Purpose

The catalogue service handles interactions with the backend MySQL database where details of the available products are stored.

The functionality within the catalogue service is used by features that both customers and administrative users of the site use.

The catalogue service runs on port 3002.

### Functionality Provided

The following functionality is provided within the catalogue service:

1. The ability to add new products to the catalogue. This area from which this functionality is available in the front-end service is restricted to administrator users.
2. The ability to completely delete a product from the catalogue (e.g. if that product is no longer available for sale).
3. The ability to deactivate a product in the catalogue (e.g. if it is out of stock). Such products will still be displayed in the front-end, but with an ‘Out of Stock’ indicator.
4. The ability to get all the active products in the catalog. This is used by the front-end service to show the available products to users.
5. The ability to get the details of a specific product, given its product ID. (TODO: Where is this used?)

## Front-end Service

### Purpose

The front-end service is responsible for defining and managing the main user interface of the application. It is to main entry point to the application for users. In order to achieve this, it interacts with the other services.

Within the front-end source tree, the ‘api’ folder contains wrappers that enable the front-end to talk to the other services.

TODO – More general stuff about the code base.

The front-end service runs on port 8079. The cart, catalogue, user, stock, and order service need to be running in order for the front-end to function correctly.

### Functionality Provided

TODO

#### Logging In

When a user logs in the following sequence of events happens (triggered via jQuery):

* The submit of the login form is detected.
* The code prevents moving to a new page (check this – event.preventDefault());
* A new variable is created that is created from the values in the login form (the username and password).
* This is then turned into JSON.
* Next this is posted to /login (contained in the api/users/index.js – the ‘helper’ for the users service).
* This login then posts the JSON body to the users service and checks the response code.
* If the response code is HTTP 200 the body is parsed and returned.
* If an error occurred, the status of the request is set to HTTP 500 and the error output to the console.
* A cookie is also created on the client.

## User Service

### Purpose

The user service is responsible for user management in terms of user registration, and also handling requests to login to the application.

### Functionality Provided

This service provides the following main areas of functionality:

1. User Registration – the registration user interface on the front-end calls into this functionality in order to add new users to the database. All new users are added as Customer users, but any user can be made an Administrator later (TODO: how?). The registration functionality will return errors in the event of a user already existing in the database (based on the username), or if any MySQL errors occur.
2. User Log-In – this logic is invoked from the front-end service and is responsible for validating that user credentials are correct when a user attempts to login to the application. If the credentials are not valid, then an error is returned to the front-end service which displays a message to the user. If successful, the customer ID and customer type are returned to the front-end service as a JSON response.

## Stock Administration Service

### Purpose

The purpose of this service is to administer the stock levels available in the application.

TODO

### Functionality Provided

The following functionality is available in this service:

1. The ability to increment stock levels of a particular item from the catalogue. This would be used for example in the event of new stock being purchased by the company.
2. The ability to decrement stock levels for a particular item from the catalogue. This would be used in the event of a customer making a purchase of this item.
3. The ability to get the current stock levels for each product. This is used in the administrator interface so that administrators can keep an eye on stock levels.
4. Best sellers???

## Order Service

### Purpose

This service is used to process user orders.

### Functionality Provided

The following functionality is available in this service:

1. The ability to place an order for a customer. In the database a record of this order is persisted.
2. The ability to retrieve a list of orders for a particular user. A link to view these is available in the navigation bar when a user is logged in.

# Section 3 – Database Design

TODO

1. Note that the application is still in development at time of writing this document, please ignore any issues until the final codebase is submitted before the Assignment 2 deadline (May 22nd). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)