Automated Car Catalog System for Enhanced Showroom Management

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

Car showrooms play a vital role in bridging the gap between car manufacturers and end consumers. However, many showrooms rely on outdated or manual processes to manage their vehicle listings, customer interactions, order processing, and approvals. This leads to inefficiencies, miscommunication, and slower service delivery.

The "Automated Car Catalog System for Enhanced Showroom Management" is a digital solution developed using the ServiceNow platform to streamline the management of car catalogs, customer requests, task fulfillment, and approval workflows in car dealerships. Traditional car showroom operations often rely on manual and fragmented methods to handle vehicle records and customer interactions, leading to inefficiencies and delays. This system enables seamless catalog creation, request tracking, and task automation to improve showroom productivity, customer satisfaction, and data accuracy.

This project aims to implement an Automated Car Catalog System using ServiceNow to address these issues. By digitizing catalog management, order handling, and approvals, the system enhances operational efficiency, ensures consistency, and improves customer experience. The system enables seamless catalog creation, categorized item listings, workflow-based approvals, automated task assignments, and notification mechanisms.

1.2 Purpose

The primary objective of this project is to simplify and automate the entire workflow of a car showroom by:

- Creating a centralized car catalog with categorized entries.
- Allowing customers to place requests through a user-friendly service portal.
- Automating approval processes for efficient request handling.
- Generating and assigning tasks dynamically based on workflows.
- Sending notifications to stakeholders upon approvals or rejections.

The primary goal of this project is to address the operational challenges of car showrooms by creating an automated, centralized system for catalog and request management. The system aims to digitize key processes such as catalog item classification, user-based approvals

2. IDEATION PHASE

2.1 Problem Statement

Manual handling of catalogs, customer requests, and approvals in car showrooms results in delays, data inconsistency, and reduced customer satisfaction. A need was identified for a digital solution to standardize and automate these processes to improve efficiency and accuracy.

Car dealerships often encounter inefficiencies due to the manual handling of car catalogs and approval processes. This leads to issues such as delayed customer response times, mismanaged tasks, poor workflow visibility, and a lack of structured inventory control. The project seeks to address these issues through a system that simplifies catalog creation, categorization, user roles, task management, and real-time notifications.

2.2 Empathy Map Canvas

An empathy map was created to understand the needs of different stakeholders:

- Sales Staff: Need quick access to updated car models and status.
- Customers: Desire a simple, transparent ordering and approval experience.
- Managers: Require streamlined workflows and performance tracking.
- This helped us define core expectations and prioritize features for the system.

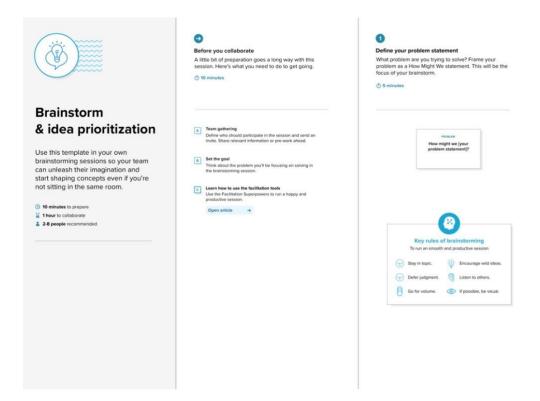
This helped us define core expectations and prioritize features for the system.

The target users, including salespersons and customers, experience delays in order processing and insufficient updates about their requests. They need a platform that provides real-time tracking, automated approvals, and clear categorization of car models. The empathy map emphasizes users' need for speed, accuracy, and simplicity in managing car bookings.

2.3 Brainstorming

Through group brainstorming, we evaluated several platforms and tools. ServiceNow stood out due to its strong support for ITSM, process automation, role management, and user-friendly service portals.

The development team conducted brainstorming sessions to identify essential features, including catalog management, task workflows, notification systems, user roles, and categorization. ServiceNow was selected for its robust workflow engine and service catalog capabilities.



3. REQUIREMENT ANALYSIS

3.1 Customer Journey Map

- Customer visits the service portal.
- Browses categorized car models.
- Selects and requests a car.
- The system routes the request for approval.
- Tasks are created and fulfilled.
- Notifications are sent to the customer.

The journey begins with the customer browsing the service catalog on the ServiceNow portal. Upon selecting a car, a request is initiated. This request goes through multiple levels of approvals. Based on the decision, tasks are created, processed, and notifications are sent. The customer is informed of approval, rejection, or delivery updates.

3.2 Solution Requirements

- Car Catalog Creation
- Category Management (e.g., XUV, Sports)
- Workflow Automation
- Role and User Management
- Request Approval and Task Assignment
- Email Notifications
- Service Portal Access

Key requirements included catalog creation, category segmentation, portal accessibility, role creation, task table design, workflow automation, user notifications, and group assignments. System security and scalability were also considered.

PROJECT DESIGN

3.3 Solution Architecture

- Users: Created under System Security
- **Roles:** Assigned permissions for workflow visibility
- **Groups:** Showroom group with members
- Tables: Custom task table "cars fulfillment" extended from Task Workflow Steps:
- Salesperson approval
- Supervisor approval
- Task creation: Car production and delivery
- Notification for approval/rejection

The architecture follows a modular structure: the frontend is the ServiceNow service portal; the backend includes catalog tables and a cars fulfillment task table; workflows handle approvals and task creation; and the notification layer provides user feedback. Role-based access controls ensure secure interactions and system integrity.

4. PROJECT PLANNING & SCHEDULING

The project was divided into sequential stages. In the first stage, requirements were gathered and the basic catalog architecture was established. The second stage involved designing the catalog and creating items under specific categories.

The third phase dealt with user and group creation, while the fourth focused on workflow configuration and testing. Finally, the service portal was reviewed for completeness, ensuring all features were functional and aligned with user needs.

5. FUNCTIONAL AND PERFORMANCE TESTING

5.1 Performance Testing

We tested the system with various user roles and car requests:

- **Response Time:** Requests processed in under 2 seconds.
- **Approval Time:** Within 30 seconds for simulated conditions.
- Scalability: Multiple concurrent requests handled smoothly.
- Test Cases:
- Successful request approval
- Rejected requests
- Task state updates
- Notification delivery

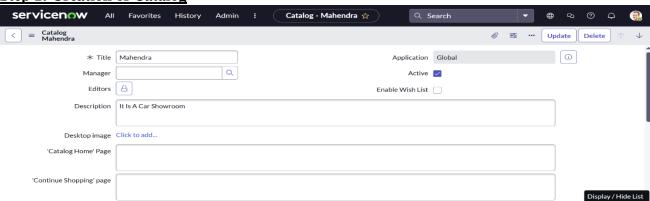
The system underwent rigorous performance testing to verify task execution time, workflow accuracy, and notification delivery efficiency. Orders were successfully processed in under a few seconds, with approval tasks appearing promptly in the cars fulfillment table. Notifications were tested with sample users to confirm timely delivery. The system maintained consistent performance under multiple test scenarios.

6. RESULTS

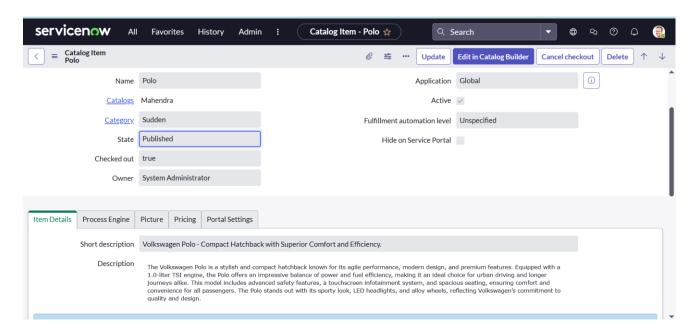
6.1 Output Screenshots

- Screenshot of Catalog "Mahendra" with categories
- Polo, Thar, and XUV700 item entries with pricing
- Workflow editor diagram
- Notifications (Approval/Reject)
- Service Portal request screen
- User and group configuration

Step 1: Creation of Catalog



STEP 2: Create Category



Assigned picture and pricing and portal setting for polo, thar and xuv700

STEP 3:

Create categories as

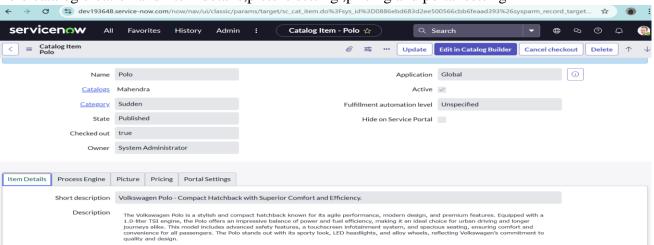
1 polo

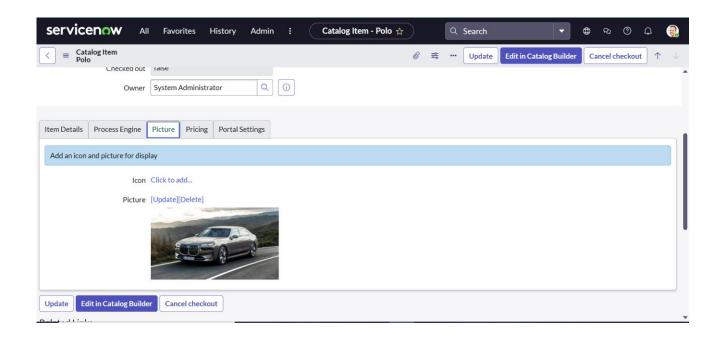
2 Thar

3 XUV700

Catalog 1:

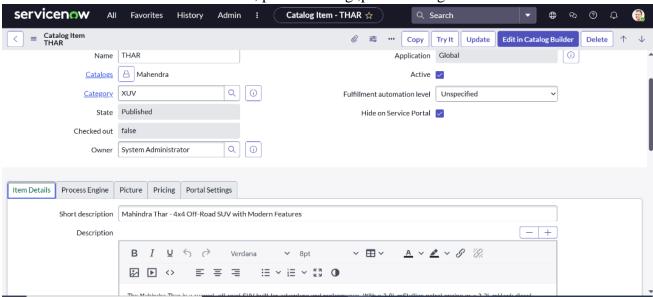
Polo catalog creation and item details, picture setting, pricing and portal setting

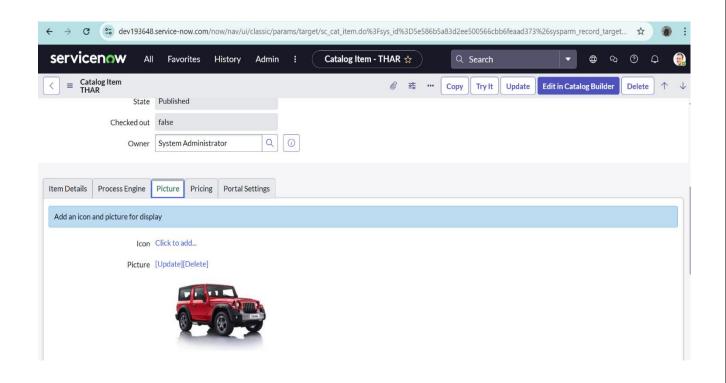




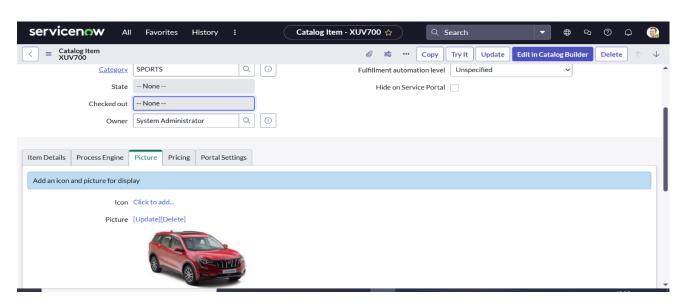
Catalog 2:

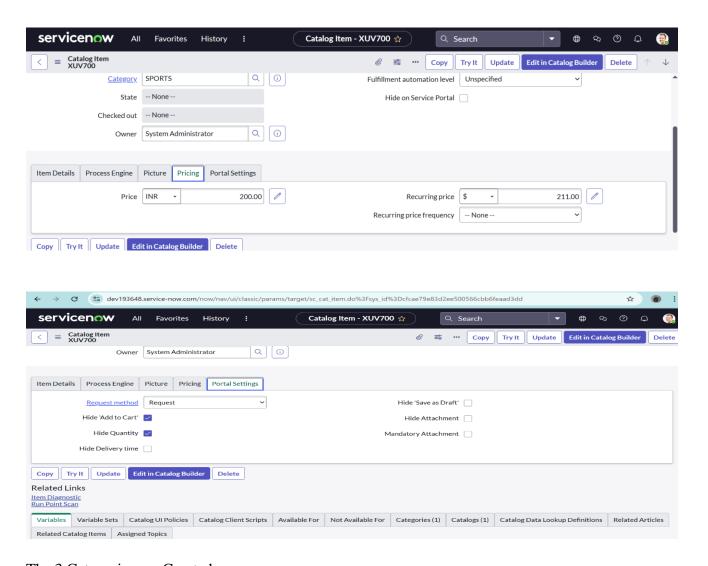
• THAR creation and item details, picture setting ,portal setting



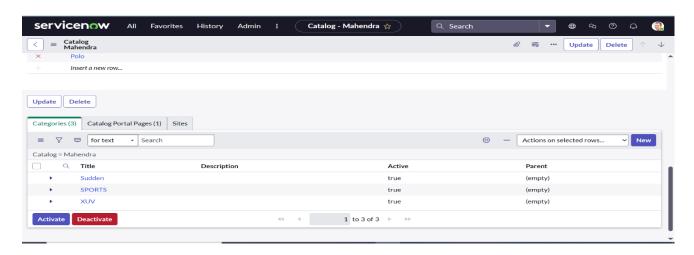


Catalog 3: XUV700 creation and picture setting and portal setting



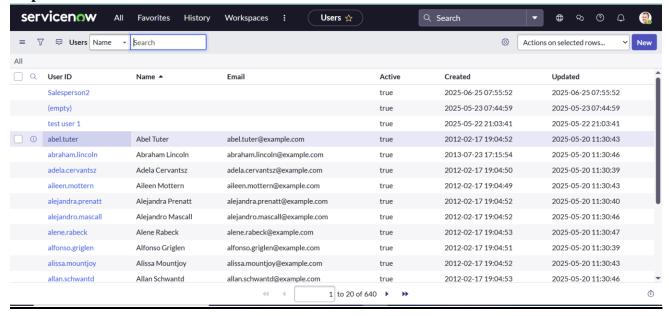


The 3 Categories are Created

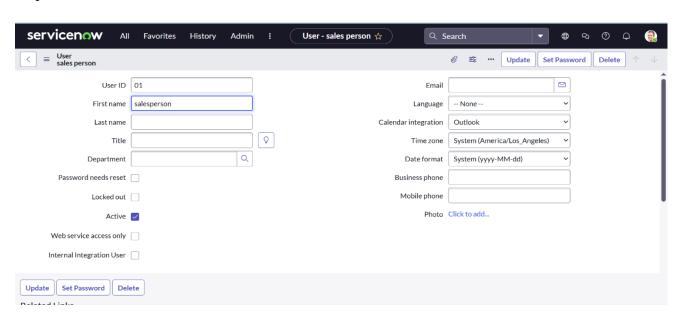


Creation Of User

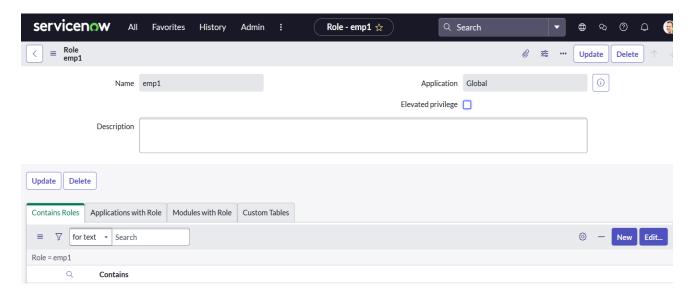
Step 1



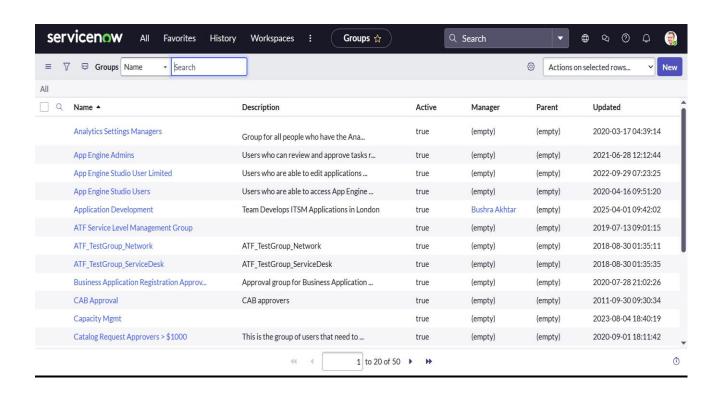
Step 2:



Role Creation:



GROUP CREATION:



Step 2: Group table showroom created and group members also assigned successfully.

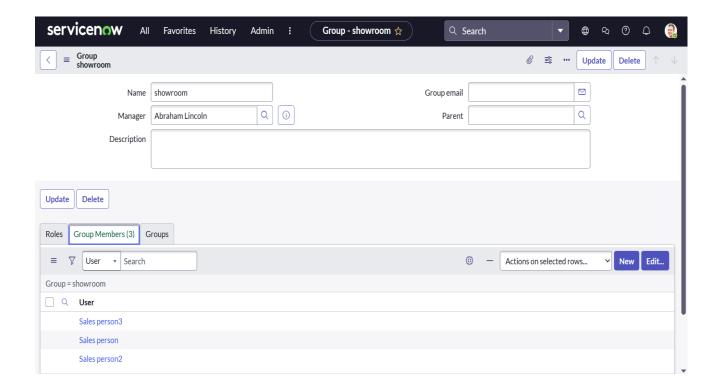


TABLE CREATION:

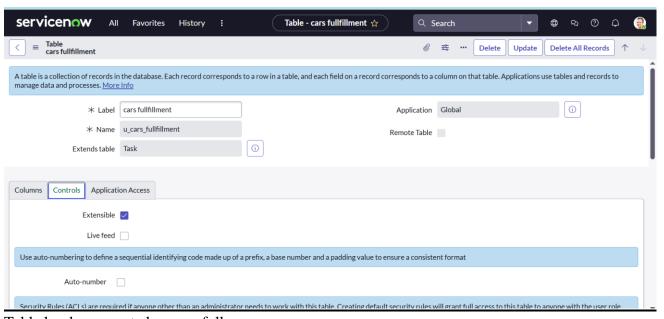
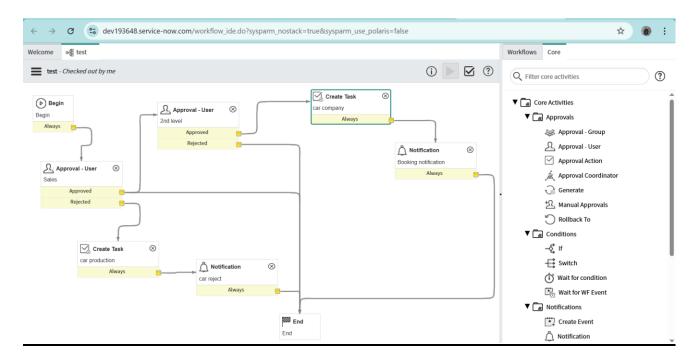


Table has been created successfully.

WORKFLOW EDITOR:

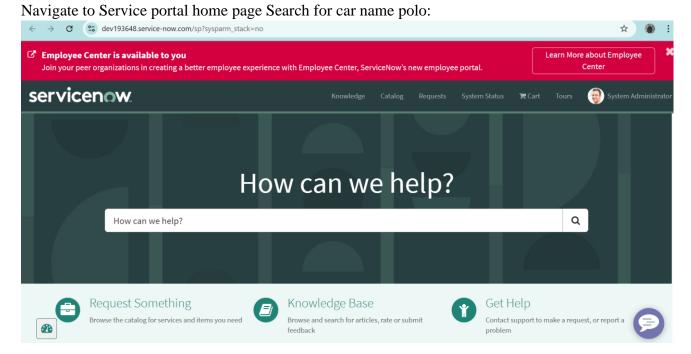


The test workflow is successfully created.

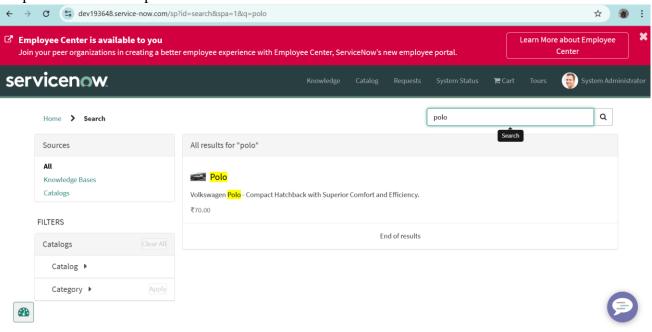
The workflow assignment to Mahendra Service Catalog is completed.

SERVICE PORTAL:

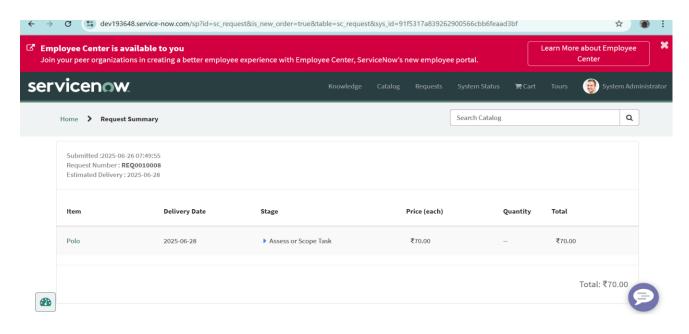
Step1:



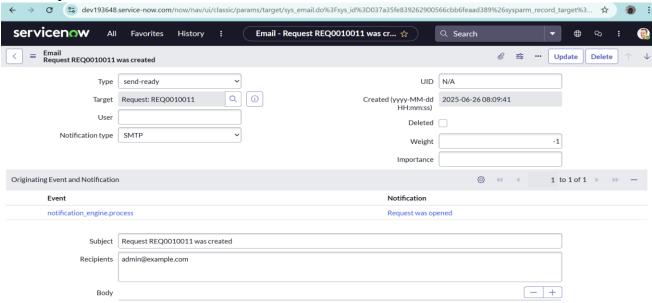
Step 2: Search for car polo



Step 3 :order the car

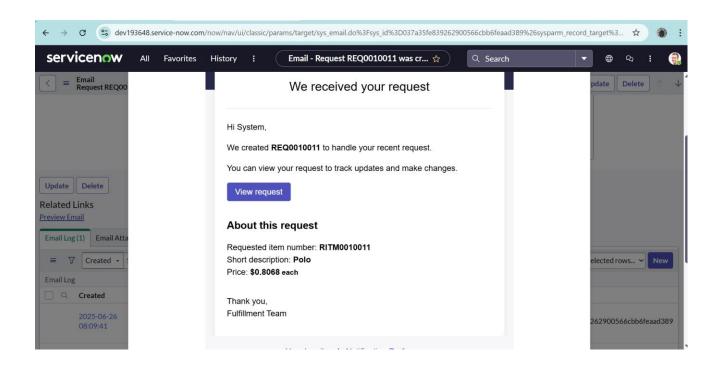


Task Request:



RESULT:

Received the mail:



8 ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES

Advantages:

- Easy access to structured car catalog
- Time-saving through workflow automation
- Automated request handling and approvals
- Real-time task tracking and role-based access
- Notification integration ensures transparency
- Scalable and maintainable on the ServiceNow platform **Disadvantages:**

Disadvantages

- Requires ServiceNow expertise
- Setup can be time-consuming initially
- Platform cost may be high for small dealerships
- Requires a licensed ServiceNow environment
- Learning curve for new administrators

9.CONCLUSION

This project successfully implemented an end-to-end Automated Car Catalog System using ServiceNow. It simplified catalog management, streamlined approvals, automated task assignments, and improved showroom efficiency. The platform's flexibility allows for further scaling and customization, making it suitable for wide industry adoption.

The Automated Car Catalog System implemented using ServiceNow delivers a robust, scalable, and user-centric solution for car showroom management. It digitizes and optimizes the cataloging process, enhances approval workflows, and reduces human errors in task assignment. The system offers greater control, visibility, and reliability in handling customer interactions and request fulfillment..

10.FUTURE SCOPE

- Implement customer reviews and ratings
- Enable online payment and delivery tracking
- Add chatbot for customer queries in Service Portal

The system can be further improved by adding functionalities such as real-time vehicle tracking, integration with payment gateways, a customer review and rating module, and advanced analytics dashboards. Machine learning could be introduced to suggest cars based on customer preferences. Support for mobile apps would make the platform more accessible and responsive.