

Question 6: Documentation

1. Customer Access (Dashboard Entry Screen)

When the system is launched, the first screen the user encounters is the Dashboard. From this page, the customer must select the “Customer” option in order to access the shopping area of the system. Once this option is selected, the user is immediately redirected to the Customer Shop page. This ensures that only users who intentionally choose to proceed as customers can begin browsing and interacting with the system’s product catalog.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Smart Retail System - Dashboard". The address bar displays "localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/Dashboard.php". The page itself is titled "Welcome to Smart Retail System" and features two main access modes: "Customer" and "Sales Associate".

Welcome to Smart Retail System

Select your access mode below to continue

Customer

Browse products, manage your cart, and complete purchases easily.

Sales Associate

Monitor inventory, track sales, and manage customer orders efficiently.

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2. Customer Home Page (Customer_Shop.php)

The Customer Home Page serves as the central hub for all shopping activities. At the top of the page, the navigation bar provides easy access to the Home section, the Product Catalogue, the Shopping Cart, and the Login or Logout options depending on whether the user is logged in. The page also displays a personalized greeting showing the customer's name if they are logged in, otherwise identifying the visitor as a guest.

The home section includes a brief introduction and a button that allows the customer to immediately jump to the product catalogue. The Customer Home Page is designed to guide the user intuitively into browsing products and making purchases.

The screenshot shows a web browser window for the 'Smart Retail System - Shop' at localhost:3000. The header features a blue bar with the 'Smart Retail System' logo, a personalized greeting 'Welcome John Van ZamBuk', and navigation links for Cart (0), Home, Products, Orders, and Logout. Below the header, a large blue section displays the text 'Welcome to Smart Retail' and 'Shop smarter with exclusive deals and real time stock updates.' A yellow 'Start Shopping' button is centered. The main content area is titled 'Product Catalogue' and includes search and sort filters ('Search' and 'Sort by: Newest Arrivals'). Four product cards are displayed:

- Washing Machine**: An image of a red 'NO PHOTOS' sign. Description: 'Defy 6kg DAW392 Grey Front Loader Washing Machine A+++'. Price: R3,999.00.
- MSI PRO H610M-E Intel Motherboard**: An image of a black MSI motherboard. Description: 'Features DDR5 memory support | Supports 12th/13th Gen Intel Core processors for LGA 1700 socket'. Price: R2,889.00.
- Firswatch - Whisky**: An image of a bottle of Firstwatch Canadian Whisky. Description: 'First watch is 100% genuine Canadian Whisky distilled, blended and matured in Canada.'. Price: R259.00.
- Macallan Whiskey**: An image of two bottles of Macallan Single Malt Whisky (10 Year Old Sherry Oak). Description: 'The Macallan Single Malt 10 Year Old Sherry Oak'. Price: R6,929.00.

3. Product Catalogue

The Product Catalogue displays all the products available in the system, retrieved directly from the database. Each product is shown with its image, name, price, description, and current stock quantity. Customers are able to quickly browse through all products and interact with each item. A search bar is available at the top of the catalogue, allowing the customer to filter products by name. As the user types, the displayed items update instantly to match the entered term. This makes it easy to locate specific products.

In addition to search, customers can also sort products using the dropdown menu. Sorting options include newest arrivals, oldest items, price from low to high, and price from high to low. These sorting actions also update the grid immediately without reloading the page, creating a smooth and user-friendly browsing experience.

The screenshot shows the 'Product Catalogue' page of the Smart Retail System. At the top, there is a search bar labeled 'Search products by name...' and a dropdown menu labeled 'Sort by' set to 'Oldest First'. Below this, there are four product cards in a row:

- Wireless Headphones**: Comfortable over-ear with 20h battery. Price: R999.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- Smartwatch Pro**: Fitness tracking & messages on your wrist. Price: R1,499.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- Portable Speaker**: Compact with rich bass. Price: R599.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- Coffee Maker**: Rich pump espresso coffee machine. Price: R3,189.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.

Below this row, there are two more rows of two product cards each:

- ARCTEK Graphics Card**: Price: R999.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- SAMSUNG Odyssey G5**: Price: R1,499.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- Laptop**: Price: R599.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.
- Artificial Christmas Tree**: Price: R3,189.00. Buttons: View, Add to Cart.

Smart Retail System - Shop

Welcome John Van ZamBuk Cart (0) Home Products Orders Logout

Christmas Tree

1.8m Pine Needle Artificial Christmas Tree. Easy to assemble
R740.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Laptop

HP Notebooks 8GB-256GB Perfect for Office starter work in styles
R6,499.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Gaming Monitor

Samsung Gaming Monitor - 34" Curved Monitor Odyssey G5 Ultra WQHD
R7,999.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Graphics Card

Arktik AMD Radeon RX580 8GB GDDR5 256-bit HDMI / DVI / DPx3
R2,628.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Coffee Maker

Rich pump espresso coffee machine
R3,189.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Portable Speaker

Compact with rich bass
R599.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Smartwatch Pro

Fitness tracking & messages on your wrist
R1,499.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Wireless Headphones

Comfortable over-ear with 20h battery
R999.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

[Top](#)

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Smart Retail System - Shop

Welcome John Van ZamBuk Cart (0) Home Products Orders Logout

Product Catalogue

Search

Sort by [Newest Arrivals](#)

Macallan Whiskey

The Macallan Single Malt 18 Year Old Sherry Oak
R6,929.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

Laptop

HP Notebooks 8GB-256GB Perfect for Office starter work in styles
R6,499.00

[View](#) [Add to Cart](#)

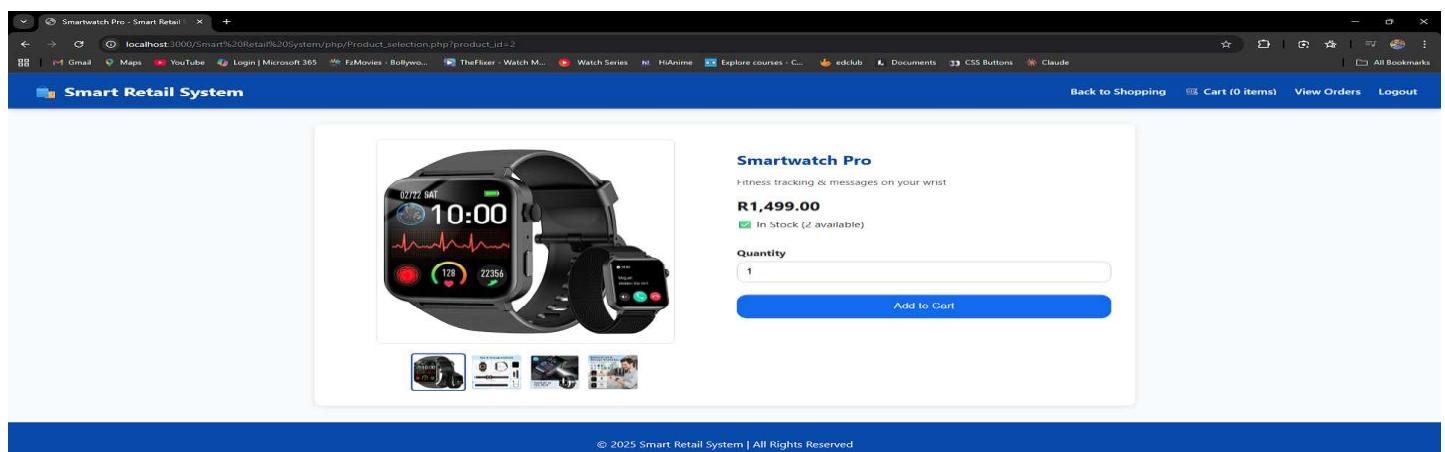
[Top](#)

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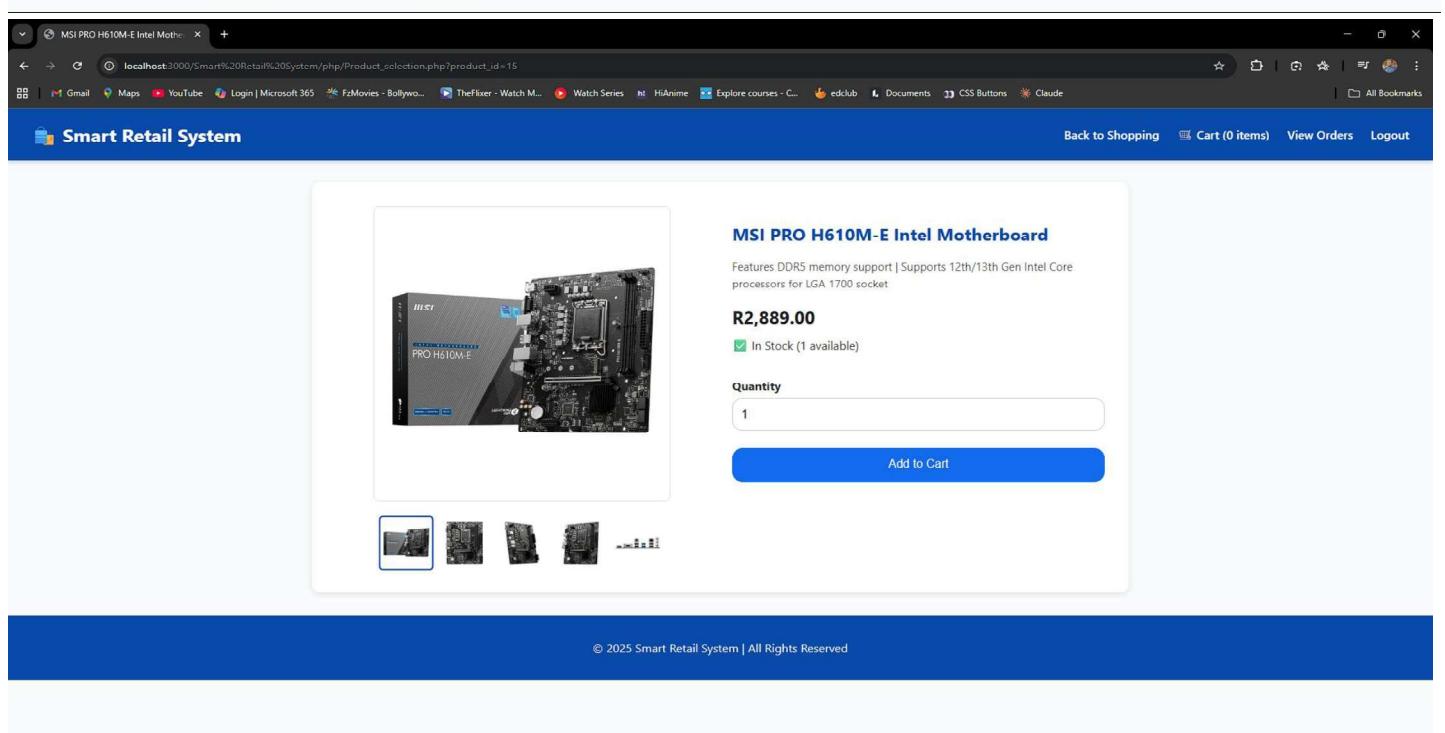
4. Product Details (Product_selection.php)

When a customer clicks on the View button for any product, the system loads a detailed product page. This page includes multiple images of the product, displayed with thumbnail previews below the main image. Clicking any thumbnail updates the main image, allowing the customer to view the item from different angles.

The product details page further includes the full product name, price, availability, and complete description. Customers can select the quantity they wish to purchase using a number input field. If the selected item is out of stock, the Add to Cart button is disabled to prevent purchasing unavailable items. Otherwise, customers may add the product to their shopping cart with a single click.



Screenshot of the Smartwatch Pro product details page. The main image shows two smartwatches, one black and one silver, with a digital watch face displaying the time as 10:00. Below the main image are four smaller thumbnail images showing different views of the smartwatch. To the right of the image, the product name "Smartwatch Pro" is displayed, followed by a brief description: "Fitness tracking & messages on your wrist." The price is listed as "R1,499.00". A green checkmark indicates "In Stock (2 available)". A quantity selector box contains the value "1", and a blue "Add to Cart" button is visible. At the bottom of the page, a copyright notice reads "© 2025 Smart Retail System | All Rights Reserved".



Screenshot of the MSI PRO H610M-E Intel Motherboard product details page. The main image shows the motherboard and its retail box. Below the main image are five smaller thumbnail images of the motherboard. To the right, the product name "MSI PRO H610M-E Intel Motherboard" is displayed, along with the text: "Features DDR5 memory support | Supports 12th/13th Gen Intel Core processors for LGA 1700 socket". The price is listed as "R2,889.00". A green checkmark indicates "In Stock (1 available)". A quantity selector box contains the value "1", and a blue "Add to Cart" button is visible. At the bottom of the page, a copyright notice reads "© 2025 Smart Retail System | All Rights Reserved".

5. Shopping Cart (Cart.php)

The Shopping Cart page gives customers full control over the items they intend to purchase. Each item in the cart shows its image, name, unit price, stock availability, and the customer's chosen quantity. Customers can increase or decrease quantities using plus and minus buttons, or type a specific quantity manually. The cart automatically recalculates totals, updates the shipping cost, and refreshes the overall grand total without requiring a page reload.

Customers may also remove individual items or clear the entire cart if they wish to start over. A "Continue Shopping" button returns the user to the shop, and logged-in customers may proceed to checkout. For guests, the system requires a login before checkout is allowed. All cart changes update instantly and remain synchronized with the database for logged-in users, while guest carts are kept in session storage.

This screenshot shows a browser window for a "Smart Retail System". The title bar says "Cart - Smart Retail System". The address bar shows "localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Cart.php". The page has a blue header with the "Smart Retail System" logo and navigation links for "Continue Shopping", "Cart (0 items)", and "Logout". The main content area is titled "Your Shopping Cart" and displays the message "Your cart is empty.".

This screenshot shows a browser window for a "Smart Retail System". The title bar says "Cart - Smart Retail System". The address bar shows "localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Cart.php". The page has a blue header with the "Smart Retail System" logo and navigation links for "Continue Shopping", "Cart (4 items)", and "Logout". The main content area is titled "Your Shopping Cart" and lists four items:

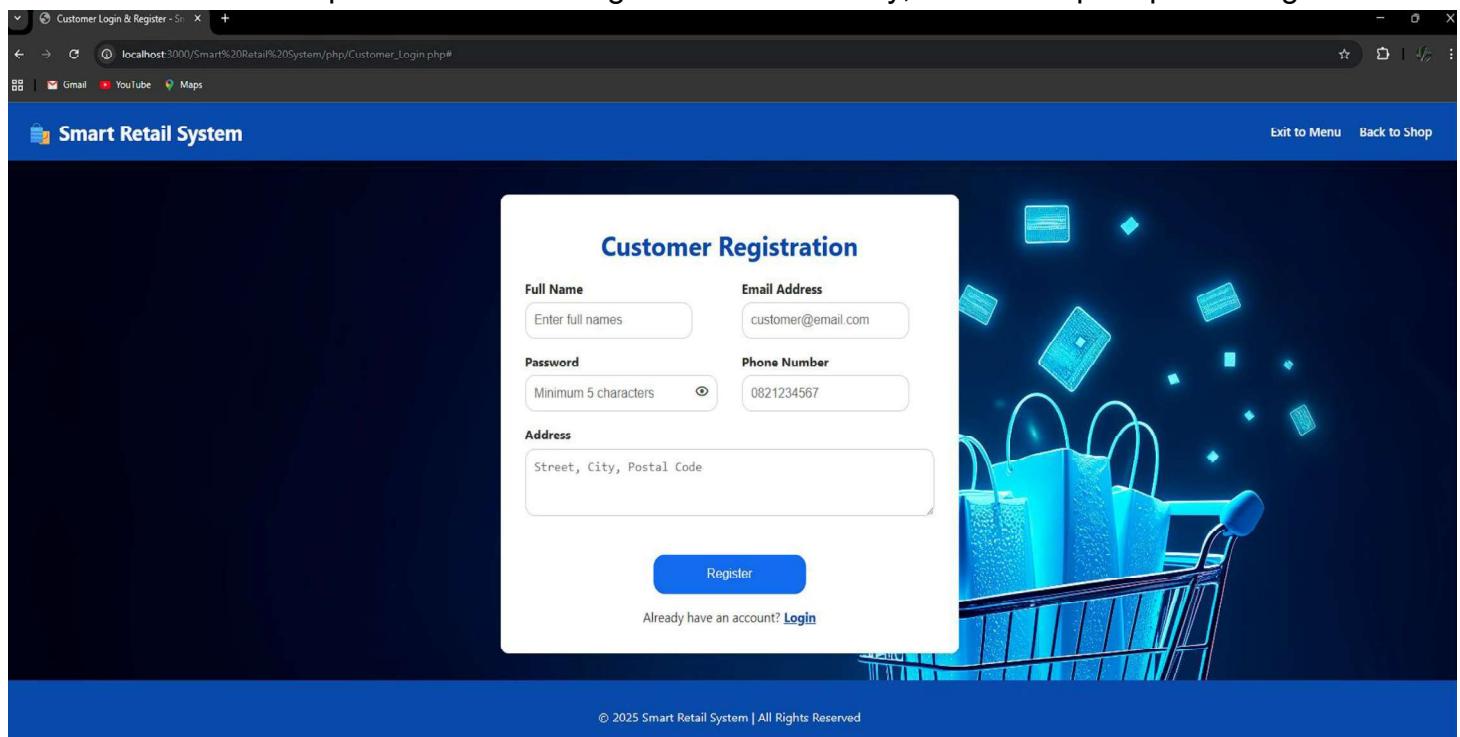
- MSI PRO H610M-E Intel Motherboard**
Unit: R2,889.00 · Stock: 1
Quantity: 1 (with + and - buttons, and a "Remove" button)
Price: R2,889.00
- Grinder**
Unit: R329.00 · Stock: 15
Quantity: 1 (with + and - buttons, and a "Remove" button)
Price: R329.00
- Gaming Monitor**
Unit: R7,999.00 · Stock: 8
Quantity: 1 (with + and - buttons, and a "Remove" button)
Price: R7,999.00
- Coffee Maker**
Unit: R3,189.00 · Stock: 4
Quantity: 1 (with + and - buttons, and a "Remove" button)
Price: R3,189.00

At the bottom, there are buttons for "Clear Cart", "Continue Shopping", and "Proceed to Checkout". Below the cart summary, it shows:
Subtotal: R14,406.00
Shipping: R0.00
Total: R14,406.00

6. Customer Login and Registration

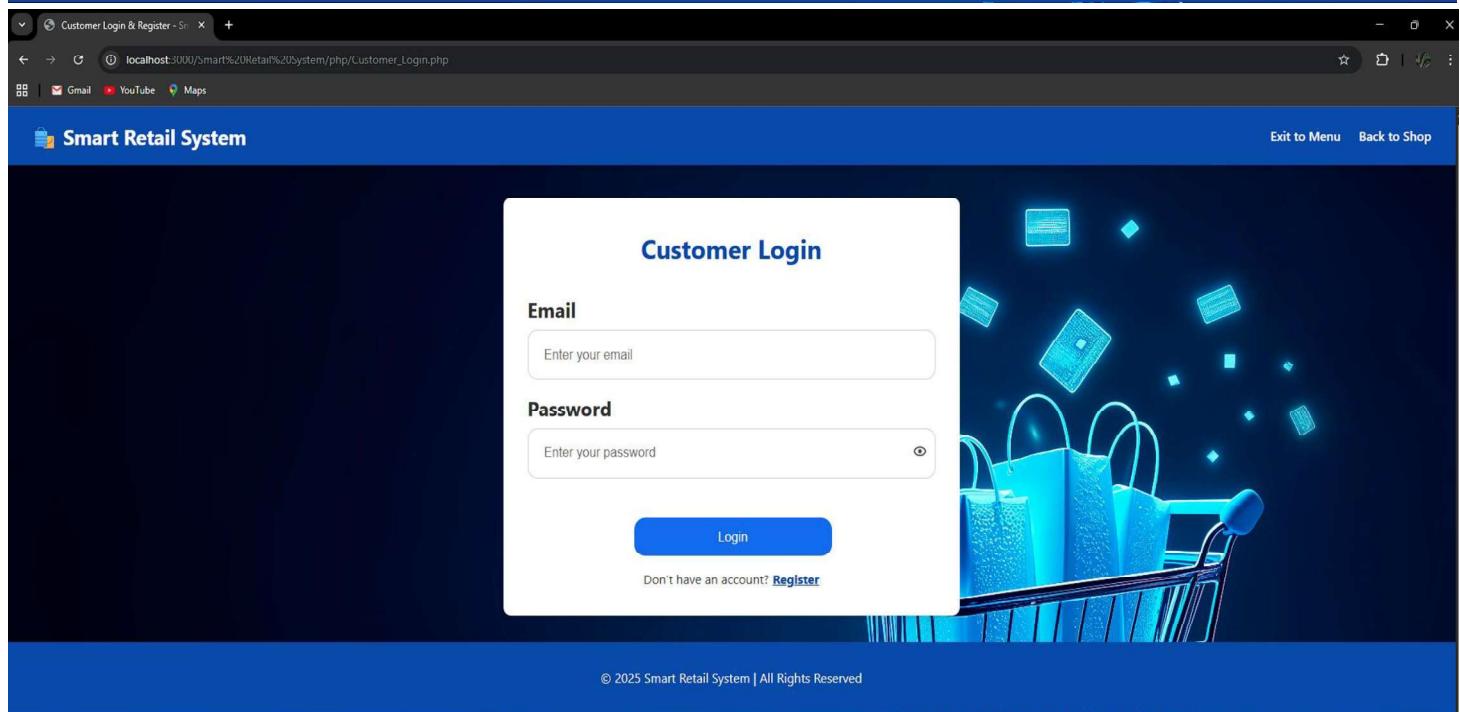
The system provides a dedicated page for customers to log in or create a new account. The login process requires the customer's email and password, and includes a show/hide password toggle to improve usability. Once authenticated, the customer is directed back to the Customer Shop page, and any saved cart items from the user's account are automatically loaded from the database.

New users can register by providing their full name, email address, password, phone number, and home address. The registration form includes input validation to ensure that the email format is correct, the phone number is exactly ten digits, and all required fields meet the minimum character requirements. Once registered successfully, the user is prompted to log in.



A screenshot of a web browser showing the 'Customer Registration' form. The form is titled 'Customer Registration' and contains four input fields: 'Full Name' (placeholder 'Enter full names'), 'Email Address' (placeholder 'customer@email.com'), 'Password' (placeholder 'Minimum 5 characters', with a visibility toggle icon), and 'Phone Number' (placeholder '0821234567'). Below the form is a large decorative graphic of a shopping cart filled with blue shopping bags and floating credit cards against a dark background.

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A screenshot of a web browser showing the 'Customer Login' form. The form is titled 'Customer Login' and contains two input fields: 'Email' (placeholder 'Enter your email') and 'Password' (placeholder 'Enter your password', with a visibility toggle icon). Below the form is a large decorative graphic of a shopping cart filled with blue shopping bags and floating credit cards against a dark background.

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7. Checkout Process

When the customer is satisfied with their shopping cart and is logged in, they may proceed to checkout. The system displays a summary of all items, including quantity, subtotal, shipping fees, and the final amount due. The customer can then confirm the purchase, after which the order is stored in the database, linked to the customer's account. This process ensures proper order tracking and enables the system to reflect stock changes immediately.

The screenshot shows the 'Checkout - Smart Retail System' page on a web browser. The URL is localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Checkout.php. The page is divided into two main sections: 'Shipping & Payment Information' on the left and 'Review Your Cart' on the right.

Shipping & Payment Information:

- Delivery Option:** A dropdown menu showing 'Delivery / Pick-up?'.
Submenu options: Delivery, Pick-up, Store pickup.
- Full Name:** An input field placeholder 'Enter full name'.
- Email Address:** An input field placeholder 'Enter email address'.
- Phone Number:** An input field placeholder 'Enter phone number'.
- Address:** An input field placeholder 'Street, City, Postal Code'.
- Payment Method:** A dropdown menu placeholder 'Select Payment Method'.
Submenu options: Credit Card, Debit Card, Bank Transfer, PayPal, Google Pay, Apple Pay.
- Terms and Conditions:** A checkbox labeled 'I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions.'

Review Your Cart:

The cart summary table:

Item	Quantity	Unit Price
MSI PRO H610M-E Intel Motherboard	1 x	R2,889.00
Grinder	1 x	R329.00
Gaming Monitor	1 x	R7,999.00
Coffee Maker	1 x	R3,189.00

Subtotal: R14,406.00
Shipping: R0.00
Total: R14,406.00

Pay Now

Secure Checkout - SSL Encrypted
Your financial and personal details are protected during every transaction.

8. Customer Order History (Orders.php)

After placing orders, logged-in customers can view their entire purchase history through the Orders page. This page lists all orders made by the customer along with their current status, which may be Pending, Processing, Shipped, Delivered, or Cancelled. Customers may also open each order to view detailed information such as product names, quantities, and totals. This provides a clear record of the customer's shopping activity within the system.

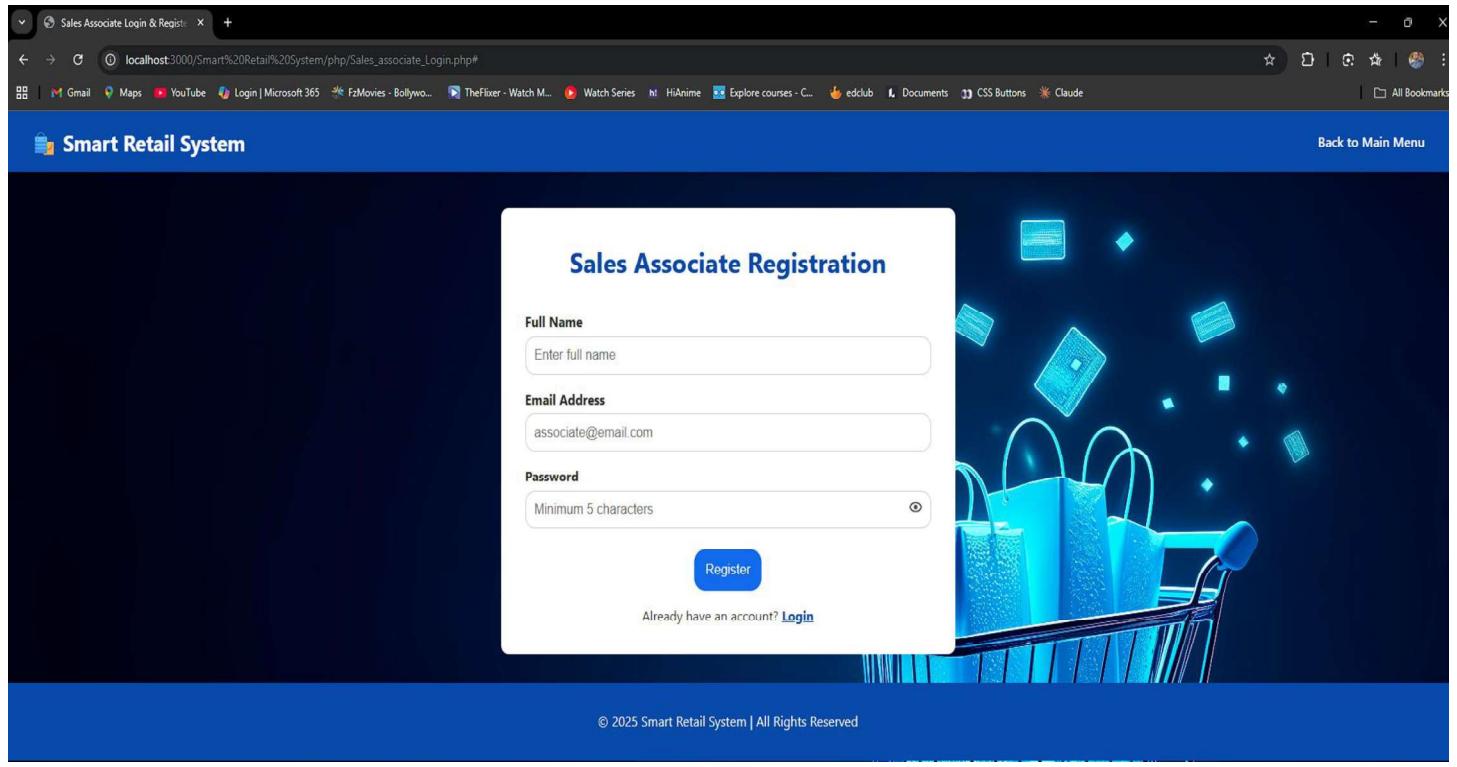
The screenshot shows the 'My Orders' page of the Smart Retail System. It displays four completed orders (Status: Delivered) with their details:

- Order #6** (Date: 13 Nov 2025, 15:47): Includes Wireless Headphones (1 x R999.00), Smartwatch Pro (5 x R1,499.00), Portable Speaker (1 x R599.00), Gaming Monitor (1 x R7,999.00), Laptop (2 x R6,499.00), and Christmas Tree (1 x R740.00). Total: R30,830.00.
- Order #5** (Date: 13 Nov 2025, 15:30): Includes Wireless Headphones (2 x R999.00), Smartwatch Pro (3 x R1,499.00), and Christmas Tree (1 x R740.00). Total: R7,235.00.
- Order #4** (Date: 13 Nov 2025, 14:57): Includes Wireless Headphones (2 x R999.00), Smartwatch Pro (3 x R1,499.00), and Christmas Tree (1 x R740.00). Total: R7,235.00.
- Order #4** (Date: 13 Nov 2025, 14:57): Includes Portable Speaker (1 x R599.00). Total: R674.00.

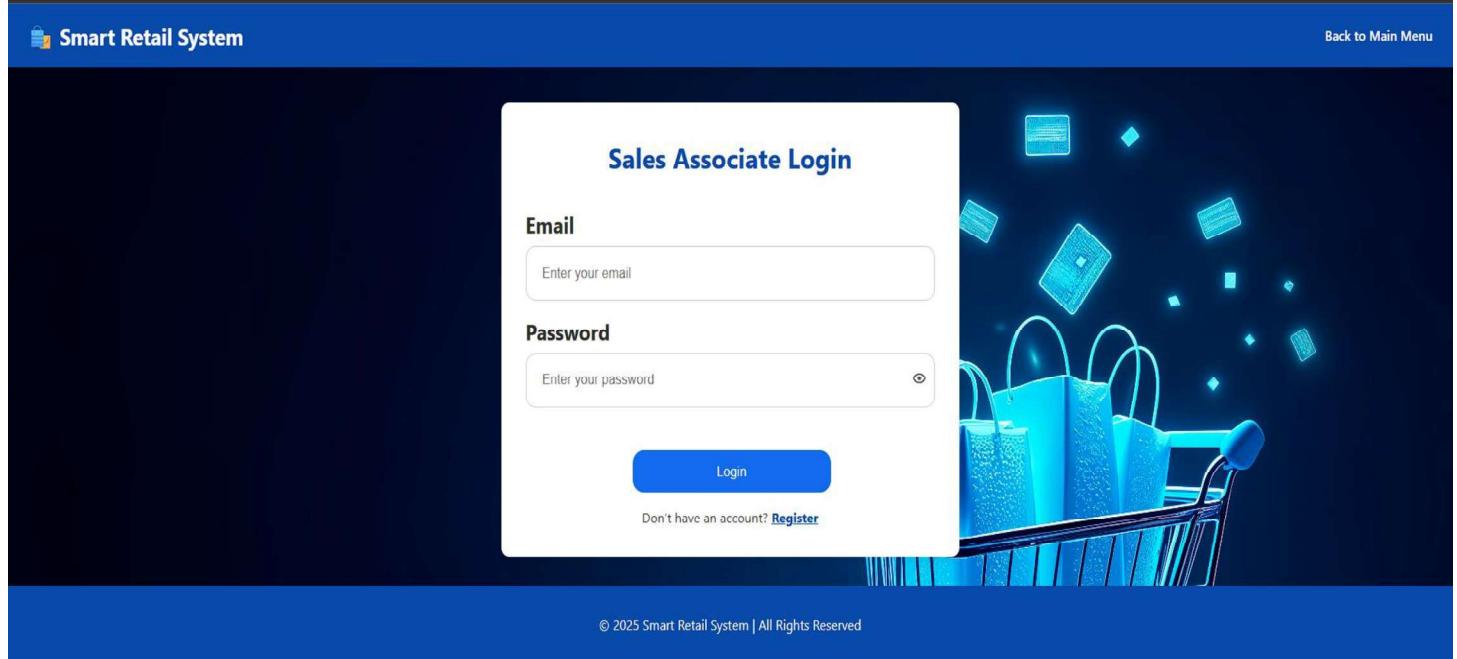
Sales Associate User Guide

1. Sales Associate Login Page (`Sales_associate_Login.php`)

Sales Associates begin by accessing the login and registration page designed specifically for staff users. This page provides two options: logging in with an existing account or creating a new one. To log in, the associate simply enters their email address and password. The system validates the credentials using the database and grants access only if the information matches a registered user. A show/hide password feature improves usability during login. If an associate does not yet have an account, they can switch to the registration panel, where they enter their full name, email address, and a secure password. All inputs undergo validation to ensure proper formatting and required length before the account is created. Upon successful login, the system redirects the associate to the Sales Management dashboard.



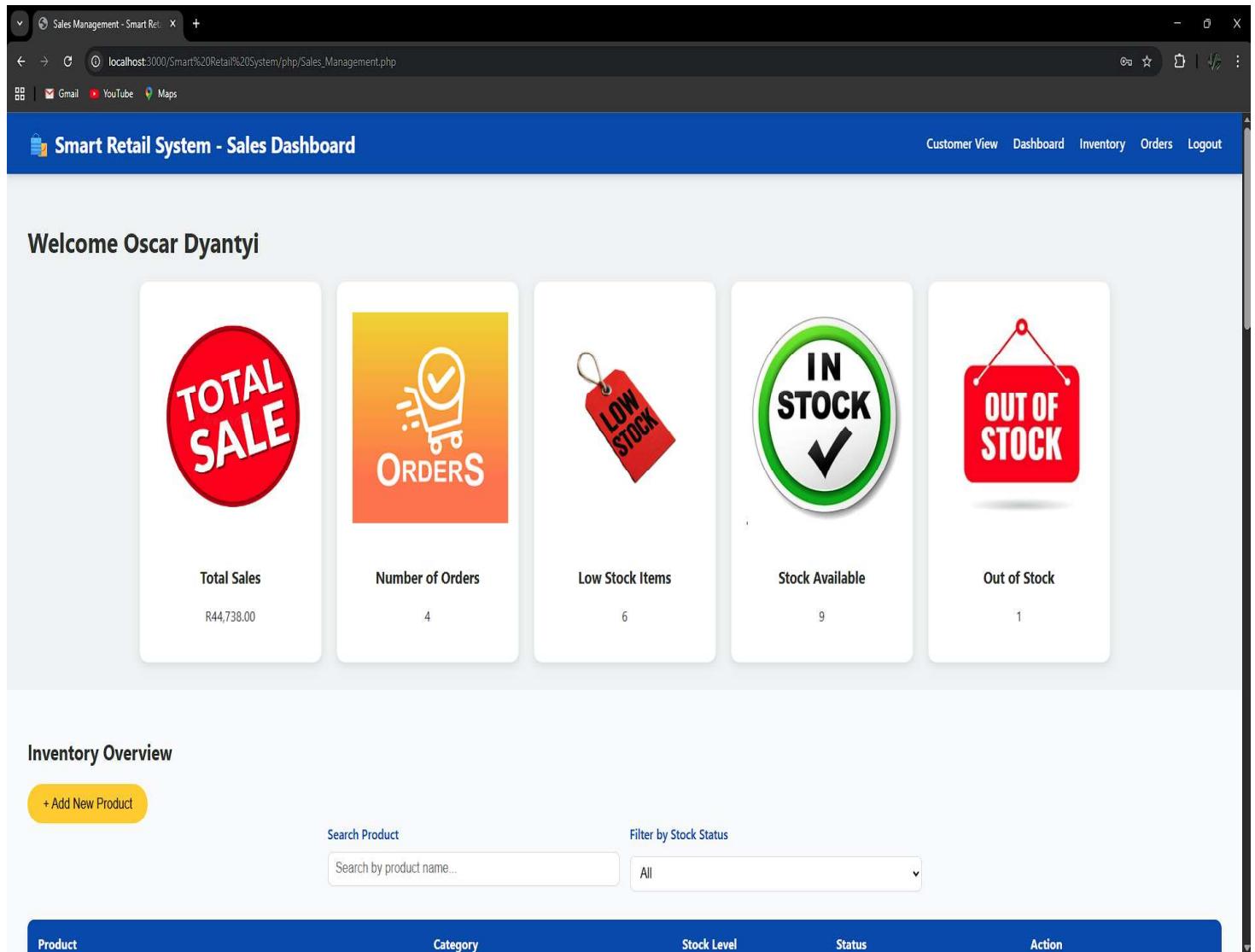
The screenshot shows the 'Sales Associate Registration' page of the Smart Retail System. The page has a white background with a dark blue decorative background featuring shopping bags and glowing squares. At the top center is the title 'Sales Associate Registration'. Below it are three input fields: 'Full Name' (placeholder 'Enter full name'), 'Email Address' (placeholder 'associate@email.com'), and 'Password' (placeholder 'Minimum 5 characters'). To the right of the password field is a visibility icon. Below the fields is a blue 'Register' button. At the bottom left is a link 'Already have an account? [Login](#)'. The top navigation bar shows the URL 'localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Sales_associate_Login.php#' and the title 'Sales Associate Login & Register'. The top right corner has a 'Back to Main Menu' link.



The screenshot shows the 'Sales Associate Login' page of the Smart Retail System. The layout is identical to the registration page, with a white form on a dark blue background with shopping bag graphics. The title 'Sales Associate Login' is at the top, followed by 'Email' and 'Password' input fields with their respective placeholders. Below the fields is a blue 'Login' button. At the bottom left is a link 'Don't have an account? [Register](#)'. The top navigation bar shows the URL 'localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Sales_associate_Login.php#' and the title 'Sales Associate Login & Register'. The top right corner has a 'Back to Main Menu' link.

2. Sales Management Dashboard

Once logged in, the Sales Associate is brought to the Sales Management Dashboard. This page serves as the central control panel for all staff operations. At the top of the screen, the navigation bar displays the associate's name along with links to the Inventory page, Order Management, Product Registration, and Logout options. The dashboard summarizes key store information, including total inventory, recent orders, and system actions available to the associate. This screen allows staff members to move seamlessly between different management features while maintaining a clear overview of store activity.



The screenshot shows the Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard. At the top, there is a header bar with the title "Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard" and navigation links for "Customer View", "Dashboard", "Inventory", "Orders", and "Logout". Below the header, a welcome message "Welcome Oscar Dyantyi" is displayed. The main area features five summary cards with icons and data:

Total Sales	Number of Orders	Low Stock Items	Stock Available	Out of Stock
R44,738.00	4	6	9	1

Below these cards is an "Inventory Overview" section with a search bar and a table header:

Product	Category	Stock Level	Status	Action
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3. Inventory Management

Inventory provides Sales Associates with full visibility and control over all products stored in the system. The product list is displayed in a structured table that includes product names, prices, stock quantity, and the date the product was added. Associates can search for specific products, filter results, and quickly identify items that are low in stock. Each product entry includes button to update or restock the product.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Sales Management - Smart Retail System". The URL in the address bar is "localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Sales_Management.php". The page has a blue header with the title "Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard" and navigation links for "Customer View", "Dashboard", "Inventory", "Orders", and "Logout". Below the header, the page title is "Inventory Overview". There is a yellow button labeled "+ Add New Product". On the left, there is a "Search Product" input field with placeholder text "Search by product name..." and a "Filter by Stock Status" dropdown menu set to "All". The main content area displays a table with columns: "Product", "Category", "Stock Level", "Status", and "Action". The table lists four products:

Product	Category	Stock Level	Status	Action
Air Fryer	Uncategorized	26	Stock Available	<button>Restock</button>
Coffee Maker	Appliances	4	Low Stock	<button>Restock</button>
Portable Speaker	Audio	10	Stock Available	<button>Restock</button>
DVI-D Converter	Cable Adapters	2	Low Stock	<button>Restock</button>

4. Product Registration

Product Registration allows Sales Associates to add new products into the system. The associate fills in information such as product name, category, price, description and initial stock quantity. This form includes validation rules to prevent incomplete or incorrect product details from being submitted. Once the associate confirms the registration, the product is inserted into the database and becomes immediately available in the Customer Shop for purchase. This ensures that new items can be added quickly whenever stock arrives or new products are introduced.

The screenshot shows the Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Customer View, Dashboard, Inventory, Orders, and Logout. Below the navigation is a search bar labeled "Search Product" with a placeholder "Search by product name...". On the left, there's a table titled "Inventory Overview" with columns for Product, Category, Status, and Action. The table lists four items: Air Fryer (Uncategorized, Stock Available, Restock), Coffee Maker (Appliances, Low Stock, Restock), Portable Speaker (Audio, Stock Available, Restock), and DVI-D Converter (Cable Adapters, Low Stock, Restock). A yellow button labeled "+ Add New Product" is located at the top left of the inventory table. A modal window titled "Add New Product" is open in the center. It contains fields for Product Name, Description, Price (R), Stock Quantity, and Category. At the bottom of the modal are two buttons: a green "Save Product" button and a red "Cancel" button.

5. Order Management

Sales Associates have access to a dedicated Order Management table where they can review all customer orders. The system displays each order with its unique ID, customer details, total cost, purchase date, and current status. Orders can be filtered and sorted to view new, pending, shipped, or delivered orders. The associate can update the status of an order by marking it as Processing, Shipped, or Delivered. This workflow ensures that customer orders are tracked accurately from the moment they are placed until the delivery process is complete.

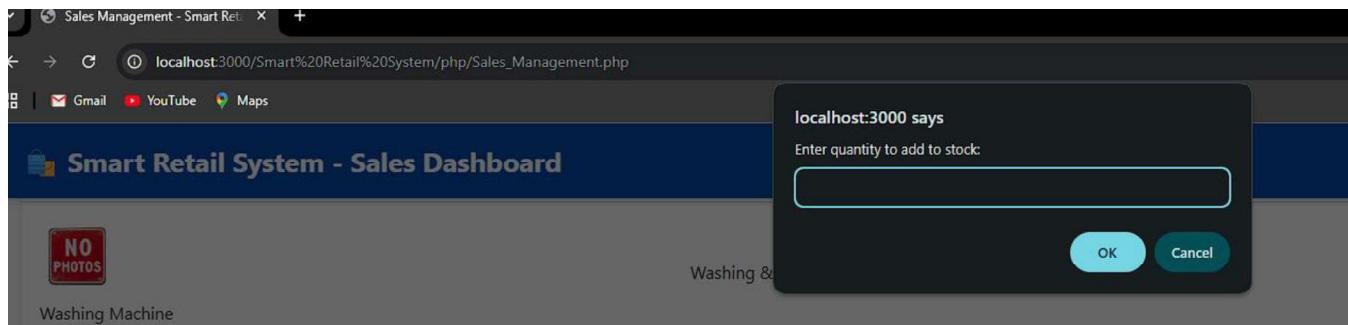
The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Sales Management - Smart Retail" with the URL "localhost:3000/Smart%20Retail%20System/php/Sales_Management.php". The page has a blue header bar with the title "Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard" and navigation links for "Customer View", "Dashboard", "Inventory", "Orders", and "Logout". Below the header, there's a product card for "Macallan Whiskey" with a small image, the category "Whiskey, Gin & Spirits", a quantity of "4", a "Low Stock" indicator, and a "Restock" button. The main content area is titled "Orders Management" and features two search/filter sections: "Search Orders" (with a text input "Search by order ID or customer") and "Filter by Status" (with a dropdown set to "All"). A table lists four orders:

Order ID	Customer	Date	Total	Status	Action
#7	Peter Wals	2025-11-14	R5,999.00	Pending	Pending <input type="button" value="Update"/>
#6	John Van ZamBuk	2025-11-13	R30,830.00	Delivered	Delivered <input type="button" value="Update"/>
#5	John Van ZamBuk	2025-11-13	R7,235.00	Shipped	Shipped <input type="button" value="Update"/>
#4	John Van ZamBuk	2025-11-13	R674.00	Delivered	Delivered <input type="button" value="Update"/>

At the bottom of the page, a footer bar contains the text "© 2025 Smart Retail System | Internal Dashboard".

6. Stock Update During Checkout

Whenever a customer makes a purchase, the system automatically reduces the stock levels in the database based on the quantities bought. Sales Associates then see updated stock values inside the Inventory page and Order Management details. This real-time adjustment helps prevent overselling and ensures that associates always have correct stock information when managing new orders or reviewing inventory.



A screenshot of the 'Smart Retail System - Sales Dashboard' showing a detailed view of a product. The product is 'Firstwatch - Whisky', described as 'First watch is 100% genuine Canadian Whisky distilled, blended and matured in Canada.' It has a category of 'Whiskey, Gin & Spirits', a price of 'R259.00', and a stock level of '17'. The status is 'Out of Stock'. Below the product details, there is a 'Restock' button. The background shows the main dashboard with other products like 'Wearables' and 'Whiskey, Gin & Spirits'.

7. Logging Out

At the end of their session, Sales Associates can safely log out using the Logout option found in the navigation bar. This action clears their session and returns them to the login page. Logging out ensures that the system remains secure and that staff-specific features cannot be accessed by unauthorized users.

Conclusion

The Smart Retail System provides an efficient and user-friendly platform that connects customers and sales associates through a streamlined shopping and management environment. Customers benefit from easy navigation, product browsing, cart management, and secure order processing, creating a smooth and enjoyable shopping experience. At the same time, Sales Associates are equipped with powerful tools such as inventory management, product registration, and real-time order tracking, allowing them to maintain accurate stock levels and ensure fast, reliable order fulfillment.

By integrating PHP, MySQL, HTML, and CSS, the system delivers strong functionality while remaining accessible and easy to maintain. Each component plays an essential role in ensuring that data is stored securely, interfaces perform smoothly, and users can interact with the system intuitively. The Smart Retail System successfully demonstrates how modern technologies can support retail operations by improving customer interaction, simplifying staff workflows, and maintaining organized, real-time business data.

The End
