# Product Catalog Web Application Xceed Task- Technical Documentation

## **Table of Contents**

- Architecture Overview
- Backend Implementation
- Frontend Implementation
- Identity and Authorization
- Advantages of the Approach
- Best Practices and Defenses
- System Screens

## **Architecture Overview**

The project follows an N-tier architecture for scalability and maintainability. Here's a breakdown of the solution structure:

### 1. Solution Structure

The solution contains 4 projects:

- Web Layer: Manages Areas (Admin, Customer) with their controllers, views, and identity pages.
- Data Access Layer (DAL): Includes DbContext, database migrations, and repositories.
- Models Layer: Contains models and view models for the application.
- **Utilities Layer:** Provides extensions and helper methods for standardizing roles and sending emails.

# 2. Web Layer Details

#### Areas:

- Admin Area: Contains controllers and views for content management (CRUD for categories/products).
- Customer Area: Contains controllers and views for displaying products based on availability.
- **Identity**: Includes registration and login with client-side and server-side validations.
- Shared Views: Contains master layout and reusable partial views.

## 3. Data Access Layer Details

- **DbContext**: Configured with EF Core for migrations and seeding the database.
- **Repositories**: Interfaces and concrete implementations for generic and specific operations:
  - IGenericRepository
  - ICategoryRepository
  - IProductRepository
  - IUnitOfWork

## 4. Models Layer Details

- Entities:
  - Product: Includes fields like name, price, creation date, etc.
  - Category: Categorizes products.
  - **ApplicationUser**: Extends IdentityUser for user management.
- **View Models**: Used for transferring data between layers instead of exposing raw entities.

## 5. Utilities Layer Details

- Extensions:
  - Role standardization methods.

Email sender for handling registration.

# **Backend Implementation**

## 1. Database Design and Models

- Created ERD diagram and modeled entities (Product, Category, ApplicationUser).
- Used EF Core for migrations and seeding initial data.
- Database tables:
  - Categories (seeded on migration).
  - Products (CRUD-enabled via repository).
  - Identity tables for users and roles.

## 2. Repository Pattern

Implemented **Repository Pattern** for loose coupling and database abstraction:

- Generic repository for common operations.
- Specific repositories for Category and Product.
- Unit of Work for combining multiple operations in a transaction.

## 3. Category Management

**CRUD Operations for Categories:** 

- Server-side and client-side validations (Data Annotations, JavaScript).
- Notifications using Toastr.
- · Partial views for reusable UI elements.

## 4. Product Management

CRUD Operations for **Products**:

- File upload for images (stored dynamically, not as static files).
- Rich Text Editor for product descriptions.

Sweet Alerts for confirmation prompts.

#### 5. Authorization

Role-based authorization using **Identity**:

- Admins: Full access to content management.
- **Customers**: Restricted to viewing available products.

# **Frontend Implementation**

# 1. Theme and Styling

- Integrated Bootswatch for a polished UI.
- Bootstrap Icons for intuitive navigation.

## 2. Dynamic Features

- Client-Side Validation: Enhanced UX with instant feedback.
- Pagination: Implemented for product listing pages using JavaScript.
- Wildcard Search: Users can search for products by keywords.

## 3. Notifications and Alerts

- Toastr for real-time success/error notifications.
- Sweet Alerts for delete confirmations and critical actions.

## 4. User Journey

- Customer Flow:
  - Registers with email, password, and address details.
  - Views available products based on time.
  - Adds products to cart (feature mitigation).

#### Admin Flow:

Accesses Content Management from the navbar.

Manages categories and products with CRUD operations.

# **Identity and Authorization**

## **Extended Identity:**

- Added additional fields to ApplicationUser (e.g., Name, Address).
- Scaffolded Identity pages for Registration and Login.

## **Role Assignment:**

- Admins manage all content.
- Customers access only current-time products.

# **Advantages of the Approach**

- Scalability: N-tier architecture ensures modularity and allows future scaling.
- Security: Role-based access and validations enhance application security.
- Maintainability: Repository pattern and Unit of Work simplify database interactions.
- Reusability: Partial views and helper methods reduce code duplication.

## **Best Practices and Defenses**

- Use of View Models: Avoids exposing database entities directly to the frontend.
- Repository Pattern: Decouples data access logic from business logic.
- Validation: Combines server-side (Data Annotations) and client-side (JavaScript) for robust data integrity.
- **Notifications**: Real-time feedback improves user experience.
- Image Uploads: Dynamic file handling for flexibility in managing product images.

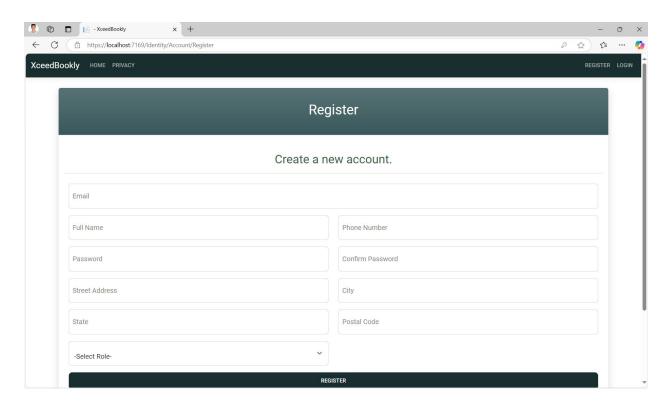
## **Dynamic Features**

- Custom Validations: Prevents invalid data submission.
- Sweet Alerts and Toastr: Provides visual cues for user actions.
- **Projections in EF Core**: Optimizes data fetching for performance.

# **System Screens**

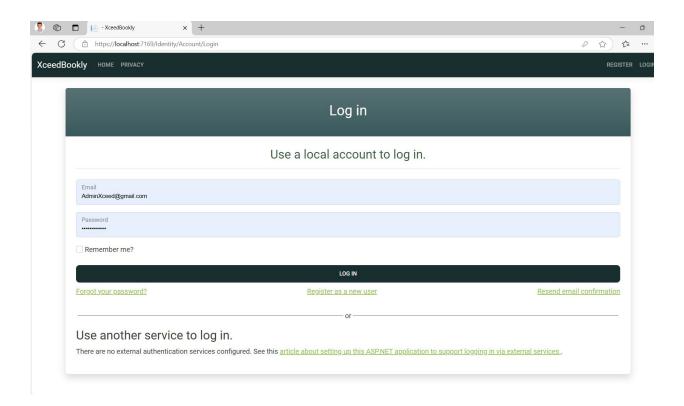
## 1. Register Screen

The **Register Screen** allows users to create a new account with basic details such as email, password, and address.



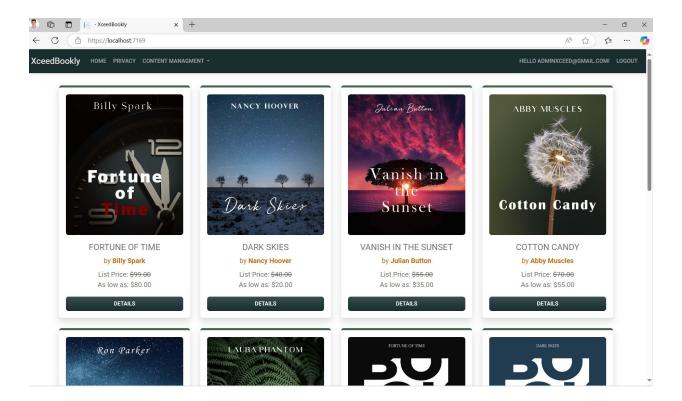
## 2. Login Screen

The **Login Screen** provides users with fields for email and password, along with the option to reset their password.



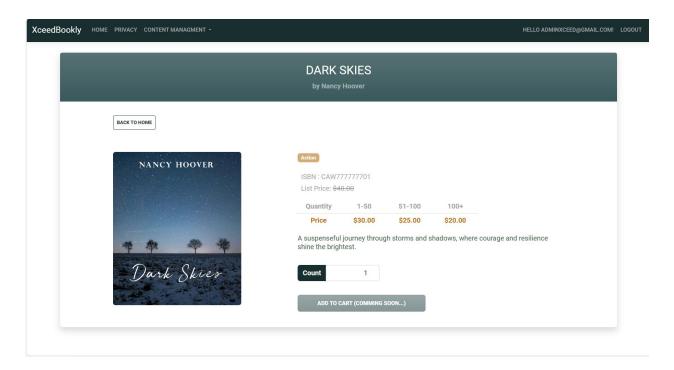
## 3. Home Screen

The **Home Screen** displays featured products to customers, with navigation options for browsing, logging in, or registering.



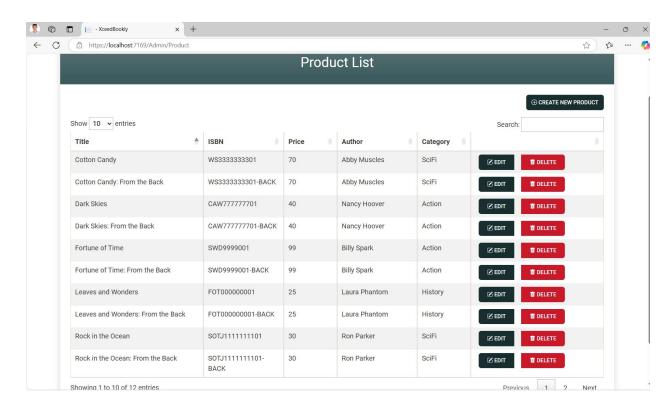
## 4. Product Details Screen

The **Product Details Screen** shows detailed information about a specific product, including images, description, and price.



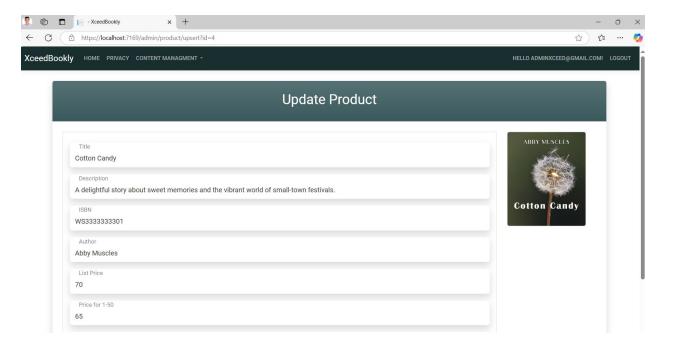
## 5. Product CRUD Screen

The **Product CRUD Screen** enables administrators to create, update, or delete products with a clean interface and validation.



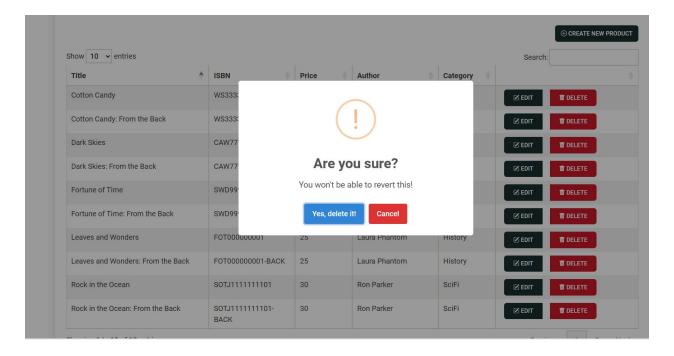
## 6. Edit Screen

The **Edit Screen** allows admins to modify the product details such as name, price, and description.

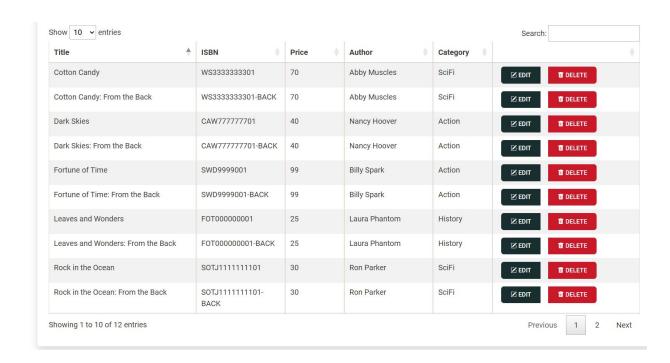


## 7. Delete Screen Sweet Alert

The **Delete Screen** provides admins with a confirmation dialog before deleting a product.



# 8. pagination and Search



# **How To Run The System**

```
**Setup Instructions**
Follow these steps to get the application up and running:

'``bash

# Navigate to the Project Folder
cd ProductCatalogWebApp

# Update the Database Connection String

# Open appsettings.json and set the connection string for you

r SQL Server.

# Run Migrations to apply schema changes
dotnet ef migrations add InitialMigration
dotnet ef database update
```

# Start the application dotnet run