Garage Management System in Salesforce Project Documentation

Prepared for: Salesforce Developer Implementation

Project: Garage Management Application

Team members:

Lavanya Pinnamaraju

Chapala Sneha

Devarakonda Yeswanthi Sai Bala Sushma

Akula Vindhya

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Introduction

The Garage Management System (GMS) is a cloud-native solution developed on Salesforce...

Certainly! Here's a detailed **Introduction** you can include at the beginning of your **Salesforce Garage Management System** project documentation:

The Garage Management System (GMS) is a comprehensive cloud-based application built on the Salesforce platform, designed to streamline and automate the daily operations of a garage or vehicle service center. As automotive service businesses face increasing demand for efficient customer handling, appointment scheduling, billing, and service tracking, GMS offers a centralized digital solution to address these needs.

This project leverages the powerful features of **Salesforce CRM**, including its customizable objects, automation tools, role-based access control, and reporting capabilities, to manage garage operations effectively. It is developed using **Salesforce Developer Edition**, utilizing tools such as **Object Manager**, **Flows**, **Validation Rules**, **Apex**, **Lightning App Builder**, **Reports**, and **Dashboards**.

The system is designed with four major modules:

- **Customer Management** storing customer details like name, phone number, and email.
- **Appointment Scheduling** managing service appointments, vehicle information, and types of services required.
- **Service Record Management** tracking the services performed, their statuses, and quality checks.
- **Billing and Feedback** recording payments, customer feedback, and payment status.

Each of these modules is built using **custom Salesforce objects** with necessary fields, relationships, and user interfaces. Additionally, **automation is handled via Flows and Apex Triggers**, ensuring tasks such as billing calculations, notifications, and status updates are performed without manual effort.

To maintain data integrity and security, **validation rules**, **sharing settings**, **profiles**, **and roles** are implemented. Managers and salespersons have different levels of access to data, and sensitive service information is protected through **OWD** (**Organization-Wide Defaults**) and **role-based sharing rules**.

Objective

The main objective of this project is to create a streamlined management system for garage services using Salesforce...

The primary objective of the **Garage Management System (GMS)** project is to **digitize and automate** the end-to-end operations of a vehicle garage or automotive service center using the Salesforce platform. The system is designed to enhance service quality, streamline processes, and improve customer experience through a centralized, cloud-based solution.

• Customer Management:

- Store and manage essential customer information (name, contact number, email).
- Enable quick retrieval of customer details during appointments and billing.

• Appointment Scheduling:

- Allow users to create and track service appointments.
- Capture service types such as maintenance, repairs, and replacement parts.
- Automatically calculate service charges based on selected services.

• Service Tracking:

- Maintain detailed records of each service performed.
- Implement a quality check system and update service status automatically.

• Link appointments to services for full traceability.

• Billing and Feedback Collection:

- Record payments made by customers and track their payment status.
- Collect service feedback and ratings.
- Automate thank-you emails upon successful payment.

• Security and Access Control:

- Assign roles (Manager, Salesperson) with appropriate permissions.
- Control access to records using sharing settings and public groups.

• Automation and Workflow Optimization:

- Use Salesforce Flows and Apex triggers to automate:
 - o Payment updates,
 - Email alerts,
 - Service status changes.

• Reporting and Analysis:

- Generate real-time reports and dashboards to track:
 - o Appointment data,
 - o Payments,
 - Customer satisfaction.
- Share reports with specific user roles for informed decisionmaking.

• Scalability and Maintenance:

 Create a system that is modular, customizable, and easy to expand for future needs

Tools and Technologies Used

- Salesforce Developer Edition
- Apex Programming
- Lightning App Builder
- Flows
- Reports and Dashboards

System Architecture

The system follows a modular architecture based on custom Salesforce objects with lookup relationships.

Project Setup

Step-by-step instructions to create a developer org, activate it, and log into the Salesforce environment.

Setting up a garage management project typically involves several key steps:

- 1. **Define Requirements**: Outline the functionalities required, such as vehicle registration, service history tracking, customer management, and inventory control.
- 2. **Choose Technology Stack**: Select appropriate technologies like a backend framework (e.g., Django, Node.js), frontend framework (e.g., React, Angular), and database (e.g., PostgreSQL, MySQL).

3. Set Up Development Environment:

- Install necessary software (IDE, database management tools).
- Initialize a version control system (e.g., Git) for collaborative development.

4. Backend Development:

- o Create models for vehicles, customers, services, etc.
- Implement APIs for CRUD operations (Create, Read, Update, Delete).
- Set up authentication and authorization mechanisms.

5. Frontend Development:

- Design UI/UX wireframes and layouts.
- Develop frontend components to interact with backend APIs.
- Implement user interfaces for managing vehicles, customers, services, etc.

6. Database Setup:

 Design and create database schemas based on the application's requirements. Set up database migrations for version control and schema updates.

7. Integration and Testing:

- Integrate frontend with backend APIs.
- Perform unit testing for each module and integration testing for the entire system.

8. Deployment and Maintenance:

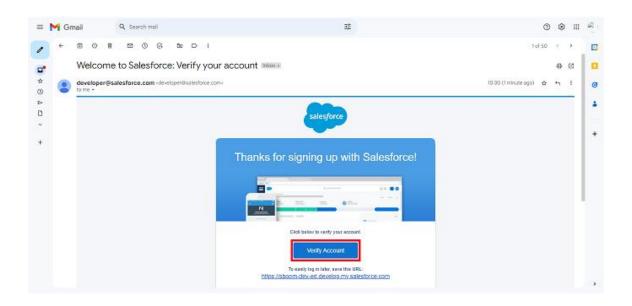
- Deploy the application on a suitable server (e.g., AWS, Heroku).
- Monitor performance and handle maintenance tasks like updates and backups.

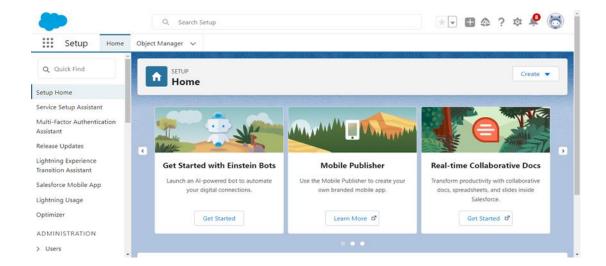
9. Documentation and User Training:

- o Prepare user manuals and technical documentation.
- Provide training sessions for garage staff on using the management system effectively.

10. **Support and Iteration**:

- o Gather feedback from users and stakeholders.
- Iterate on the application based on feedback and evolving requirements.





Object Creation

Detailed creation steps for Customer Details, Appointment, Service Records, and Billing Details objects.

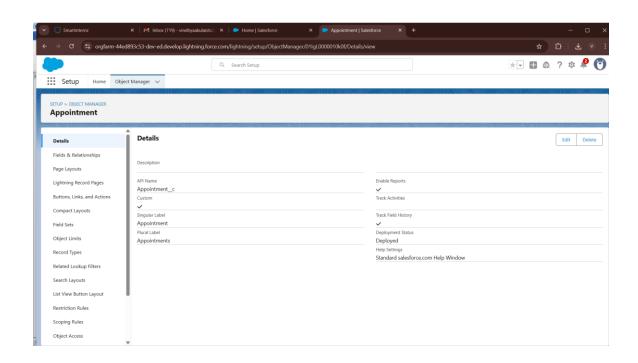
| Object Name | Record Name Type | Key Purpose |
|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| Customer Details | Text | Store customer personal and contact details |
| Appointment | Auto Number | Service booking for vehicles |
| Service Records | Auto Number | Record type of service performed |
| Billing Details and | Auto Number | Bill payment tracking and feedback |
| Feedback | | |

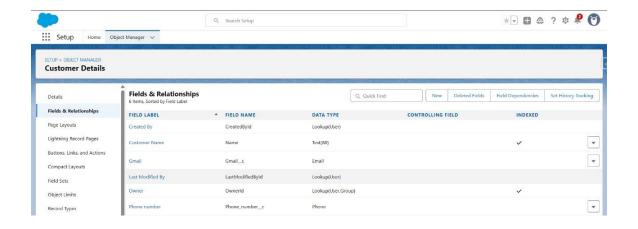
Salesforce objects are database tables that permit you to store data that is specific to an organization. What are the types of Salesforce objects

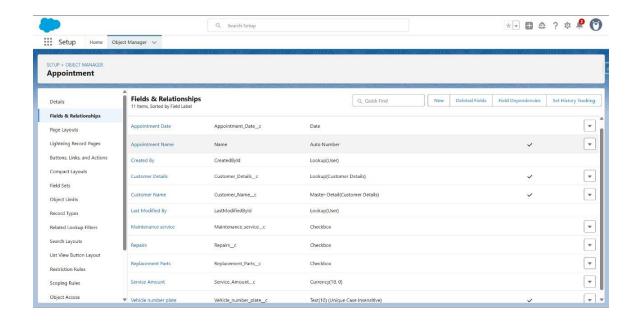
Salesforce objects are of two types:

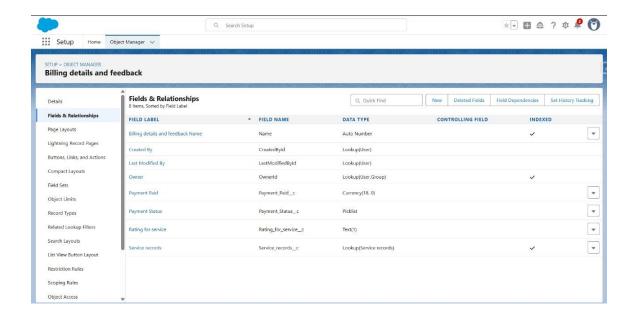
Standard Objects: Standard objects are the kind of objects that are provided by salesforce.com such as users, contracts, reports, dashboards, etc.

Custom Objects: Custom objects are those objects that are created by users. They supply information that is unique and essential to their organization. They are the heart of any application and provide a structure for sharing data.









Field Creation

Includes Phone, Email, Text, Currency, Date, Picklist, Checkbox, and Formula fields with purpose and usage.

Checkbox Fields

- **Appointment:** Maintenance Service, Repairs, Replacement Parts
- Service Records: Quality Check Status

Date Fields

• **Appointment:** Appointment Date (Required)

Currency Fields

- **Appointment:** Service Amount
- Billing Details and Feedback: Payment Paid

Text Fields

- **Appointment:** Vehicle Number Plate (Required & Unique, Length 10)
- Billing Details and Feedback: Rating for Service (Length 1, Required)

Picklist Fields

- Service Records: Service Status (Started, Completed)
- Billing Details and Feedback: Payment Status (Pending, Completed)

Formula Fields

• Service Records: Service Date → CreatedDate

When we talk about Salesforce, Fields represent the data stored in the columns of a relational database. It can also hold any valuable information that you require for a specific object. Hence, the overall searching, deletion, and editing of the records become simpler and quicker.

Types of Fields

Standard Fields

Custom Fields

Standard Fields:

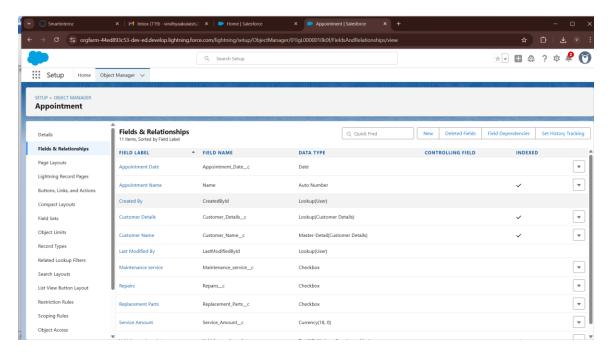
As the name suggests, the Standard Fields are the predefined fields in Salesforce that perform a standard task. The main point is that you can't simply delete a Standard Field until it is a non-required standard field. Otherwise, users have the option to delete them at any point from the application freely. Moreover, we have some fields that you will find common in every Salesforce application. They are,

Custom Fields:

On the other side of the coin, Custom Fields are highly flexible, and users can change them according to requirements.

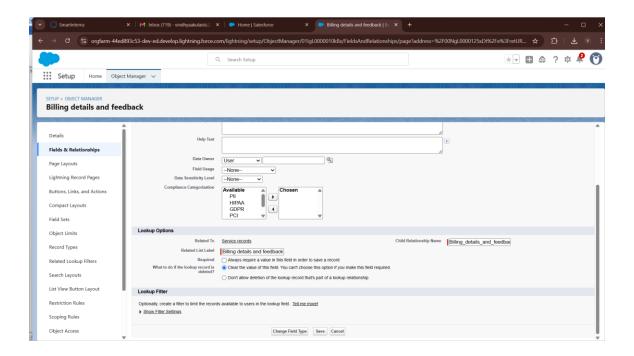
Moreover, each organiser or company can use them if necessary. It means you need not always include them in the

records, unlike Standard fields. Hence, the final decision depends on the user, and he can add/remove Custom Fields of any given form.



Relationships & Lookups

Describes lookup relationships between objects and their use in data hierarchy.



Tabs & Lightning App Setup

Steps to create custom tabs and design a unified Lightning App page for easy navigation.

What is Tab: A tab is like a user interface that is used to build records for objects and to view the records in the objects.

Types of Tabs:

Custom Tabs

Custom object tabs are the user interface for custom applications that you build in salesforce.com. They look and behave like standard salesforce.com tabs such as accounts, contacts, and opportunities.

Web Tabs

Web Tabs are custom tabs that display web content or applications embedded in the salesforce.com window. Web tabs make it easier for your users to quickly access content and applications they frequently use without leaving the salesforce.com application.

Visualforce Tabs

Visualforce Tabs are custom tabs that display a Visualforce page. Visualforce tabs look and behave like standard salesforce.com tabs such as accounts, contacts, and opportunities.

Lightning Component Tabs

Lightning Component tabs allow you to add Lightning components to the navigation menu in Lightning Experience and the mobile app.

Lightning Page Tabs

Lightning Page Tabs let you add Lightning Pages to the mobile app navigation menu.

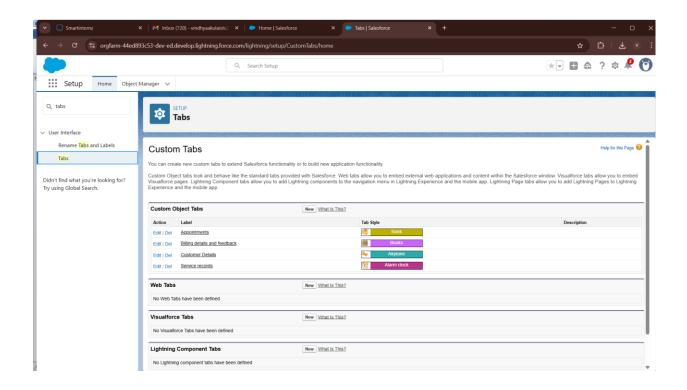
Lightning Page tabs don't work like other custom tabs. Once created, they don't show up on the All Tabs page when you click the Plus icon that appears to the right of your current tabs. Lightning Page tabs also don't show up in the Available Tabs list when you customise the tabs for your apps.

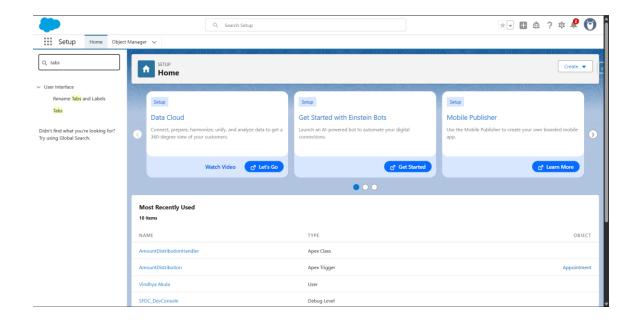
The Lightning App

An app is a collection of items that work together to serve a particular function. In Lightning Experience, Lightning apps give your users access to sets of objects, tabs, and other items all in one convenient bundle in the navigation bar.

Lightning apps let you brand your apps with a custom colour and logo. You can even include a utility bar and Lightning page tabs in your Lightning app. Members of your org can work more efficiently by easily switching between apps.







Role Hierarchy & Profiles

Manager and Salesperson roles with related profiles and permissions setup.

| Profile | Base Profile | Access Given |
|---------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Manager | Standard User | Full access to all garage |
| | | objects |
| Sales | Salesforce | Read/Edit based on role |
| Person | Platform | hierarchy |

Roles

- Manager (under CEO)
- Sales Person (under Manager)

Users

At least 3 users created:

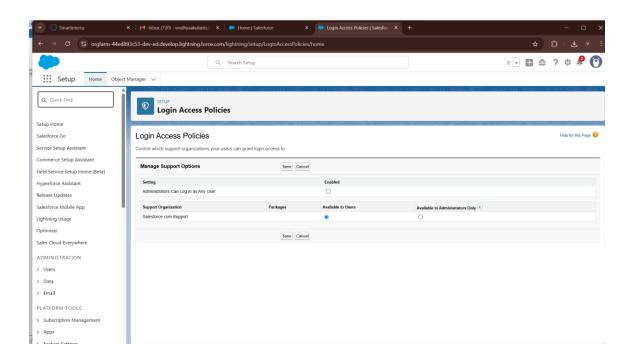
- 1 Manager Role, Manager Profile
- 2 Sales Person Role, Sales Person Profile

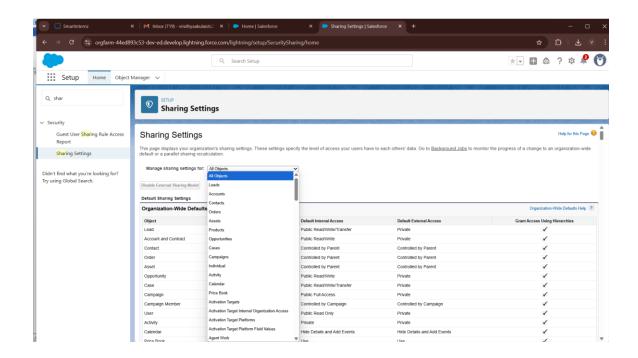


Security & Sharing Settings

OWD configurations, sharing rules, and public groups for secure data access.

- Assign roles (Manager, Salesperson) with appropriate permissions.
- Control access to records using sharing settings and public groups.

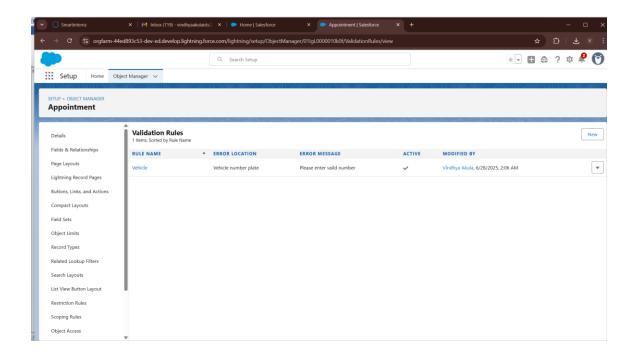


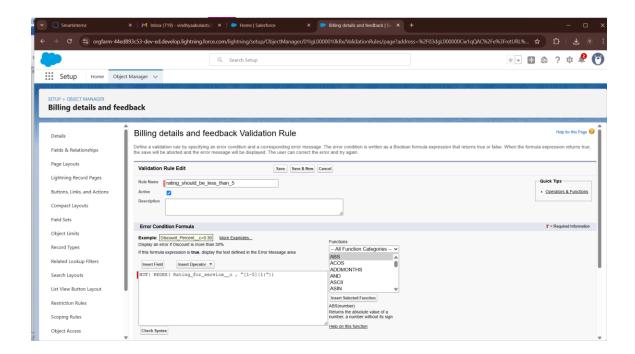


Validation & Duplicate Rules

Enforce input patterns and prevent duplicate records via validation and matching rules.

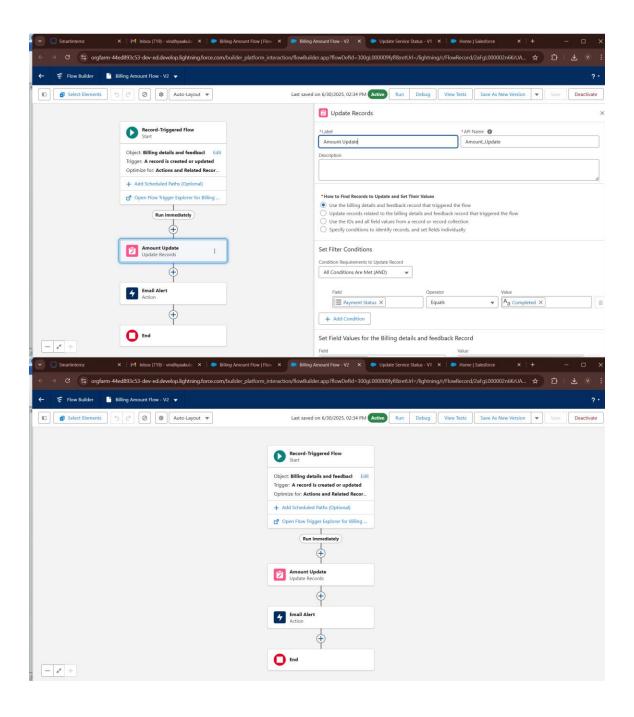
| Object | Rule Name | Condition | Error Message |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Appointment | Vehicle | REGEX | "Please enter |
| | | | valid number" |
| Billing | rating_should_be_less_than_5 | REGEX | "Rating should |
| Details/Feedback | | | be from 1 to 5" |

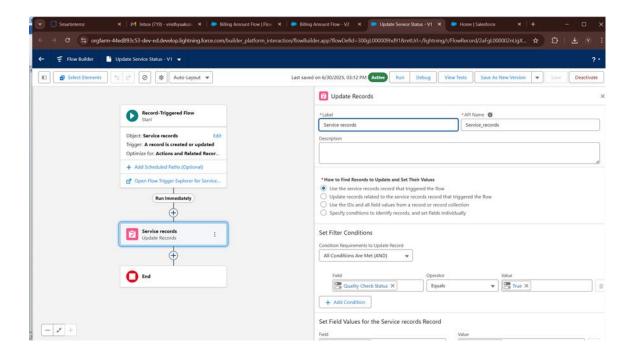




Automation Using Flows

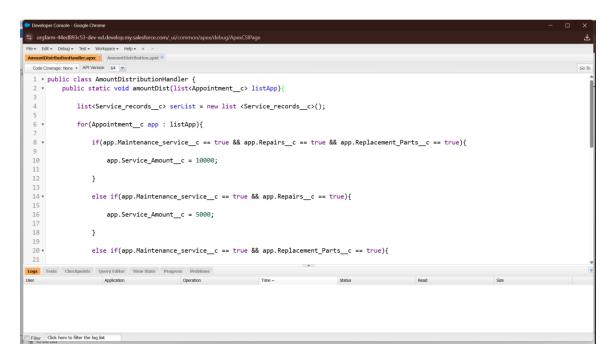
Two flows are created: one for auto-updating billing and emailing customers, and one for status updates.

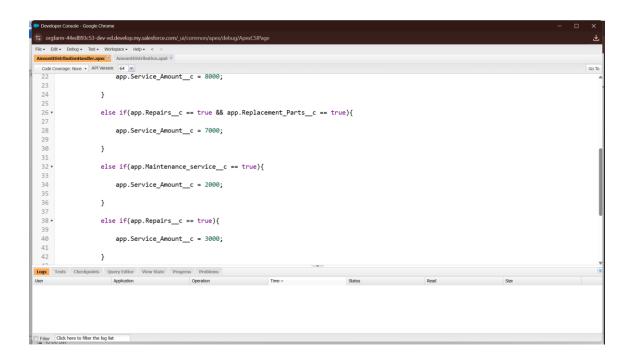




Apex Programming

Custom Apex class and trigger to dynamically assign service cost based on selections.

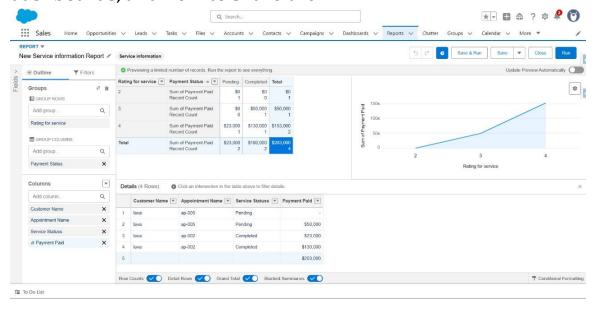




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Reports & Dashboards

Details the process of creating report types, reports, dashboards, and how to share them.



Glossary

Key terms used throughout the project with definitions.

This glossary contains important terms and concepts used throughout the **Garage Management System** Salesforce project. Understanding these will help readers and users better navigate and utilize the system effectively.

Apex

Apex is a strongly typed, object-oriented programming language provided by Salesforce. It allows developers to execute flow and transaction control statements on Salesforce servers in conjunction with calls to the API. In this project, Apex is used to calculate service charges automatically.

Auto Number

A field data type in Salesforce used to automatically generate sequential numbers for records. For example, appointments use an auto number format like app-{000} to generate unique identifiers.

Checkbox

A Boolean data type field that stores true or false. It is used in the project to represent whether services like repairs or maintenance were requested.

Custom Object

An object that is defined by the user to store information specific to the business. In this project, objects like Customer Details, Appointments, and Service Records are custom objects tailored to garage operations.

Dashboard

A visual display of key metrics and trends. In this project, dashboards are created to track service performance and customer feedback using components like charts and graphs.

Data Relationships

The connections between objects, established using lookup fields. For instance, Service Records are related to Appointments, which in turn are related to Customer Details.

Duplicate Rules

Salesforce feature that helps prevent users from creating duplicate records. This project includes duplicate rules for Customer Details based on email and phone number.

Email Alert

An automated message sent via Salesforce Flows. For example, after a customer makes a payment, an email is triggered to thank them and confirm receipt.

Flow

A point-and-click automation tool in Salesforce. It is used in this project to update records, send emails, and perform background tasks based on certain conditions.

Formula Field

A read-only field that automatically calculates a value based on a formula. Used in Service Records to show the service date.

Lightning App

A custom Salesforce application created using Lightning App Builder. It allows users to interact with tabs, dashboards, and objects in a unified UI. In this project, it's named **Garage Management Application**.

Lookup Relationship

A type of relationship between objects that allows users to select a record from another object. For instance, each Appointment record looks up to a Customer Details record.

Matching Rule

Used to identify duplicate records based on specified criteria. This project uses matching rules for Customer Details to match by email and phone.

Object Manager

A Salesforce setup area where users can create, modify, and manage objects, fields, and relationships. It is the starting point for building custom objects.

Organization-Wide Defaults (OWD)

Defines the baseline level of access users have to each object. In this system, Service Records are set to Private to protect service information.

Picklist

A field type that allows users to select from predefined values. Used for Service Status and Payment Status.

Profile

A collection of settings and permissions that defines what a user can do in Salesforce. Custom profiles like Manager and Salesperson were created in this project.

Public Group

A group of users that can be used in sharing rules or reports. The "Sales Team" public group was created to organize users with the Salesperson role.

Report

A way to view and analyze Salesforce data. Custom reports are used in this project to monitor appointments, billing, and customer ratings.

Role

Defines a user's position in the role hierarchy and their access to records owned by others. Roles like Manager and Salesperson define access in this project.

Sharing Rule

Grants specific users access to records they don't own. Used to allow managers access to service records owned by salespersons.

Validation Rule

Ensures data entered into Salesforce meets specific conditions. Examples include ensuring vehicle numbers follow a format and rating values are within 1–5.

Project Conclusion and Real-Time Usage

Conclusion

The Garage Management System (GMS) project built on Salesforce has successfully demonstrated how cloud-based CRM tools can be customized to serve a specific, industry-focused use case—in this case, vehicle service and garage operations. By leveraging Salesforce's declarative and programmatic capabilities, the project created a robust, scalable, and user-friendly system that manages the entire service lifecycle: from customer onboarding, appointment scheduling, and service tracking, to billing, feedback collection, and reporting.

Through the use of custom objects (Customer Details, Appointments, Service Records, and Billing Details and Feedback), the project models real-world garage workflows with high fidelity. Each component was designed to capture relevant data efficiently while ensuring data integrity and security using validation rules, matching rules, and role-based access controls.

Automation tools like **Flows** and **Apex triggers** help reduce manual work by updating payment statuses, calculating service charges, and sending email alerts. This not only improves operational efficiency but also enhances customer engagement and satisfaction. The integration of **Dashboards and Reports** further empowers the management to monitor business performance, customer trends, and revenue metrics in real-time.

This project highlights the true potential of Salesforce as a platform not only for traditional CRM but also for industry-specific custom applications.

Real-Time Usage Scenarios

The Garage Management System can be practically deployed in a variety of real-world settings, particularly in **automobile service centers**, **bike workshops**, and even **multi-brand vehicle garages**. Below are a few realistic use cases:

1. Appointment Scheduling and Service Intake

When a customer walks into a service center or books online, the service executive can quickly create an appointment in Salesforce. Based on the customer's chosen services (maintenance, repair, replacement), the system can automatically calculate the estimated charges.

2. Customer History and Service Tracking

For repeat customers, the system stores historical service data, appointment records, and previous feedback. This allows staff to offer personalized service recommendations or identify recurring issues with specific vehicles.

3. Billing and Follow-Up

Once the service is completed, the billing details are generated. The system checks if the payment is completed and, using Salesforce Flows, sends out a thank-you email with payment confirmation. This enhances customer trust and brand image.

4. Team Collaboration

Sales Managers and Service Technicians can use their respective profiles and roles to collaborate without compromising data security. Managers can oversee work done by the sales team, while salespersons focus on their assigned appointments.

5. Business Analytics

Owners or senior managers can track service volumes, payment trends, and customer satisfaction levels using real-time reports and dashboards. This helps in business planning, marketing strategy, and customer retention.

6. Franchise-Level Operations

For larger garages with multiple locations, the Salesforce-based system can be scaled and modified to manage data across branches, enforce standard operating procedures, and ensure consistency in customer experience.

Final Note

This project is a strong foundation for garage owners looking to transition from manual or spreadsheet-based operations to a fully digitized and cloud-managed ecosystem. With further integration possibilities (e.g., SMS alerts, vehicle diagnostics, customer portals), this system can evolve into a full-featured **Automobile Service CRM**.