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PROJECT TITLE: Cloud computed web application for core tracking and range planning.

Background:

The department largely relies on Microsoft Excel for all the numerical tracking, formula based calculations and related activities like transfers, stock checks and allocations etc. The same set of processes are repeated every time, this takes up unnecessary time that could be invested in doing some other activity. In Kids Wear Brands manual activity was to be eliminated and in Kids Wear Private Labels immediate action after tracking of styles was required to be done. The planning department had no existing measures of IT integration and automation and wished to move towards it, so there arose a requirement to conceptualise, design, develop, implement and deploy softwares named as 'Range Planner' Web application (software) in Brands and 'Core tracker' in Private Labels Web application (software) on cloud.

Objective:

1. Range Planner (Brands)
   - Eliminating manual processes involved in making a Range Plan and replacing it with a software for forecasting.
2. Core Tracker (Private labels)
   - Tracking core styles according to sales of previous and current year along with growth and giving a visual representation for analysis.
   - Tracking buffer level and stock level for each core style.

Research Methodology:

Step 1: Understood Range Planning and core tracking processes

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Step 2: Collected data dumps

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Step 3: Finalised back end, front end and database

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Step 4: Designed flows, structure and code

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Step 5: Tested with real data dumps

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Step 6: Implemented on cloud server

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Step 7: Generated reports

Keywords: (preferably 5)
IT(Information Technology), software, automation, planning, tracking, forecasting, analysis

Analysis:

Two web applications (softwares) were developed based on the procedure of range planning and the needs of core tracking, using Ruby as back end with Rails framework, HTML and CSS as front end and SQLite database. Testing was done using data from past two seasons and a range plan was developed which was compared with an already existing range plan, the results were compared and were found to have no discrepancies. This was implemented and deployed on a cloud server.

Conclusion:

The two softwares developed helped in:

1. Eliminating manual work.
2. Saving time- amount of time consumed was reduced from 2 – 3 days to 10 – 12 hours to develop range plans.
3. Eliminating human errors.
4. Eliminating redundancy of work and automating it.
5. Centralising data on cloud.
6. Easier reading of data due to visual representation.
7. Tracking and forecasting.
8. Generating various reports.
9. Taking corrective actions quickly.
10. Tracking can now be done daily instead of on a weekly basis.
11. Knowing overall availability of core styles across all stores.