Innovation Project: Time Tracking Software

PROJECT

Time Tracker

COMPANY

A Large Insurance Products Technology Provider

REQUEST

The company asked our help to resolve an issue they were having with tracking how many hours were spent on a particular project and who was working on that project across 100+ software developers.

CONCERN

The company was concerned they were losing revenue on how resources were being tracked, allocated and focused. This was largely a budgeting and vendor management issue. They were also concerned with the possibility that resources and/or developers for some projects were not budgeted and allocated appropriately for those projects.
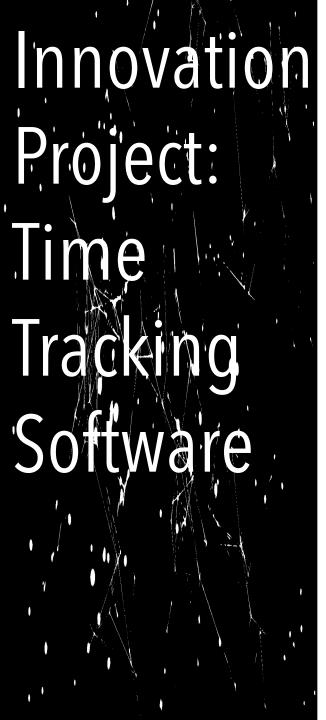
CHALLENGES

The first challenge was that the company outsources their development workload to over 100+ developers across multiple countries. Another challenging point was that the CEO of the company was not convinced that a tracking software alone would get the results they wanted. The CTO of the company was positive that a tracking software was absolutely needed but did not want to use a third-party system as they cost absolutely too much for large development teams. ***So we took the idea and made it real.***

METRICS

After only a few short months the software has:

> Logged 10,000+ hours of work.

> Generated 100+ reports.

> Tracks 75+ projects.

> Correlates projects to 30+ clients.

BENEFITS AND RESULTS

Saved nearly $11,000. In simple terms, the solution we have provided is a user-role defined and automated solution containing budgeting and tracking tools which has stopped or slowed the amount of sunk costs and excess spending and has in the end, saved the company revenue. One of the biggest benefits is that the reports generation tool gives the CEO a clear, concise and quick big picture of what's being worked on and where the company is focusing their attention. This was previously achieved via Excel sheets. Project managers now are able to quickly create a new project for a client and track resources on that project without needing to go through the Excel sheet of every project the company is working on.

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TECHNOLOGY USED

Our development team used ReactJs as the front end of the application, which made it easy to write components that were shared across the entire project, therefore reducing development time. On the backend we used a Laravel framework with a GraphQL interface to the MySQL database. Using Laravel was a great choice for tracking changes in the database migration because it allowed for easy rollback and integration to the database. Because we were using ReactJs, we needed a way to easily authenticate users, and for this we rolled in a JWT solution with the Laravel framework and the React front end.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Our development team finished the project on time and with 30% under budget. The CEO so far has been very pleased with the outcome of the project and is looking to continue into the second development phase by having the software contain a more refined user role system which will restrict access to personnel on a "need to know" basis for specific projects, and it will also allow appropriate allocation and distribution of resources to particular projects in a timely manner.