



Retalix Puts a Fresh Face on Web Interfaces with Clerity Web Connect

Streamlined Web enablement solution optimizes browser-based access and green screen technology

Retalix is an independent provider of software solutions to retailers and distributors worldwide. It is focused on providing a full portfolio of software applications that automate retail, distribution, and supply chain operations for grocery chains, convenience and fuel retailers, food and consumer goods distributors and independent grocers. Retalix's retail solutions are designed to be modular, scalable to large transaction volumes, capable of handling rapid scanning with extreme reliability, and integrating multiple store formats and hardware systems.

Meeting evolving industry demands

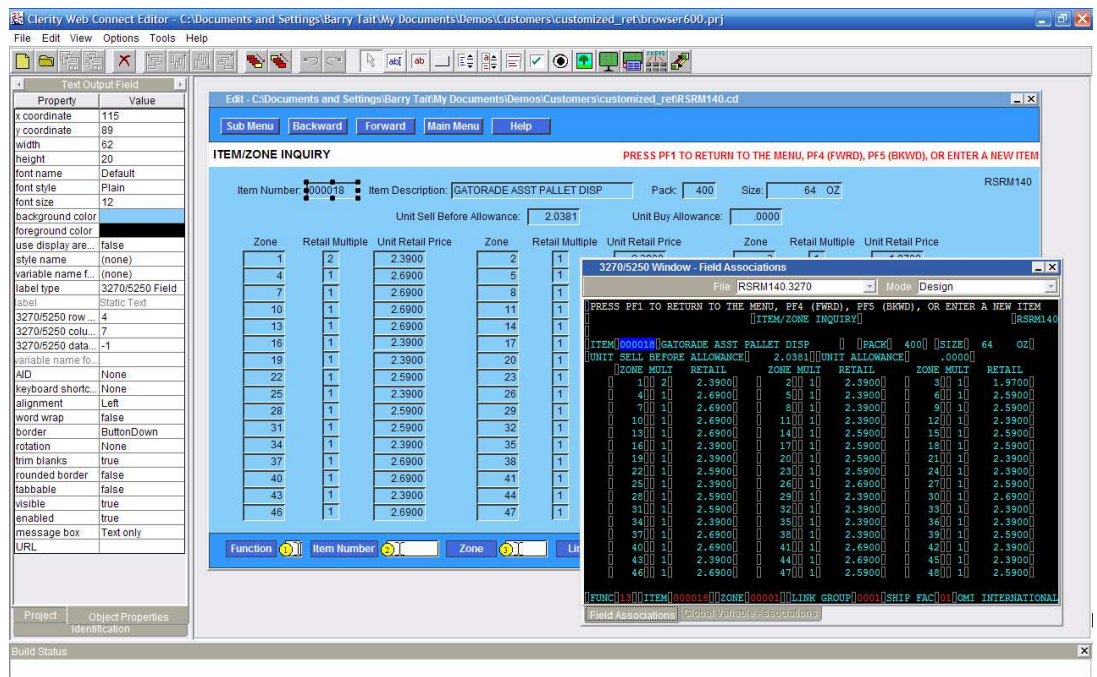
Retalix had been delivering Web-based clients with its comprehensive BICEPS purchasing management software system for years. Retalix BICEPS enables buyers to obtain the maximum return on investment through efficient and productive buying of food, perishables, HABA and general merchandise products. Everything that an organization could do through a 3270 "green screen" in BICEPS could be performed through the Web already, however providing customized screens for individual clients and ensuring a consistent look and feel across different Web browser technologies and platform releases was proving to be a time consuming task with the company's current solution.

As part of Retalix's efforts to continually enhance its offerings and meet the specialized needs of its customer base, the company wanted to move its BICEPS Web-based technology to a system that would enable flexible screen customization options while providing a consistent look and feel to end-users regardless of the specific browser and the application release version being deployed.

After reviewing the market for alternatives, Retalix viewed a demonstration of Clerity Web Connect software and downloaded a free evaluation version of the technology. The company's Web Development team was initially impressed with Clerity Web Connect software's ability to quickly capture and perform basic customizations on its 3270 screens. After further examination, the range of deployment options available with Clerity Web Connect also pleased the team. With Clerity Web Connect, Retalix could continue deploying its Web-based interfaces in conjunction with an Apache HTTP (Web) Server, look to eliminate this middle-tier down the road, or even deploy a zero-client solution upon market request.

Highlights:

- Delivers consistent Web look and feel, regardless of client browser technology and Java platform version
- Generates clean HTML code and enables easy customer-specific customization through the use of global style sheets
- Simplifies screen capture process and provides robust repository for keeping projects organized
- Provides flexible deployment options, including zero-client model



Retailix screen shot example illustrating how the Clerity Web Connect Visual Editor can be used to customize and enhance 3270-based green screen interfaces. Listed in the left side of the image is a list of the many properties that can be set in the configuration file and applied to screen interfaces.

From evaluation to implementation in just one week

After a successful evaluation of Clerity Web Connect, Retailix elected to move ahead with the technology for its production needs. Following a one week learning curve, Retailix had installed and configured Clerity Web Connect and its developers were well underway capturing screens and customizing the end user environment.

“Clerity Web Connect has been well received by our developers.” said Rik Schrader, Senior Vice President, Global Supply Chain Sales & Marketing at Retailix. “Its streamlined implementation requirements and quick ability to deliver results enables us to enhance our customer relationships and further our commitment to delivering a leading edge, quality solution.”

The Clerity Web Connect advantage

The Retailix BICEPS application utilizes nearly 600 screens and 5 IBM® CICS® transaction processing regions that had been rehosted to UNIX® using UniKix™ mainframe rehosting several years ago, so it was important that Clerity Web Connect provide a simple way to log into each region, capture screens, and keep projects organized. Retailix found that Clerity Web Connect integrated seamlessly with Apache and provided intuitive instructions on how to pull down projects and push them back up in a well-structured manner.

The Retailix team was also pleased by the ability of Clerity Web Connect to generate clean HTML code. No HTML programming or Java skills were required to perform

basic Web enablement and the organization is now in a better position to provide individually customized screens for specific customers (screen color, logo etc.) using global style sheets, and new functionality for individual customers without concern for the particular browser and Java technology being used in deployment.

“We are now able to deliver out of the box solutions for our customers who do not have customized screen requirements and we can easily meet the specialized needs of organizations that do through configuration file settings,” adds Schrader.

About Clerity

Clerity is a leading full-service provider of legacy migration, modernization, and optimization solutions. Drawing from over 16 years of experience, Clerity recognizes that companies have significant investments in core applications and procedures and provides a wealth of low risk, high value tools, technology, and services to reduce IT costs without sacrificing current functionality and service level agreements. Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois with offices worldwide, Clerity has customers in all in major countries, including some of the largest financial services ISVs and Fortune-class end users.

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9930 Derby Lane, Suite 202 • Westchester, IL 60154
Phone 1-888-2-REHOST (or 1-630-981-6100)

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