

ABSTRACT

In today's Retail Corporate environment, there are many companies with many outlets or branches spread across various countries. Even for companies in a particular country they may have many branches in various locations across the country. In most instances there is a head office which controls pricing and accumulation of data. Currently most retail businesses use transfer of information via voice over telephone or fax where data entry or modifications have to be done at each location causing repetition.

Hence there is a need to have real time data flow between the head office and the outlets or branches, allowing the head office to have full control of pricing and products and access to sales information. The objective of this project is to research, develop and implement such a system as described below using the Internet.

The objectives of this project are:

- Allow real time updates of prices and other attributes of products sold from head office without delays to prevent discrepancies between different locations.
- To allow automatic printing of shelf labels so that when prices are changed by head office there is no delay at the various locations to search for items and print labels. This would allow prices on the shelves to be coherent with the actual price of the item.
- To allow automatic monitoring of items in stock at each location to allow easy re-ordering from vendors and prevent items from being out of stock at remote locations.
- To allow sales, tender and tax information from all locations to be uploaded automatically to the head office and be automatically entered into the accounts application allowing no errors in data entry and speed of processing banking tasks.