

Overview:

The client used to breed live animals for recreation. It had led to his launching a company that specialized in shipping live animals securely, and on time. It had meant a world of convenience for animal breeders, large and small, across the USA who could ship live animals at affordable costs. The client sensed this as an opportunity. Stepping aside from animal breeding, he set his focus on improving the quality of the service and becoming a credible and established source of information related to the live-animal shipping. The need of the hour was to get an online solution built in order to bring about more finesse in the shipping process, making it more secure and timely. After analyzing the need, the team@Mindfire offered to develop a dynamic solution using Ruby on Rails.

Client details:

Name: Confidential | Type: Transportation & Logistics | Location: USA

Technologies:

Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, Apache, Redis, Bootstrap

Project Description:

It was critical to have an intuitive, user-friendly UI/UX which would ease the process of booking for the shipments. This is a critical activity and has a direct bearing on the security and on-time transportation of live animals in healthy conditions. This is facilitated by following a sequence of activities that result in generating the right shipping label. The intent is to elicit the exact information required from the customers, and helping them at every stage with all the necessary aids. Some of the salient features are as follows:

• There are "pro tips" and "general information" about shipping made available near every input field to ensure that even a first time customer can book a label. These pro

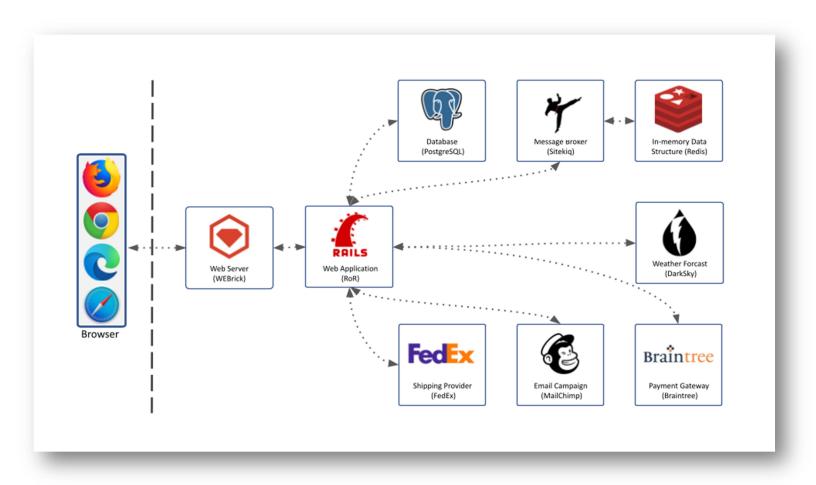


tips are dynamic and can be changed through a content management system, which make it easy to keep them updated

- The weather at the source and destination can play a crucial role in the health of coldblooded live animals. This information is required to decide on the need of have heat or cold packs. DarkSky weather API is integrated to get 7-day weather information of desired locations to ensure the right measures are undertaken.
- Shipping items the right way requires a certain amount of skill and knowledge. But, shipping live animals requires an additional quality of finesse. Therefore, there is an exhaustive list of FAQs included covered almost every possible topic related to shipping live animals. There is also a neat search engine to search keywords in order to get access to specific information on the subject.
- Some companies use this app to ship large number of live animals. Therefore, the
 volume of labels required in quite large for them. This, in turn, makes the process of
 payment a little cumbersome. In order to overcome this, there is a feature of weekly
 billing. Using it, customers can book labels in bulk without paying. And the cumulative
 due amount is charged once a week by the administrator.
- Because FedEx provides invoices for thousands of labels at once, it is almost next to impossible to perform a data entry for all of those manually. To handle this, the invoices are parsed to extract the required data and the same is then saved in the database. All discrepancies related to the dimensions of packaging, expected vs real, are reconciled and those that require additional charges to be levied are identified and mapped to the respective customers



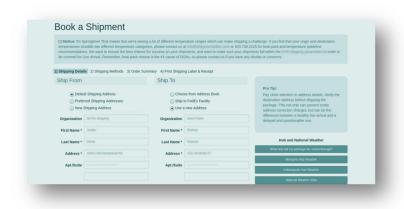
Architecture:







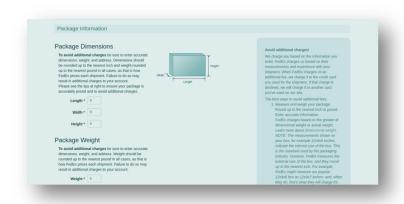
Screenshots



Screenshot 1: Shipment Booking

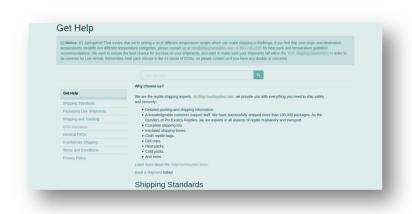


Screenshot 2: Filing up of Addresses





Screenshot 3: Package Dimensions



Screenshot 4: Shipping Standards Information



Screenshot 5: Billing related Questions

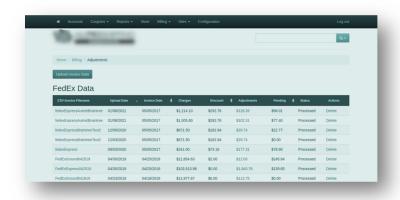




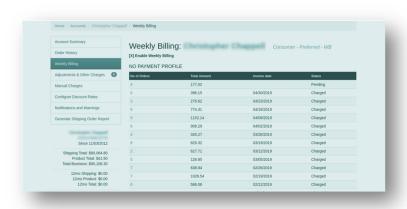
Screenshot 6: Insurance



Screenshot 7: FAQs



Screenshot 8: FedEx Invoices





Screenshot 9: Weekly Billing