MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Project Plan Presentation Product Lifestyle Tracing System

The Capstone Experience

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Project Sponsor Overview

- Previously Herman Miller
- Made-to-Order Customisable Home Furnishing and Goods
- Headquartered in Zeeland, MI





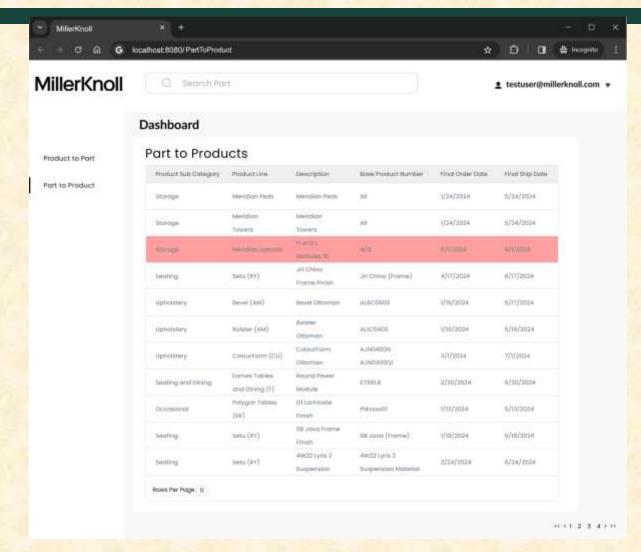
Project Functional Specifications

- Search by products or by components and find the relationships between them
- Check what components can be discontinued if a certain product is discontinued
- Allow insight into how utilized certain component are to make improvements to lead times

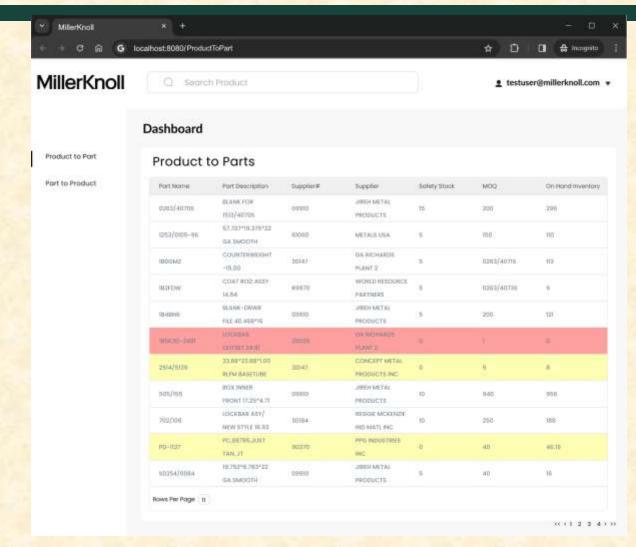
Project Design Specifications

- The system features a Parts to Product Dashboard where users can select a product to trigger a detailed pop-up window
- Display includes a product reference card and data model presenting additional product information
- The system identifies components affected by product discontinuation through a dynamic pop-up table
- The system provides a detailed view of product-part connections, highlighting discontinued and lowsupply components

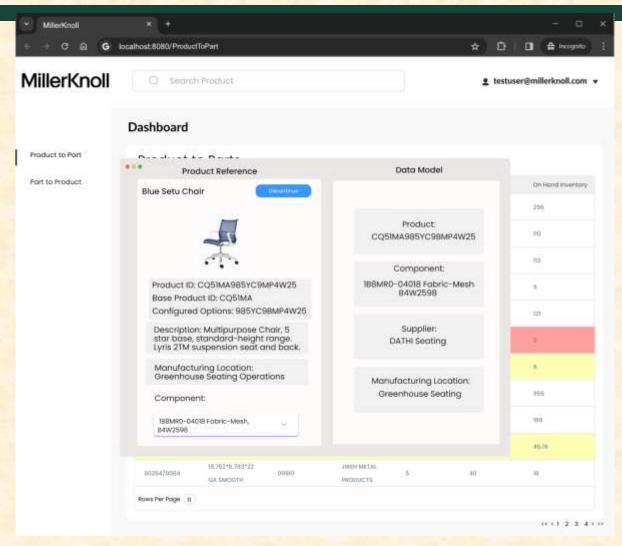
Part to Products



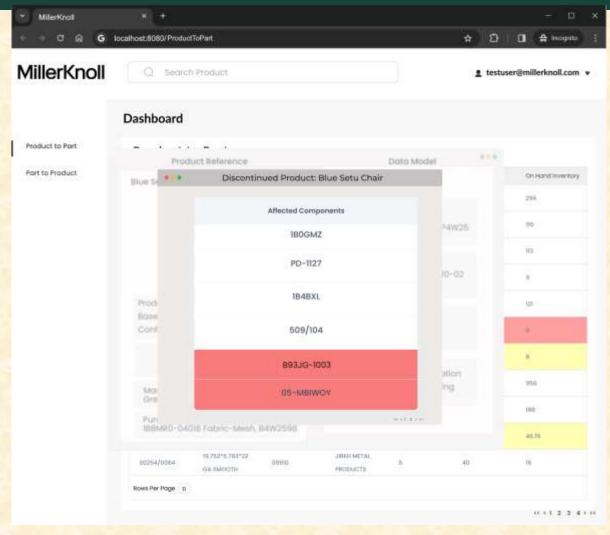
Product to Parts



Product Reference & Data Model



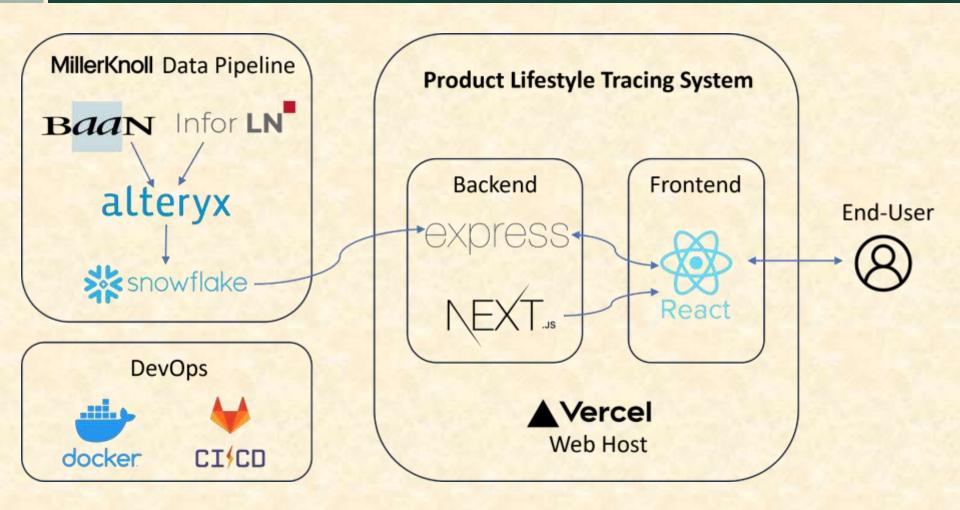
Discontinued Product



Project Technical Specifications

- The Product Life Cycle Tracing System will use several different technologies to deliver a featurerich, seamless experience to the end-user.
- Data moves through a series of pre-processing steps before it is deemed ready for use by the application.
- A backend API will be accessed by the client application to consume data
- Version control and containerization of the backend will streamline development workflows

Project System Architecture





The Capstone Experience

Project System Components

[1 of 2]

Data Pre-Processing Pipeline

- Baan Database management system used for tracking supply chain + manufacturing data
- Infor LN Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
 database used to store customer contract data
- Alteryx Data analysis/processing tool used to refine and aggregate the information from Baan and LN
- Snowflake Database management system used for storing the processed information in a structured schema



Project System Components

[2 of 2]

Development Tools

- Next.js Framework enabling server-side rendering on top of React to maximize browser performance
- Express.js Framework that allows for rapid testing and deployment of a backend API to serve data

Dev-Ops

- Docker Used to containerize backend application and help facilitate cross-platform development
- GitLab Version Control system used as a code repository and CI/CD pipeline



Project Risks

Complexity of Data

- Complex and unlabeled data in databases ranging from legacy to modern systems
- Limit data to Herman Miller contract sales in North America + Consult data scientist

Missing Data in Existing Data Sources

- Queried data in the database has missing information
- Access raw data and parse it ourselves

Scalability regarding millions of products

- Mapping parts to products that utilize them can generate tons of results
- Start with smaller dataset + Implement a cache layer that periodically cleans the data into a format that can be queried faster

Visualizing Data

- Users should easily be able to interpret large quantity of relevant information
- Researching trending dashboard designs, then revising design with the sponsor



Questions?

