

Scientiarum: A Multidisciplinary Journal
Vol. 2 No. S1 (2026): Supplement Issue
DOI: 10.54646/SAPARS.2026.51

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Scholarly Articles Publication And Repository Services

AI-DRIVEN CLOUD-BASED INVENTORY TRACKING AND PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS PLATFORM

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Abstract

The increasing complexity of modern supply chains and business operations requires organizations to maintain accurate inventory information, monitor stock movement, predict future demand, and make timely inventory decisions. Conventional inventory management systems primarily focus on basic stock recording and transaction processing, making it difficult to achieve real-time visibility, intelligent forecasting, and proactive inventory optimization. To address these limitations, this paper presents an Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform, an integrated and scalable system designed to provide real-time inventory monitoring, predictive analytics, and intelligent decision support. The proposed platform integrates inventory registration, stock movement tracking, automated low-stock detection, demand forecasting, inventory analytics, anomaly identification, and intelligent stock optimization within a centralized cloud-based environment.

The system utilizes Python-based backend processing, MySQL for structured data management, cloud technologies for scalable data access and storage, and Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques for predictive analysis and intelligent decision-making. Historical inventory and transaction data are analyzed to identify consumption patterns, forecast future demand, detect abnormal stock movements, and generate recommendations for maintaining appropriate inventory levels. Analytical dashboards provide real-time insights into stock availability, inventory trends, product performance, and replenishment requirements.

The platform also provides an administrative environment for managing products, suppliers, inventory transactions, stock levels, users, alerts, analytics, and system configurations. Experimental evaluation demonstrates that the proposed platform can effectively integrate inventory tracking and intelligent analytics while improving data accessibility, monitoring accuracy, and decision-making efficiency. The proposed framework provides a scalable and data-driven approach to modern inventory management by enabling organizations to transition from traditional reactive stock management toward predictive, intelligent, and proactive inventory optimization.
Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Cloud Computing, Inventory Intelligence, Real-Time Inventory Tracking, Predictive Analytics, Demand Forecasting, Stock Optimization, Anomaly Detection, Decision Support.

Introduction

The rapid growth of digital commerce, manufacturing, retail, and supply chain operations has increased the importance of accurate inventory management, real-time stock visibility, demand prediction, and efficient resource utilization. Organizations need to continuously monitor product availability, stock movements, consumption patterns, and replenishment requirements to avoid overstocking, stock shortages, and operational delay. However, conventional inventory management systems generally focus on recording stock transactions and maintaining basic inventory information, while relying on manual monitoring and predefined rules for identifying inventory issues. Such approaches make it difficult to obtain real-time insights, predict future inventory requirements, and support proactive decision-making. Recent developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Cloud Computing, and data analytics provide significant opportunities to improve inventory management and operational efficiency.

AI and ML techniques can analyze historical transaction data, identify consumption patterns, forecast product demand, detect unusual inventory activities, and generate intelligent recommendations. Cloud computing further enables centralized data management, scalable storage, remote accessibility, and real-time synchronization of inventory information. However, an effective inventory intelligence platform requires these technologies to be integrated with inventory tracking, analytics, alert management, forecasting, and decision-support capabilities within a unified system. To address these challenges, this research proposes an Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform, an intelligent and scalable system designed to support organizations in monitoring and

optimizing inventory operations. The proposed platform integrates product and supplier management, real-time inventory tracking, stock movement monitoring, automated low-stock detection, demand forecasting, inventory analytics, anomaly identification, and intelligent stock optimization. The system utilizes a Python-based backend for application processing, MySQL for structured data management, cloud technologies for scalable data access and storage, and AI/ML techniques for predictive analytics and intelligent decision-making. Historical and real-time inventory data are analyzed to generate meaningful insights regarding stock levels, product demand, inventory trends, and replenishment requirements. The system also provides an administrative environment for managing products, suppliers, users, inventory transactions, stock levels, alerts, forecasting parameters, reports, and analytical configurations. This enables administrators to maintain centralized inventory information and monitor operational activities efficiently.

By integrating cloud computing, intelligent analytics, real-time tracking, predictive forecasting, and decision-support mechanisms, the proposed platform aims to provide a centralized and data-driven approach to modern inventory management. The system helps organizations identify inventory risks at an early stage, understand demand patterns, optimize stock levels, reduce unnecessary inventory costs, and make more informed operational decisions. The proposed framework therefore moves inventory management from a traditional reactive approach toward a predictive, intelligent, and scalable cloud-based inventory management environment.

Literature Review

Cloud-based inventory management is increasingly being adopted to improve the accessibility, scalability, and efficiency of inventory operations. Recent research has demonstrated that cloud computing can support centralized inventory data management, real-time information sharing, and integration across different operational environments. Cloud-enabled inventory systems can reduce dependency on local infrastructure and provide organizations with flexible access to inventory information. However, challenges related to data security, network dependency, scalability, and integration with existing systems remain important considerations when designing cloud-based inventory platforms.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) have also been increasingly applied to inventory management for demand forecasting, stock optimization, and predictive decision-making. Research in intelligent inventory systems indicates that machine learning models can analyze historical sales and transaction data to identify demand patterns and

predict future inventory requirements. Predictive analytics can help organizations reduce stockouts and excess inventory by supporting more accurate replenishment decisions. AI-based anomaly detection can additionally assist in identifying unusual stock movements, potential data inconsistencies, and unexpected changes in inventory behavior.

However, the effectiveness of these approaches depends on data quality, model accuracy, appropriate feature selection, and continuous system monitoring. Real-time inventory tracking and analytics have further become important areas of research as organizations require timely information about product availability and stock movement. IoT-enabled and cloud-integrated inventory solutions can provide continuous monitoring and improve visibility across inventory operations. Analytical dashboards can transform inventory data into meaningful information related to stock levels, product performance, consumption trends, and replenishment requirements. Despite these developments, many existing inventory systems primarily focus on transaction processing or individual analytical functions rather than providing an integrated intelligent environment for tracking, forecasting, anomaly detection, and optimization.

Although existing studies demonstrate the usefulness of cloud computing, AI, machine learning, predictive analytics, and real-time tracking in inventory management, these capabilities are often implemented as separate solutions or within narrowly focused systems. The proposed Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform addresses this gap by integrating real-time inventory monitoring, stock movement tracking, demand forecasting, low-stock detection, anomaly identification, inventory analytics, and intelligent stock optimization within a unified platform. The system combines cloud-based data management with AI/ML-based analytics to transform historical and real-time inventory data into predictive insights and decision-support recommendations. This integrated approach aims to provide organizations with improved inventory visibility, proactive stock management, reduced inventory-related risks, and more efficient data-driven decision-making.

Problem Statement

The increasing complexity of modern business operations and supply chain processes requires organizations to maintain accurate inventory records, monitor stock movements, predict product demand, and optimize stock levels efficiently. However, existing inventory management methods are often dependent on manual tracking, basic database systems, and isolated analytical tools, with inventory monitoring, demand forecasting, anomaly detection, and reporting handled separately. This makes it difficult for organizations to obtain real-time

inventory visibility, identify potential stock-related issues, and make timely and data-driven decisions. Therefore, there is a need for an integrated and intelligent inventory management platform that can continuously track inventory, analyze historical and real-time data, predict future demand, identify abnormal stock activities, and provide intelligent recommendations for stock optimization.

The proposed Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform addresses this need by integrating real-time inventory tracking, stock movement monitoring, predictive analytics, demand forecasting, low-stock detection, anomaly identification, and inventory optimization into a unified cloud-based environment. The system also provides administrators with centralized tools for managing products, suppliers, users, inventory transactions, alerts, analytical reports, and system configurations.

System Architecture

The proposed Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform consists of multiple integrated modules that work together to provide a complete and intelligent environment for modern inventory management. The User Module allows authorized users to securely log in, manage their profiles, access inventory information, and monitor stock-related activities. The Product and Inventory Module enables users to add, update, and manage product details, categories, suppliers, stock quantities, pricing information, and inventory levels. The Stock Tracking Module continuously records stock additions, sales, transfers, returns, and adjustments to maintain accurate inventory records and provide real-time visibility of stock movement. The Supplier Management Module maintains supplier information, purchase records, product associations, and supplier-related inventory activities. The Inventory Analytics Module analyzes historical and real-time inventory data to generate meaningful insights about stock levels, product performance, consumption patterns, inventory turnover, and operational trends. The Demand Forecasting Module uses Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to analyze historical demand and predict future product requirements, helping organizations plan inventory replenishment more effectively. The Smart Alert Module identifies low-stock, overstock, and critical inventory conditions and generates automated notifications to support timely action. The Anomaly Detection Module analyzes inventory transactions and identifies unusual stock movements, unexpected changes, and potential inventory inconsistencies.

The Inventory Optimization Module combines inventory levels, demand forecasts, product consumption patterns, and replenishment information to provide intelligent recommendations

for stock optimization. The Cloud Management Module provides centralized and scalable storage, remote accessibility, real-time synchronization, and reliable management of inventory information through cloud-based infrastructure. The Admin Module enables administrators to manage users, products, suppliers, inventory transactions, alerts, forecasting configurations, reports, and system settings. The Reports and Analytics Module provides graphical dashboards, inventory summaries, stock movement reports, demand forecasts, product performance reports, and analytical insights for supporting data-driven decisions. Finally, the Database Module, implemented using MySQL, securely stores user information, product details, supplier records, inventory transactions, stock levels, demand history, alerts, forecasts, reports, and activity logs.

The AI and Analytics Module processes historical and real-time inventory data to generate predictions, identify patterns, detect anomalies, and support intelligent decision-making. This integrated architecture combines web technologies, cloud computing, database management, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, predictive analytics, and real-time inventory tracking to provide a centralized, scalable, intelligent, and systematic approach to modern inventory management and stock optimization (Figure 1).

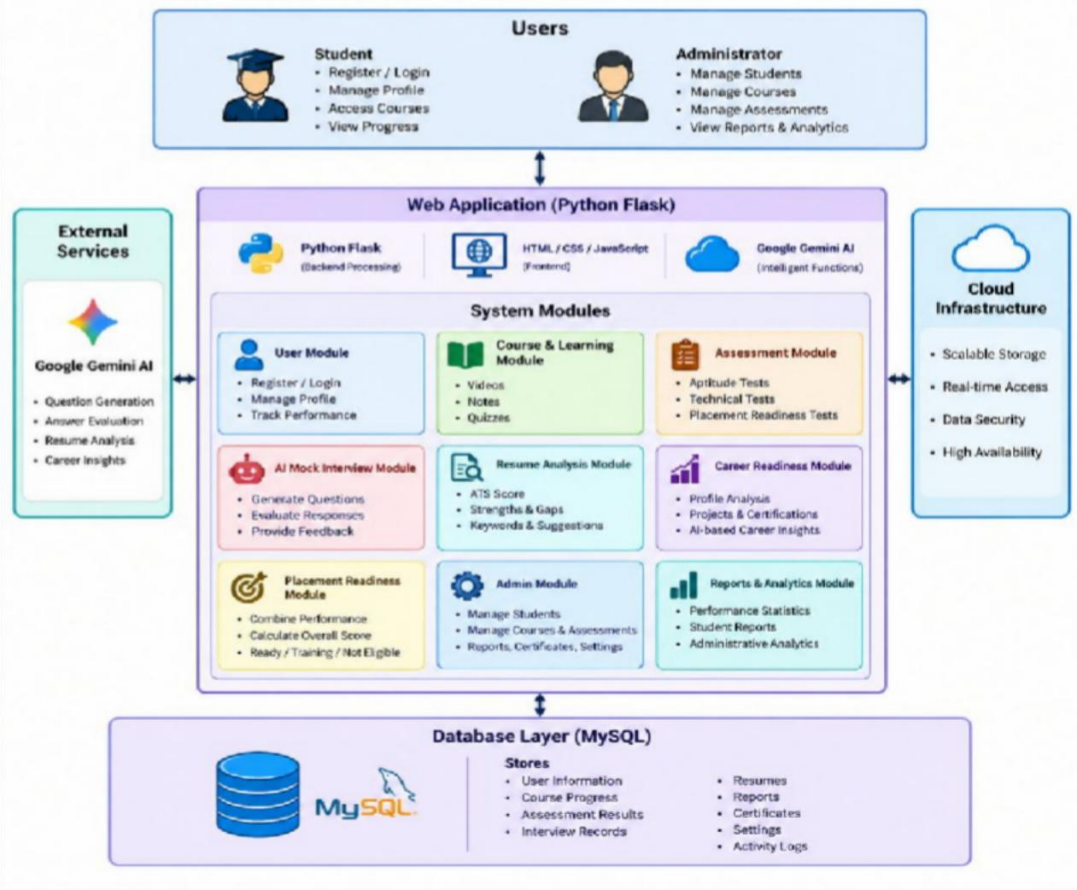

Figure 1: Module

Modules

The proposed Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform is divided into several interconnected modules to provide a centralized, intelligent, and data-driven inventory management environment. Each module performs a specific function while sharing data with other modules to continuously monitor inventory, analyze stock patterns, predict demand, and support efficient inventory decision-making.

User Module

- User registration and login.
- Profile and account management.
- Access to inventory, tracking, analytics, alerts, and reports.

Product and Inventory Module

- Add, update, and manage product information.
- Manage product categories, prices, quantities, and stock levels.
- Monitor available, reserved, and critical stock.

Stock Tracking Module

- Records stock purchases, sales, transfers, returns, and adjustments.
- Tracks real-time inventory movement.
- Maintains accurate stock transaction history.

Supplier Management Module

- Manages supplier information and product associations.
- Records purchase orders and supplier transactions.
- Tracks supplier-related inventory activities.

Inventory Analytics Module

- Analyzes historical and real-time inventory data.
- Generates stock trends, product performance, and inventory statistics.
- Provides graphical dashboards and analytical insights.

Demand Forecasting Module

- Analyzes historical consumption and sales patterns.
- Predicts future product demand using AI and Machine Learning.
- Supports inventory planning and replenishment decisions.

Smart Alert and Anomaly Detection Module

- Generates alerts for low-stock, overstock, and critical inventory conditions.
- Identifies unusual and abnormal stock movements.
- Provides notifications for potential inventory risks.

Inventory Optimization Module

- Calculates suitable inventory and replenishment requirements.
- Combines stock levels, demand forecasts, and consumption patterns.
- Provides intelligent recommendations for stock optimization.

Admin Module

- Manages users, products, suppliers, and inventory transactions.
- Manages alerts, forecasting configurations, and system settings.
- Manages reports, analytics, and platform administration.

Reports and Analytics Module

- Displays inventory performance and stock statistics.
- Generates inventory, transaction, supplier, and forecasting reports.

Provides product-wise, stock-wise, and performance-based analytics.

Methodology

The methodology of the Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform follows a structured approach to provide efficient, intelligent, and data-driven inventory management. Initially, inventory information such as product details, categories, supplier information, stock quantities, purchase records, sales transactions, stock movements, and historical demand data is collected through the system. The collected data is securely stored in the MySQL database and integrated with cloud-based infrastructure to provide centralized and scalable access to inventory information.

The system continuously records stock additions, sales, transfers, returns, and adjustments to maintain accurate and up-to-date inventory records. The analytics and AI modules then process historical and real-time inventory data to identify stock patterns, product performance, consumption trends, and potential inventory risks. The demand forecasting module applies Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to analyze historical demand and predict future inventory requirements. The smart alert and anomaly detection modules identify low-stock, overstock, critical stock conditions, and unusual inventory movements, enabling users to take timely corrective actions.

The inventory optimization engine combines current stock levels, predicted demand, consumption patterns, and replenishment requirements to generate intelligent

recommendations for maintaining suitable inventory levels. Finally, the system generates interactive dashboards, inventory reports, demand forecasts, stock alerts, and analytical insights for users and administrators. The cloud-based architecture enables centralized data access, scalability, real-time synchronization, and efficient management of inventory information. This methodology provides an integrated and intelligent approach to inventory tracking, predictive analysis, stock optimization, and data-driven decision-making, helping organizations improve inventory visibility, reduce stock-related risks, and manage resources more efficiently (Figure 2).

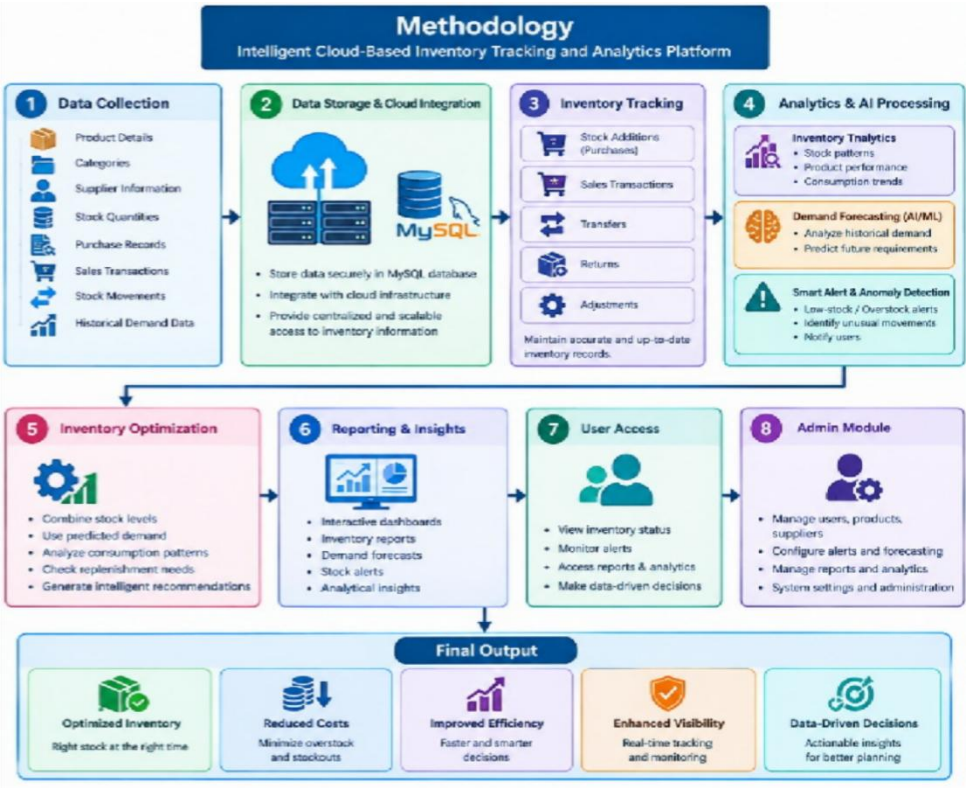

Figure 2: Methodology

Step 1: Data Collection

Product details, product categories, suppliers, customers, and stock information are collected. Purchase details, sales information, stock quantities, prices, and transaction records are recorded.

Step 2: Inventory Management

Products are added, updated, deleted, and categorized according to inventory requirements. Stock levels are automatically updated based on purchase and sales transactions.

Step 3: Cloud-Based Processing

Inventory data is stored securely in a cloud-based database for centralized access.

Authorized users can access and manage inventory information from different locations through the web application.

Step 4: Stock Monitoring and Calculation

Current stock levels are monitored continuously to identify available and low-stock products.

Stock quantities, purchase costs, sales values, and inventory status are calculated automatically.

Low-stock alerts are generated when the quantity reaches the defined minimum level.

Step 5: Reports and Analysis

Inventory, purchase, sales, and stock reports are generated based on stored transaction data.

Administrators can monitor stock movement and inventory performance through reports and dashboards.

The generated information helps in making better inventory and purchasing decisions.

Step 6: Deployment and Maintenance

The web application is deployed on a cloud environment and connected to the cloud database.

Product information, stock details, user accounts, reports, and inventory settings can be updated whenever required.

Results and Analysis

The developed Cloud-Based Inventory Management System was tested to evaluate its functionality, reliability, performance, and effectiveness in managing inventory operations. The results showed that the system successfully integrates product management, stock management, supplier management, purchase and sales tracking, cloud-based data storage, and report generation into a single platform.

- Users can register, log in, and securely access the inventory management system.
- Products can be added, updated, deleted, categorized, and managed successfully.
- Product details such as product name, category, price, quantity, and supplier information are stored successfully.
- Purchase transactions are recorded and the corresponding stock quantities are updated automatically.
- Sales transactions are processed successfully and the available stock is reduced accordingly.
- The system successfully monitors current stock levels and identifies low-stock products.

- Low-stock alerts are generated when products reach the configured minimum stock level.
- Supplier and customer information can be added, updated, and managed efficiently.
- Inventory data is stored securely in the cloud-based database and can be accessed from different locations.
- Administrators can monitor product availability, stock movement, purchases, sales, and inventory status through the dashboard.
- Inventory, purchase, sales, and stock reports can be generated based on the stored transaction data.
- The system successfully stores and retrieves inventory and transaction information using the database.
- Testing confirmed that the major modules communicate correctly and operate without critical functional errors.

Advantages

- Provides a centralized platform for managing complete inventory operations.
- Enables efficient management of products, categories, suppliers, customers, purchases, and sales.
- Stores inventory data securely in a cloud-based database for easy access.
- Reduces manual work and errors in stock management and transaction recording.
- Automatically updates stock quantities based on purchase and sales transactions.
- Provides low-stock alerts to help prevent product shortages.
- Enables users to access inventory information from different locations through the cloud.
- Generates inventory, purchase, sales, and stock reports automatically.
- Helps administrators monitor stock movement and inventory performance efficiently.
- Improves transparency, accuracy, and data-driven decision-making in inventory management.

Disadvantages

- The system depends on an internet connection for accessing cloud-based inventory data.
- Cloud service interruptions may temporarily affect system availability.

- The security of inventory data depends on proper cloud security and user access controls.
- The system may require additional cloud storage and computing resources as the amount of inventory data increases.
- Users may require basic technical knowledge to operate and manage the system effectively.
- Continuous maintenance is required for updating products, suppliers, customers, and inventory settings.
- Large-scale deployment may require additional server, database, and cloud resources.
- Data backup and recovery mechanisms need to be maintained to prevent loss of important inventory information.

Applications

- **Retail Stores:** Manage products, stock levels, purchases, and sales efficiently.
- **Wholesale Businesses:** Monitor large quantities of products and manage stock movement.
- **Supermarkets and Shopping Centers:** Track product availability, sales transactions, and low-stock items.
- **Warehouses:** Maintain centralized records of products, stock quantities, suppliers, and inventory movement.
- **Small and Medium Businesses:** Reduce manual inventory work and improve stock management.
- **E-Commerce Businesses:** Manage product inventory and monitor stock availability for online sales.
- **Manufacturing Businesses:** Track raw materials, finished products, and inventory requirements.
- **Distribution Centers:** Monitor stock movement between suppliers, warehouses, and customers.
- **Business Management Systems:** Generate inventory reports and provide data for effective inventory planning and decision-making.

Outcomes

- The Intelligent Cloud-Based Inventory Tracking and Analytics Platform is expected to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Efficient Inventory Management:** Provides a centralized platform to manage products, stock levels, purchases, and sales.
- **Real-Time Stock Tracking:** Enables users to monitor available inventory and identify stock changes quickly.
- **Low-Stock Monitoring:** Helps identify products that reach their minimum stock level and supports timely restocking.
- **Improved Data Accuracy:** Reduces errors associated with manual inventory records and maintains organized database information.
- **Inventory Analytics:** Provides useful reports and analytical information about stock movement, sales, purchases, and inventory status.
- **Cloud-Based Accessibility:** Allows authorized users to access inventory information through a web-based platform from different locations.
- **Better Decision-Making:** Supports data-driven inventory planning and helps users make informed decisions regarding stock management.
- **Reduced Manual Work:** Automates common inventory management activities, saving time and improving operational efficiency.
- **User-Friendly System:** Provides a simple and accessible interface for managing and monitoring inventory activities.
- **Scalable Platform:** Provides a foundation that can be extended with additional analytics, automation, and intelligent inventory management features in the future.

Future Scope

The Cloud-Based Inventory Management System can be further enhanced with advanced technologies and additional features to improve its efficiency, security, scalability, and usefulness for different types of businesses.

- **AI-Based Demand Forecasting:** Integrate Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to predict future product demand based on historical sales and inventory data.
- **Automated Stock Reordering:** Implement automatic purchase-order generation when stock reaches the minimum or reorder level.
- **Barcode and QR Code Integration:** Add barcode and QR code scanning to make product identification, stock updates, and sales processing faster and more accurate.
- **Mobile Application:** Develop Android and iOS applications to allow users to monitor and manage inventory through mobile devices.

- **Advanced Inventory Analytics:** Introduce detailed dashboards for analyzing sales trends, stock movement, product performance, and inventory turnover.
- **Supplier Management:** Enhance supplier management with supplier performance tracking, purchase history, pricing comparison, and automated notifications.
- **Multi-Branch Inventory Management:** Support multiple stores, warehouses, and business branches through a single centralized cloud-based system.
- **Cloud Scalability:** Improve cloud infrastructure to support a larger number of users, products, transactions, and business organizations.
- **Real-Time Notifications:** Provide instant notifications for low stock, out-of-stock products, new purchases, sales transactions, and important inventory updates.
- **Enhanced Security:** Implement advanced authentication, role-based access control, encryption, regular backups, and improved data protection mechanisms.

Conclusion

The Cloud-Based Inventory Management System provides an integrated platform for efficiently managing and monitoring inventory operations. The system combines product management, stock management, supplier management, purchase and sales tracking, inventory monitoring, and report generation within a single application. The integration of web technologies, cloud-based storage, and a database enables the system to automate several inventory management activities. Users can easily manage products, monitor stock levels, record purchases and sales, identify low-stock items, and access inventory information from different locations. The system reduces manual work, improves data accuracy, and provides timely information for effective inventory management.

The system also provides administrators with centralized tools for managing products, suppliers, customers, transactions, stock levels, and reports. The testing results demonstrated that the major system modules function correctly and communicate effectively. Overall, the Cloud-Based Inventory Management System provides a practical, reliable, and scalable solution for modern inventory management and can serve as a foundation for future enhancements such as AI-based demand forecasting, automated stock reordering, barcode integration, and advanced inventory analytics.

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