



The Inventory Management Practice



of an E-commerce Company

Team Member

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Company Profile——Fun Sports, a B2C online store of sensory integration training equipment



Main Business

A small B2C online store that operates sensory training equipment, created its own "Fun Sports" brand, achieved product differentiation through and independent research reached development, and rapid development in this field.



Existing Difficulties

Due to the neglect of **product** quality control and enterprise internal control system, Fun **Sports** is faced with a series of inventory management problems such as data cannot be shared in real time and inventory system is outdated.

03



Business Mode

<u>Fun sports</u> develops designs products independently outsourcing and adopts customization mode production. It expands sales channels online and offline with its own brand. At present, online sales is the main focus, and the main platform is *Tmall*.

02

Fun Sports

Porter's Five Forces Analysis

New Entrants

Threat: The entire domestic toy market **lacks leading enterprises**, the market share of a single enterprise is low, economies of scale has not yet been achieved, and the **barriers to entry are low**.

Opportunity: *Fun Sports* is competitive in the **market**

segment due to technical advantage, and the entry barrier is high.

Rivalry

Threat: The foreign toy market is mature, and occupies the global high-end toy market with its brand effect and perfect industrial chain. Compared with it, *Fun Sports* is small in scale and weak in strength.

Opportunity: *Fun Sports* implements the **differentiation focus strategy**, positioning itself in the high-end toy market with high demand growth, focusing on the production of creative and high-quality sensory integration training toys, and adopts commissioned customized processing mode with low fixed cost, which greatly avoids the head-on competition with peer enterprise.

Buyers

Threat: Low number of buyers and **low conversion costs**.

Opportunity: Consumers pursue personalized products and are **not price sensitive** to the high-end toys.





Substitutes

Threat: Low conversion costs

Opportunity: *Fun sports* pursues **product differentiation and recognition**. The characteristics and attractive-ness of its products reduce the value of substitutes.



Suppliers

Threat: The current sales volume of <u>Fun Sports</u> is not large, **economies of scale have not yet been achieved**, so the **bargaining power is weak**; suppliers may carry out forward integration.

Opportunity: The **high cost** of raw materials can be **transferred to consumers**, which has little impact on profits.



2 Question 1

- Existing Problems
- Corresponding Solutions

Existing Problem 1: Management Information System Is Imperfect



The inventory information about the 3 platforms cannot be updated synchronically and the virtual inventory setting results in inconsistency between the total inventory on the three platforms and the actual inventory.





The inventory information about <u>Fun Sports</u> and OEMs cannot be shared in real time. Supplements must be made to original accounts based on receiving and delivery records to track purchases, sales and inventory.



Existing Problem 2: Inventory System Is Outdated

Inbound

<u>Fun Sports</u> confirms the quantity of goods inbound based on certificates of quality inspection and receipt documents issued by OEMs, without approving the real quantity and quality.

Stocktaking

- ◆ It is difficult to check the goods inventory due to frequent inbound and outbound deliveries.
- ◆ There is **no physical inventory count** for OEMs.

Outbound

- ◆ The quantity of goods outbound is confirmed at once at the end of each month based on orders realized online.
- ◆ The **long time interval** leads to **error** during the peak season.

Stockkeeping

- ◆ It is **difficult** to record defective or repaired products in the inventory system and Excel may be used for this purpose.
- ◆ The quality of returns are **not accurately documented**.
- ◆ Some products with excess inventory have been kept for a long time.

Existing Problem 3: Employee Management System Is Immature

Warehouse Keepers Lack of Professionalism

- The return and exchange procedures had not been well preformed by the warehouse keeper with laxed inspection on returned products.
- The warehouse keeper failed to locate normal and defective products in different designated areas in the warehouse.
- The returns and exchanges were **not** recorded in books in time.
- If some parts were missing throughout the return and repair process, the defective products would be removed for replacement.

A Lack of Performance Evaluation and Management System

- There is **no performance evaluation system** to assess the work of employees.
- There is a lack of staff training and management system to standardize the operation of employees.

PERFORMANCE EXCELLENT GOOD AVERAGE POOR



Solution (1): Establish an Information Platform for Inventory Management

Information Management System for Inventory Management

Purchasing Management

Outbound **Management**

Return Management

Checking Management Stockkeeping **Management**

Purchasing Order

New Purchasing Orders

Purchasing Order Management

Sales Order

New Sales Orders

Sales Order Management

Sales List

New Sales

Outbound List

Return Order

New Return Orders

Return Order Management

Return Purchasing

Lists

Added Return

Lists

New Checks

Checking Record

Checking Analysis

Inventory **Statement**

Inventory Query

Inventory Cost Query

Purchasing Document

Added Purchasing Documents

Sales Query

Sales Order Query

Selling Expenses

Return Query

Return Order Query

Return Freight

Return Freight Management

Inventory Change

Reported Loss/Profit of Single

Other Warehouse Receipt

> Inventory Warning

Safe Inventory Warning

Shelf Life Warning

Allocated Orders

Allocated Order Management

Assembly/ **Disassembly Sheet**

Inventory Query

Assembly / **Disassembly Sheet Query**

Inventory Change Document Query

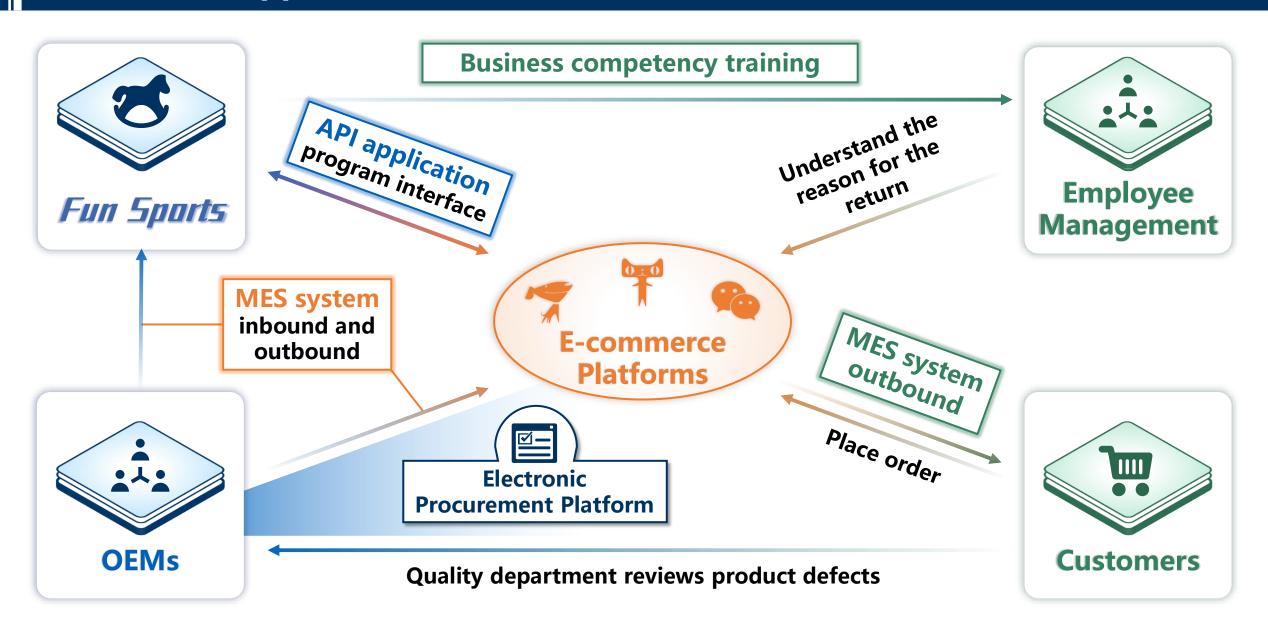
Buying Expenses

Apportionment of Buying Expenses

Apportionment of Selling Expenses

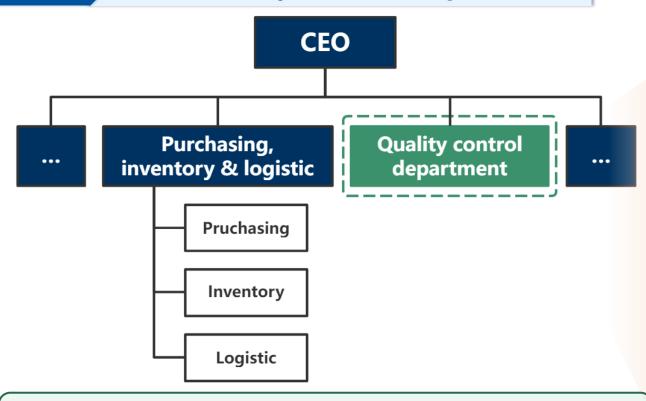


Solution ①: Application of the Information Platform



Solution 2: Improve Inbound and Outbound Process

STEP 1 Set a Quality Control Department



Quality Control Department

Responsible for processing the product quality inspection and control, including the Quality Controller (QC) to ensure the high quality of products from the production, inbound, keeping, checking to outbound.

The **consistency** between **inventory and accounting ledger** & Improved **quality control**

Check the quantity of good inbound

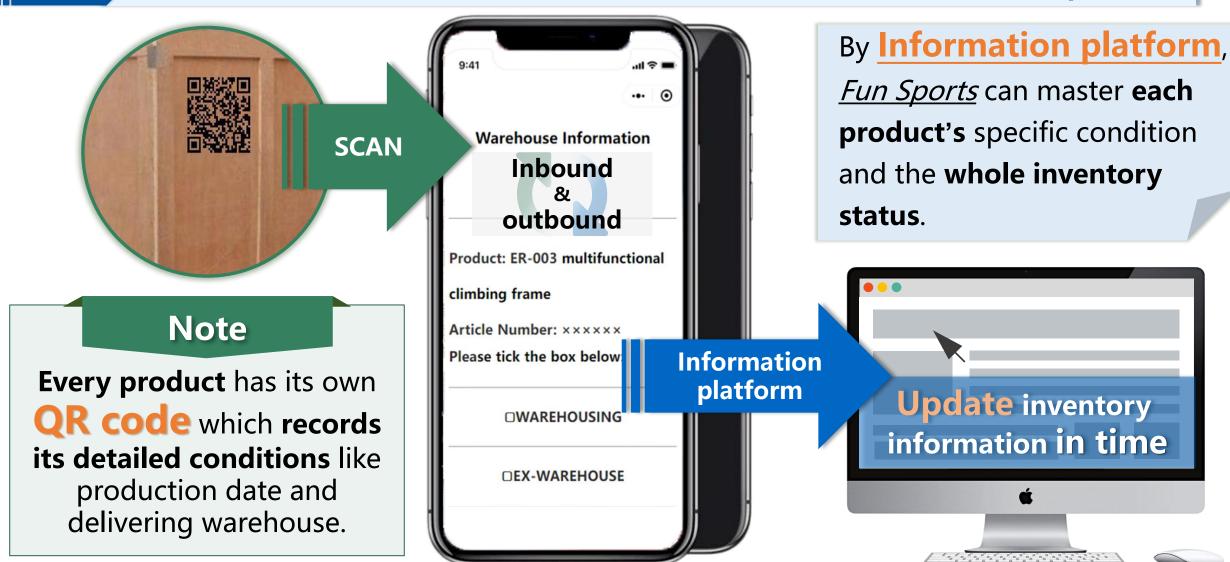
Spot check the quality of good inbound

Note: For large-size products, the quality inspector will go to the OEMs' warehouse for inspection.



Solution ②: Improve Inbound and Outbound Process

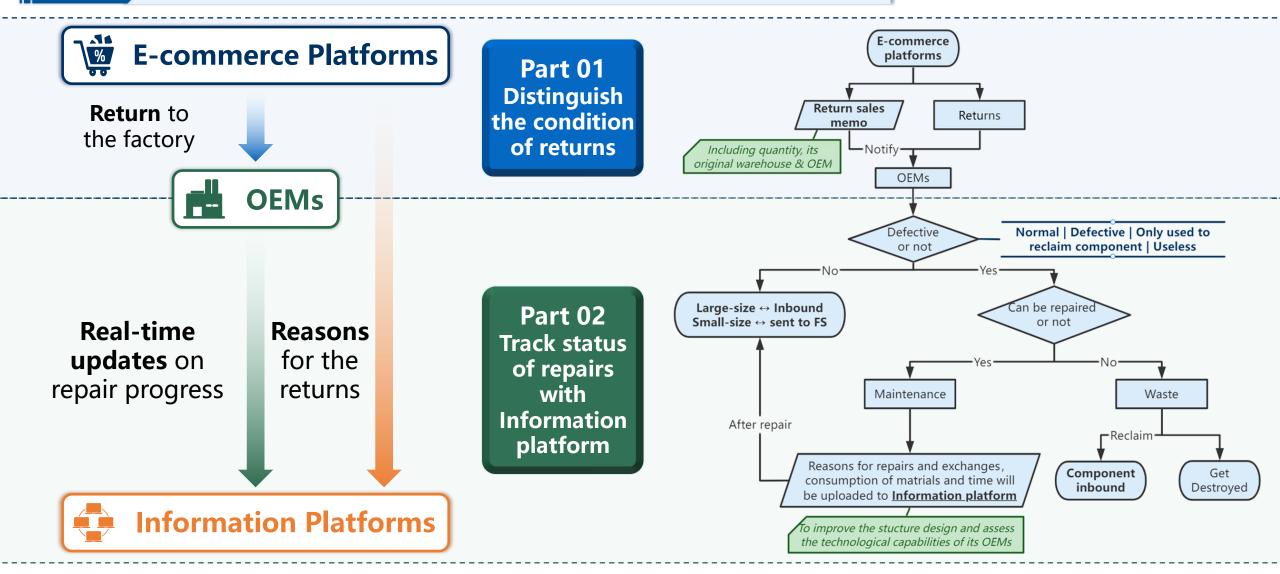
STEP 2 Establish Inbound and Outbound Mechanism based on information platform





Solution 3: Standardize the Warehousing and Stocktaking System

STEP 1 Distinguish the Condition of Returns and Track Status



Solution 3: Standardize the Warehousing and Stocktaking System

STEP 2 Deal with Excess Inventory



Production Planning

Timely feedback of excess inventory to **purchasing department** to make proper purchasing decisions



Product Handling

Sell excess inventory at **lower** prices or donate them to institutions such as welfare homes

STEP 3 Establish Stock-taking System

REGULAR & DYNAMIC Stock-taking System

REGULAR

QC from Quality Control Department should **go to** warehouses regularly to check the quantity and quality of inventory to ensure the accuracy of inventory record.

DYNAMIC

To realize warehouse receiving & delivering & stocktaking being carried through at the same time: ①Notify warehouse keepers earlier to prepare enough products for same-day delivery; ② Store the newly receiving goods separately; ③ Finally check for products in ① and ② step.

Solution 4: Establish the Employee Management System

Employee Business Ability and Quality Improvement

	Professional Ability Inventory quality identification methods, purchasing negotiation selection of sources, etc				
Training Content	Management Quality	Inventory purchasing budget, employee management, purchasing supervision, etc			
	Professional Ethics	Bear hardships and stand hard work, withstand pressure and setbacks, adapt to changes, communicate and cooperate, and be dedicated and loyal			
	Training Time	Regular or irregular			
Training	Training Staff	The enterprise internal management staff, or hire outside the industry expert, or from the network industry veteran			
Organization	Training Form	Make full use of information means as far as possible			
	Training & Check	The test can be carried out through information means , or the task completion can be taken as the assessment object, and directly linked to the salary			
Supporting Measure	Formulate or perfect the corresponding talent reward system, create a good enterprise culture atmosphere.				

Solution 4: Establish the Employee Management System



Employee Performance Appraisal System

Content	Indicators	Indicator Description	Job Performance				Remark	
Content	Illuicators	indicator Description	Worse	Ordinary	Good	Excellent	Remark	
Attitude (15%)	Working discipline	Compliance with rules and regulations	1	2	3	4		
	Initiative	Take responsibility for your work 1 2		2	3	4		
	Sense of collaboration	Aability to cooperate with colleagues	1	2	3	4		
Ability (20%)	Specialized knowledge	Technical expertise	1	1 2 3 1 2 3		4	The performance appraisal is	
	Analytical judgment ability	Practical problem solving skills	1			4		
	Communication skills	Be able to accurately state the goals achieved in the position	1	2 3		4	mainly aimed at	
Actual Performance (65%)	Whether the return is classified correctly	Check on the spot whether the defective products are correctly classified		1	2	3 4	warehouse keepers	
	Whether return records are missing	See if the books match up		1	2	3 4		
	Whether the return procedure is standard	See the warehouse keeper's actua operation process		1	2	3 4		



Solution 4: Establish the Employee Management System





Total attitude score

$$4 \times 3 \times 15\% = 1.8$$



Total ability score

$$4 \times 3 \times 20\% = 2.4$$



Total score of actual performance

$$4\times3\times65\%=7.8$$

<<< Evaluation Rule >>>

Compare the score of each month within a year, if the score is less than 8 and the score does not improve in the following month after reminding

At least 6 months of the year with a score below 6 in the actual performance category

Replace the warehouse keeper

Maintain the score of 8 points or above in each month

Give employees commendation and moderate salary incentive at the end of the year



3 Question 2

- Main Demands
- Result of Research



Main Demands of *Fun Sports*

Purchasing Management

Purchasing Decision

Combine **product sales**, **returns** and **other information** to determine the purchase volume

OEM Relationship Implement the **selection**, **cooperation** and follow-up **quality control** of the OEMs

Sales Management

Sales Forecast

Synchronization of sales information

Improve forecast accuracy

Collect of sales information from different platforms **timely** for **enquiries** and **analysis**

Inventory Management

Inbound & Outbound Management

Inventory Information Management

Stocktaking

Update the inventory data in real time

Record various **product information**, such as orders, returns, maintenance etc.

Upload the **inventory results** to the information system **timely**

After-sales Management

Analysis of Return Reasons

After-sales Maintenance

Collect and **analyze** product return **reasons**

Follow up after-sales maintenance progress

Administrative Management

Performance Evaluation

Establish it based on the employee performance evaluation system

Permission settings

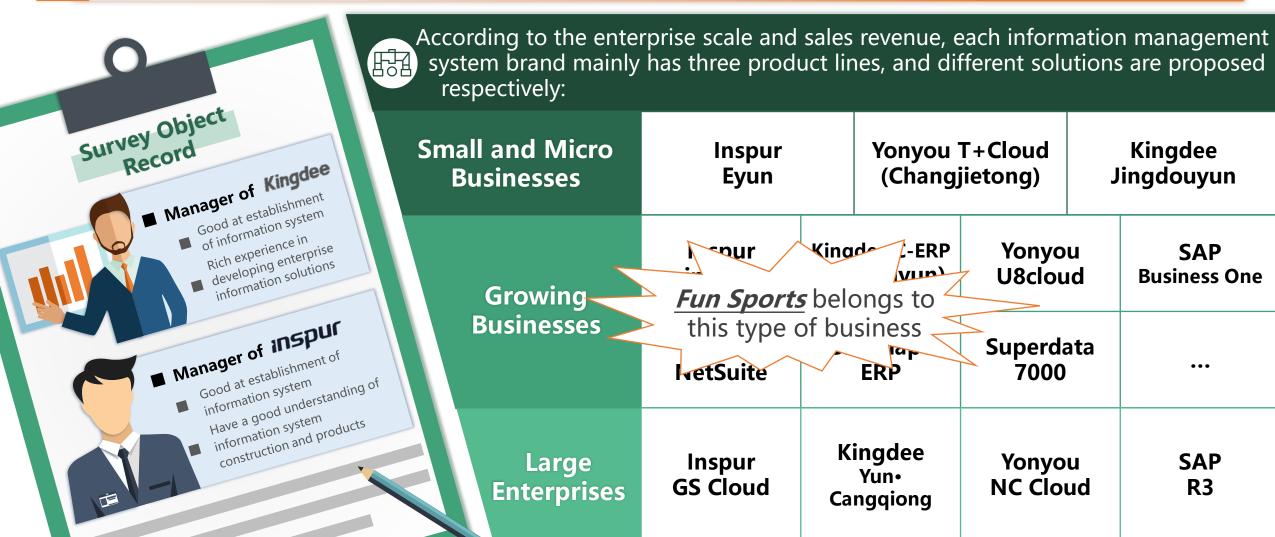
Different employees have different **permissions** to access to the system



Research: Overview & Information Management System Market Conditions



Conducted a survey about the **information systems market and information system solutions** for *Fun Sports* with managers of two information systems brands, *Kingdee* and *Inspur*.





Research: Purchase of Information Management System for Growing Businesses



Purchase Preference of Growing Businesses & Analysis for *Fun Sports*

Growing businesses prefer to buy products of **subdivided brands**, rather than the general standardized products of big brands; they tend to **buy the products of big brands as a way to expand management modules**.

For a growing enterprise like <u>Fun Sports</u>, its industry characteristics are obvious, and **the standardized information management system is difficult to adapt to the industry characteristics**.



Research: Successful Cases of Information System









Implementation Process

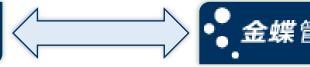
Realizing three-level unified marketing management of headquarters, 100+ agents (branches) and 300+ stores, and establishing an enterprise ecosystem.



Effects

Reduce business processing time by **70%**, increase inventory turnover by **23%**, and reduce agent operating costs by **30%**.





Problem encountered

- ◆ Online and offline inventory cannot be synchronized, which leads to oversold.
- ◆ Batch number management is needed offline, but batch number management cannot be carried out due to the huge volume of online business.
- ◆ A large number of **external warehouses**.

L Effects

- Automatically synchronize online and offline business documents.
- ◆ Ensure the coordination of business processes.
- ◆ Solve the problem of online oversold.





4 Solution

- Establishment of Information System
- Products Recommendation

Key Points for Solving Existing Problems of Fun Sports



For *Fun Sports*, mature information solution is just the one hand; **combing** business blueprint and processes and building a clear boundary are the prerequisite for the success of the implementation of information.

Comb the Business Blueprint: To balance and control activities

Marketing Activity

Marketing Planning

Inventory Planning

Production Planning

Purchase Planning



Build a Clear Boundary: To standardize the business process

Quality Control Department

Return Product Filtering System

Repairs Tracking System

Stocktaking System

Employee Management System



Final Solution: Business Process of *Fun Sports*

Design and develop products Supervise and assess OEMs Supervise and asses	R & D	Production Outsourcing	Purchasing	Inventory	Logistic	Sales	HR	Finance				
Design and develop products Supervise and assess OEMs Supervise and asses	Pre-sale Pre-sale											
Design and develop products Supervise and assess OEMs Fellow up on delivery from OEMs Forecast sales Operate the platforms Forecast sales Settle the with O Make fire budg Coordinate with shipping forwarders Check Settle the with O Make fire budg Check Coordinate with shipping forwarders Check Check Stock-out Stock-out Check Check Operate the platforms Forecast sales Check Cordinate with shipping forwarders Check Check Cordinate with shipping forwarders Check Ch	develop	Select OEMs		Stock-in	3		Dogina	Check the goods inventory in OEMs				
Supervise and assess OEMs Supervise and assess			purchase plan	·		Marketing	performance evaluation	Settle the costs				
Assess OEMs Issue an order Quality management Quality management OEMs Forecast sales Make fire budge On Sale Understand customers needs Stock-out Stock-out Coordinate with shipping forwarders Check order are an order OEMs Forecast sales OF A coordinate with shipping forwarders Check order are an order OEMs OF A coordinate with shipping forwarders OEMS OEMS OF A coordinate with shipping forwarders OEMS OEMS		Supervise and		CHECK	delivery from			with OEMs				
Understand customers needs Coordinate with shipping forwarders Coordinate with shipping forwarders Check order are		assess OEMs	Issue an order					Make financial budgets				
Understand customers needs Stock-out Stock-out Coordinate with shipping forwarders Check information timely Check order are						Forecast sales						
customers needs Stock-out with shipping information forwarders timely Check order ar	On Sale											
After-sale	customers			Stock-out	with shipping	information		Check the order amount				
	After-sale											
	Olatain		 	Aite	I-sale							
customers installation conduct performance paym	customers		Make the next	Check with	Follow up on returns			Receive payment				
purchase plan books on returns appraisals for	Improve the products											
Improve the Service for department Check						Service for returns		Check the accounts				

Final Solution: Ideas for Information System of *Fun Sports*

Purchasing Management

OEMs Management

Purchasing Order Management

Payment Schedule

Finance Management

Invoice Management

Accounting Management

Report Management

Sales Management

Collection Schedule

Sales Order Management

Logistics Management

Sales Order Tracking

Customer Management

Sales Process Analysis

Sales Forecasts

After-sale Management

Return Order Tracking

Return Product Management

Return Reason Analysis

Inventory Management

Stocktaking Management

Inbound & Outbound Management

Quality Control

Administrative Management

Company Notice

Performance Appraisal

Employee System

Account Management

R&D Management

Project Management

Development & Design Management



Final Solution: Products Recommendation & Future Plan

<<< Products Recommendation >>>

- □ Product: *Inspur inSuite*
- Merits: Create "intelligent enterprise"; Browser/Server; Support for multiple languages, multiple warehouse using scenes
- □ Price: 50000-60000 yuan/year
- ☐ Way to Purchase: **Rent**

- □ Product: *Kingdee C-ERP*
- Merits: Mature e-commerce information solutions; Connect with major e-commerce platforms and logistics systems
- ☐ Price: 20000-50000 yuan/year



- Merits: Good connection with the software being used; coordination of purchase and sales business; manufacturing collaboration
- ☐ Price: about 60000 yuan/year
- Way to Purchase: **Rent**

U8 cloud

<<< Future Plan >>>



Identify requirements and order products from target information system brands



Install information system which will be matured after a year of hard running

✓ Develop

Using matured information system standardize business processes, improve the production, sales and inventory system

Expand

With perfect system and strong R&D ability, expand the market **overseas**

2022.04-2022.06

2022.07-2023.06

inSuite

2023.07-2025.06

2025.07





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Thank You

** for Listening **

