

Iten

With headquarters in Murcia, Spain, Iten, S.L. is a medium-sized software factory. Our main responsibility is to provide personalized management solutions for a variety of companies.

Iten

In 1999, our main goal was to build our own ERP solution, called Innovaweb, which is a big solution managing a backend database of about 700 tables. We developed this solution that same year, in a web fashion using PHP3. Back then, we already had the vision that web solutions for enterprises will be the future of management.

We are experienced in machine communication mechanism and integrating them in business processes (M2M). Six years ago, we switched to Java as our main development platform, and we are continually evolving and adopting new platforms that boost our development process. ZK is an excellent example of it.

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ZK x Iten

We used ZK to provide the administrative and dashboard part of the presentation layer of a real time OEE measurement system, involving plant employees interacting with Android devices, Arduino communication for capturing data directly from the production lines and dashboard projection of the data collected and processed on real time, in a production plant with around 300 people working. Four engineers developed the project, and it was developed within three months from January 2015.

Architecture

In this project we used Maven, JPA2, Jersey and ZK altogether as the core of the systems.

Major challenges in the project were capturing data from production

lines. Although UI usability and esthetics of the presentation layer were not the most important goals of this project, there is no doubt that ZK has provided us with a very nice and usable web user interface in a fraction of the time needed with other technologies, as we widely proved.

Best of ZK

When we started the design of the system, we knew that we wanted a nice web user interface without sacrificing productivity; on the other hand, we also wished to avoid writing JavaScript because it is not our specialty. Thus, while we were evaluating ZK, we also evaluated other technology companies, such as Vaadin or Sencha; however, the further the solution was from JavaScript coding, the more immature we found it was.

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In addition, we appreciate the simplicity of the setup: all we needed to do was add some dependencies in our pom, start debugging on the server and the browser was ready for index.zul.

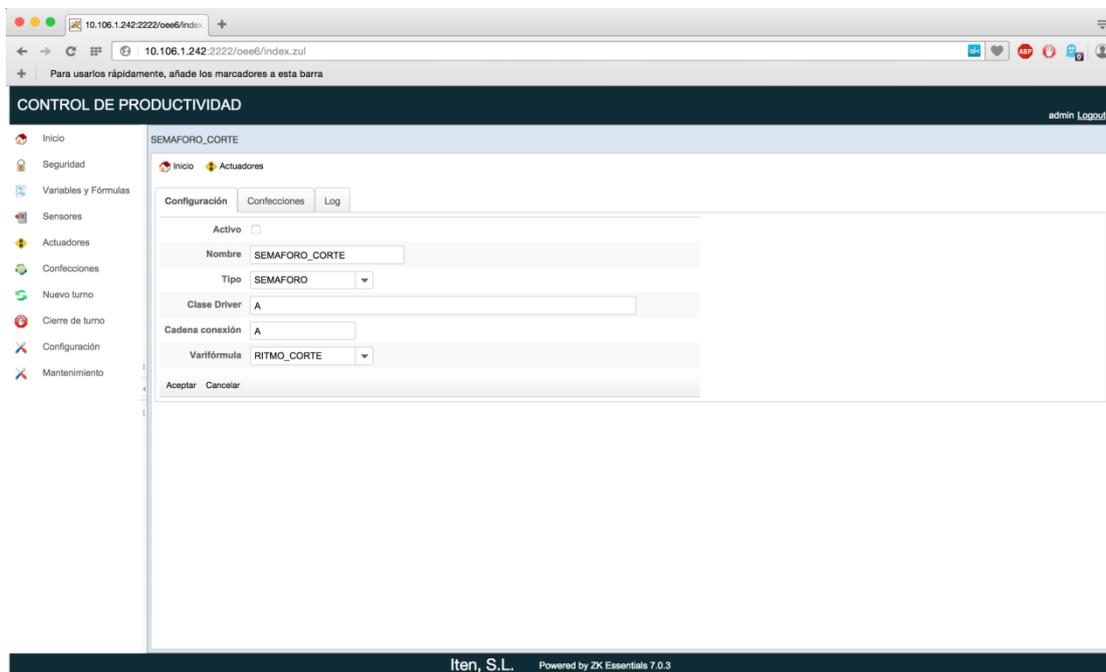
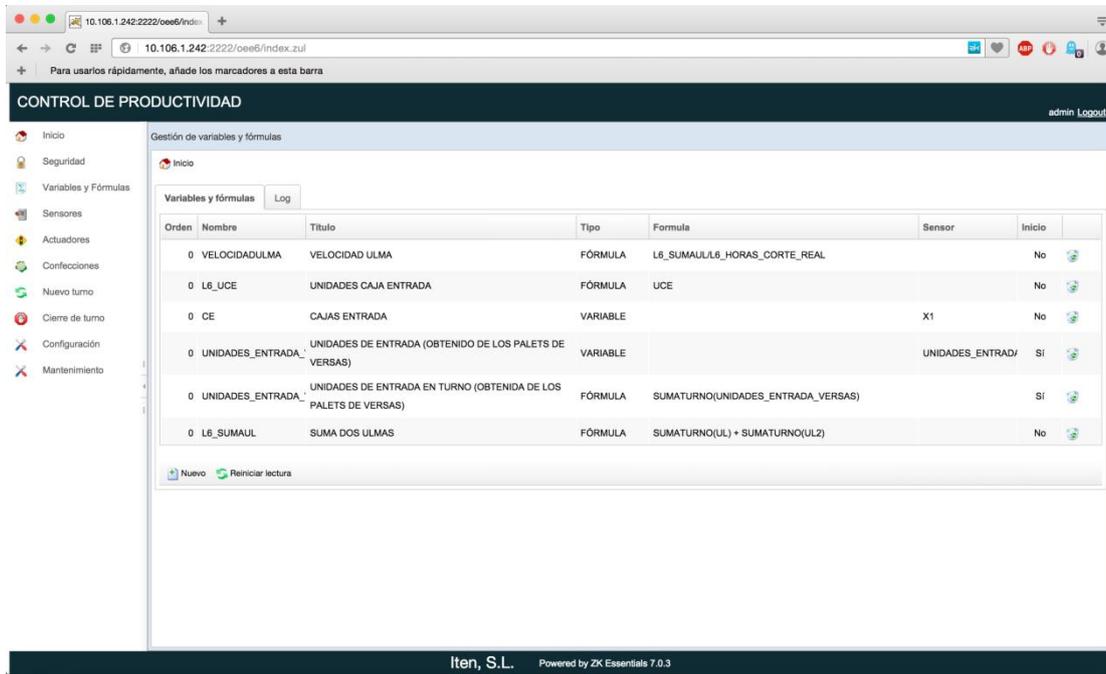
High productivity without sacrificing user interface esthetics is the most valuable asset ZK has provided for our team. Common problems were solved in forums, and a good documentation/reference of components is another excellent point.

Grid and Listbox setup and functionality are great. Models and renderers are really easy and intuitive to use for a Java developer. It is very similar to developing for a desktop environment, and this is great for us.

The Result

The result was the desired one: rich user interface without Javascript coding, highly maintainable code and high productivity.

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About ZK

ZK is the leading enterprise Java Web framework with more than 1,500,000 downloads. ZK is deployed by a large number of Fortune Global 500 companies, including Barclays, Allianz, Swiss RE, Roche, Deutsche Bank, Sony, Sun Microsystems, and Toyota, providing them with the ability to rapidly create rich Ajax enterprise level applications.

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