Quincely Pro: Seamless auditing and industry compliance powered by low-code

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The company

Quincely Pro is an application that makes adherence to compliance a walk in the park for organizations in the food manufacturing, hospitality, and care sectors. Adrian Chalmers, founder of Quincely, developed the application in just a few weeks on Zoho Creator. Targeting establishments seeking to adhere to industry standards and regulations, it's an app you can access from the web, as well as iOS and Android devices.

The challenge

> The food and care industries worldwide are highly regulated. Organizations have to maintain a lot of records to ensure food and resident safety, and today, this is mostly done using paper and pen.
>
> **- Adrian Chalmers,**
> Founder, Quincely Pro

There's a mountain of paperwork that gets created when organizations strive to adhere to food safety standards—and paperwork is subject to wear and tear, can go missing, and has to be filed and then stored for years on end.

Auditors are also wary and weary of paperwork, with falsification being a widespread problem. This is another objective of Quincely Pro—to reduce dependence on paperwork and fully transition to a robust, digital interface.

Chalmers needed a solution which could be easily customized for the food industry's unique business processes. After trying several off-the-shelf software solutions, he realized that, to manage the exacting requirements of the regulation ecosystem effectively, what he needed was a bespoke solution.

However, building software from the ground up would cost a lot of time and money, as well as enlisting the assistance of dedicated software engineers. Chalmers needed a different solution.

> We were looking at the most cost-effective way to build our solution. We didn't want to invest in huge development and infrastructure teams—all the things that usually go with the traditional software development process.
>
> **- Adrian Chalmers,**
> Founder, Quincely Pro

The original requirement was for capturing and retaining records around food safety compliance, although this later led to helpful add-ons as data became more centralized.

Chalmers needed a solution which was flexible enough for the stringent demands of the industry. Simultaneously, the app needed to have all the necessary features to ensure holistic operations, too. This unique mix was hard to find, and Chalmers explored multiple solutions before discovering low-code.
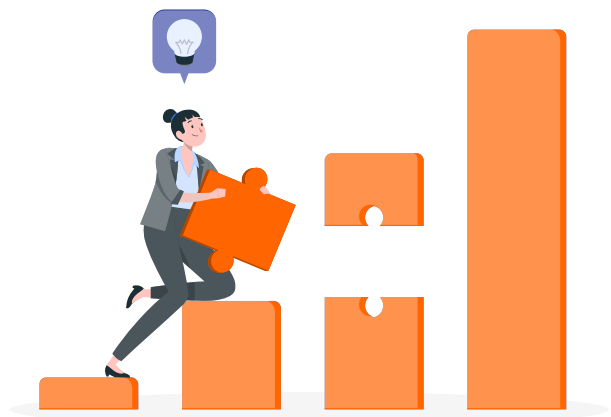
The solution

After discovering the power of low-code—the usage of minimal coding to develop applications— Chalmers found Zoho Creator. A quick prototype later, he realized he could build a comprehensive solution on the platform, in a fraction of the time of traditional methods.

> We looked at many different options and we landed on Zoho Creator because of the ease of use and the very comprehensive nature of the platform. There were several tools that made it ideal for what we wanted to do. The most important among them was the integration with the camera of mobile devices, because our system relies heavily on QR codes.
>
> **- Adrian Chalmers,**
> Founder, Quincely Pro

Adrian built an app on Zoho Creator for compliance management. Being an industry veteran, Adrian was able to translate his requirements into a Zoho Creator application easily, owing to his domain knowledge. The Quincely Pro application was thus born.

Some notable features of the application are:

Device-independent accessibility

Based on which device you view the application from, the app menus change, i.e, for the web, there's a separate dashboard and reports page, and for mobile, there's a separate dashboard. This provides both flexibility for the app's users and a bespoke dashboard for each client.

QR code scanning

This is one of the main features and unique selling propositions of the application. Upon scanning a QR code from a mobile device, depending upon the code, a specific menu or function is loaded. This helps users access the records they need without having to navigate endless menus and dropdowns, which is a crucial requirement in a food production environment.

Upon scanning a refrigeration device's QR code

For example, on scanning a refrigeration device's QR code, the *SELECT ACTION* menu loads. This menu allows the addition of a:

- Cleaning record or

- Temperature check

This logs the date and time of the temperature reading, the name of the person taking the reading, and the name/designation of the chilling unit. These three parameters are prefilled by the application and are non-editable by the end user, making compliance more robust. Most importantly, this form then allows the temperature reading to be recorded. One can also add a note in the Comments and corrective actions field in this form.

Upon scanning the QR code for "Goods In"

When you scan the QR code of a product, the Quick Add Product form loads. It contains fields such as the supplier name, purchase order (PO) number, delivery number, delivery note image, vehicle chill temperature, and vehicle freezer temperature. This form also allows the addition of new products to the organization's inventory.

Upon scanning a product received from a supplier

When users scan the QR code of a product received from a supplier, the Received Products form loads. It contains a QR field for scanning the barcode of the product, the product's condition, the purchase price, the product's use by/best before date, and the quantity expected vs the quantity delivered. This form is helpful for keeping track of incoming inventory.

The Quincely Pro mobile application

The mobile application has a number of QR-code functions, with App Only and Management profiles. The Management profile allows a small number of admin functions, but most importantly allows new QR codes to be configured, whilst the App Only profile offers very limited access. Over 90% of button presses are to scan a QR code, with the resultant functions then loading automatically.
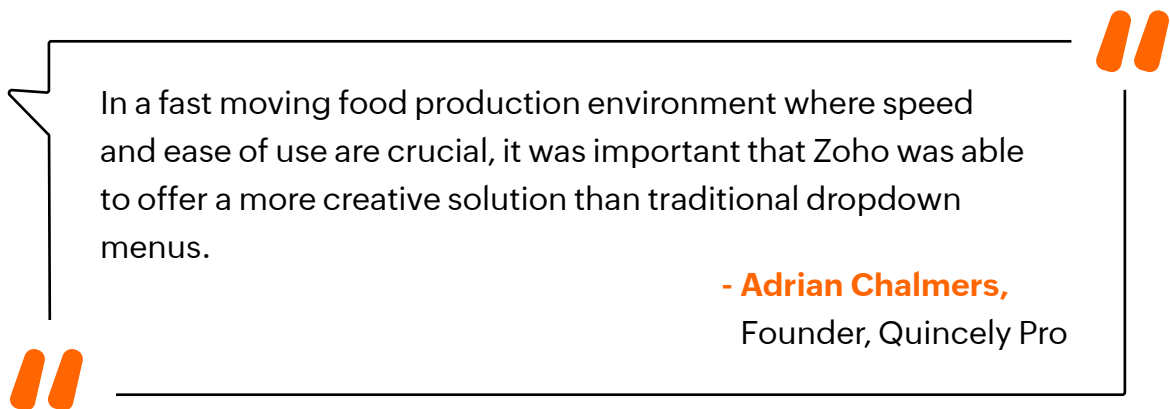
From the Quincely Pro mobile application, over 60 different record types can be selected via QR-code scan, and required data, such as the temperature record described previously, can be added to the application.

Key to the use of the mobile application is that staff can only add data to the application, without having access to any of the management functions, reporting, or dashboards that are present in the web-based version of Quincely Pro.
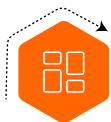
The Quincely Pro web application

The web application has a very simple and clear layout, offering big buttons to access the required components, allowing easy navigation and access to the solution in high pressure operational environments.

> In a fast moving food production environment where speed and ease of use are crucial, it was important that Zoho was able to offer a more creative solution than traditional dropdown menus.
>
> **- Adrian Chalmers,**
> Founder, Quincely Pro

The headline components are:

Dashboard: A detailed dashboard of the application, providing a bird's-eye view of the data, customizable to each customer user

Reports: Detailed reports such as list, map, kanban, and calendar reports

Business functions: Allows management to access certain functions that would otherwise be added via the mobile application

Administration: Relating to setup of data and account details

Create purchase and sales orders: To create orders and corresponding invoices for purchases and sales madedetails

Visitor health questionnaire: A questionnaire to capture visitor information when visiting a food environment

Visitor approval: Approval workflow process for visitors who have completed the visitor health questionnaire

Accident report: Report generation in case of any incidents

Hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) builder

The device-independent nature of the application, as well as its comprehensive feature set, have made Quincely Pro an invaluable tool for its users.

Benefits and ROI

Zero dependence on paperwork

Previously, there was paperwork everywhere, to document anything and everything. With Quincely Pro, there's complete digitization, with no paperwork at all. This not only reduces the sheer volume of paper required but saves time and money on printing, document filing, document storage, and, most importantly, data retrieval. Documentation is also now more complete and more reliable.

Cost savings

A solution built on a contemporary ERP platform will cost £10,000-20,000 when compared to Quincely Pro, which cost only a few hundred pounds. This is on top of the cost savings on paper, storage, and labor in managing a paper-based solution.

Reduced labor

The checking, filing, and management of paper trails are a time-intensive and costly chore. Using Quincely Pro, the paperwork is effectively filed immediately and the reporting and dashboards allow management to identify problem areas and focus points more accurately and quickly than they would be able to do by looking through thousands of manually written records. The ability to produce conditionally formatted reports and dashboards greatly enhances the view of the data in real time, which did not previously exist.

End-to-end traceability of assets

Inventory is now holistically tracked from entry to exit. There is complete transparency into the influx and outflow of goods within the organization using the application. In a consumer-led environment where safety is paramount, the Quincely Pro application accurately captures all the production records right from traceability of ingredients through to finished products. Peripheral compliance for health and safety and fire safety have also been simplified.

Looking forward

A sizeable chunk of Quincely Pro's customers use legacy software and infrastructure. Chalmers intends to leverage Zoho Creator's APIs to interface with legacy software seamlessly in the future.
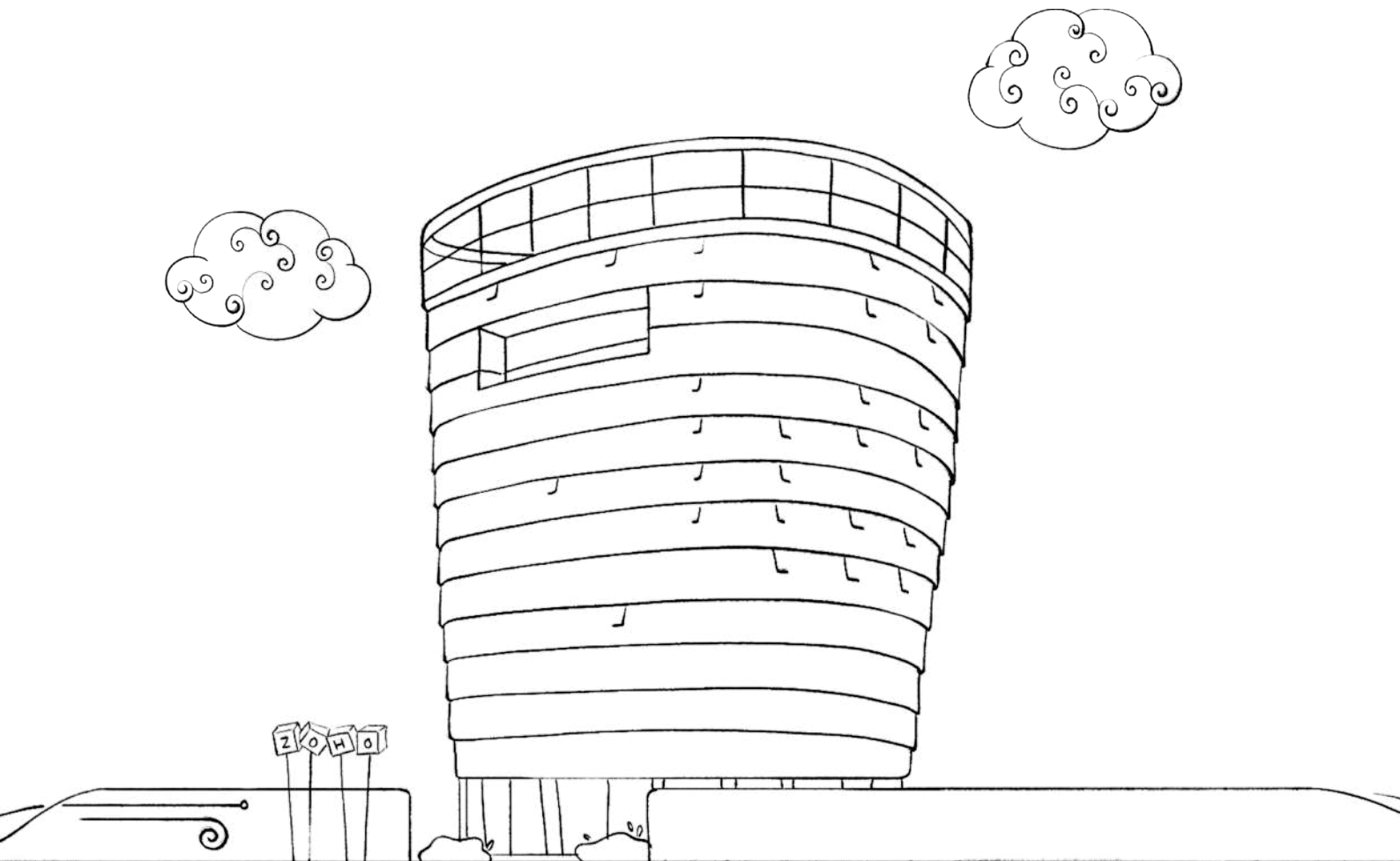
> My next mission is to facilitate Quincely Pro's users to interface with their legacy software to easily leverage Zoho Creator's APIs. This will also help them avoid data redundancies.
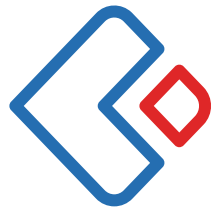>
> **- Adrian Chalmers,**
> Founder, Quincely Pro

About us

At Zoho Creator, we've always worked towards a single purpose—empowering users to build functional apps with minimal coding expertise. We've helped **14,000+** brands create bespoke solutions and improve their end-to-end operations across a variety of industries. With over **16 years of experience** in catering to **B2B and B2C organizations**, we have the best tools in the trade to help you improve your business.

You can get started with Creator by visiting our **signup page**. You can also check out our **prebuilt apps** to get started right away.

We'd love to talk!
Reach out to us

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