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Case Study

Project Name: GymFlex

Website: http://gymflex.co.uk/

Client Name: James Shillaker, Glenn Rankin

Development platform: PHP Core with MVC Architecture

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Client's Introduction:

❖ **Glenn Rankin:**

Glenn has been in the health & fitness industry for over 19 years. Starting as a Gym instructor after gaining an honors degree in sports science from Brunel University, Glenn worked his way up through various roles including membership manager, centre manager and corporate sales manager until he launched Incorpore in September 2001.

❖ **James Shillaker:**

James earned his stripes in the world of hotel management, both as a management accountant and latterly as general manager for several of the UK's largest hotel groups.

Client's Vision:

GymFlex is a vision of James Shillaker, Glenn Rankin.

About GymFlex:

➢ GymFlex is a product provided by Incorpore – the health club company. Established in 2001, Incorpore continues to be the leading provider of corporate health club memberships to the employee benefits and healthcare markets in the UK and Ireland.

➢ It provides the wide range of membership options and variety of clubs which facilitate the employees to join the club as closest as possible to their home or work place.

➢ It provides benefits to Organization, Corporate Employers and Health Clubs.

➢ By offering such a wide choice and variety of clubs, employees are much more likely to join the club they really want – closest to home or work. The company will

benefit from this increased take-up of Gym memberships by having more active, productive, profitable and happier workforce.

Target Audience:

Healthcare programs for Corporate Employees by providing Gym Centers and encouraging them to enroll for their health benefits.

Industry/Domain:

HealthCare

Development platform:

PHP Core with MVC Architecture

Initial Scope of the Project:

GymFlex is quite helpful for Corporate Employees to find the nearest Gym centers around their nearest area (Work or Home).

Challenges Faced & Solutions Proposed:

Challenge-1:

The major challenge was that we had to provide solution to companies as they didn't want their employees to create separate login/account on GymFlex. They just wanted to have their own single logins to be functional over GymFlex as well.

Solution Proposed:

We understand the Business Module and its architecture, based on that we proposed our solution in the form of SSO (Single Sign-on) it solves the problem so that users need not to manage separate account/login for remote access. In other words, in our scenario they could directly choose their benefit plans over GymFlex site once logged in through their own company and the resultant details of chosen Gym will be sent back to the client's parent website from GymFlex.

Solution Delivered:

❖ Single sign-on (SSO)

Single sign-on (SSO) is a property of access control of multiple related, but independent software systems. By this property a user logs in once and gains access to all systems without being prompted to log in again at each of them.

➢ There will be two systems, one is the service provider (SP) and other is the identity provider (IDP).

➢ From the identity provider, the user is then coming to access the service provider (gymflex.co.uk) services.

➢ Both systems should able to generate SAML V2.0 assertions. Our system (gymflex.co.uk) has been using 'simplesamlphp' for generating assertion. Id provider can use different tools (Subject to system platform: Either PHP or Dot net) accordingly.

➢ Prior to enabling this functionality, we need to exchange metadata between the service provider(SP) and the identity provider(IDP) system

Well, this is a kind of handshake system which will take place through Metadata information. These mete information will be provided by SP to IDP and IDP will send this Meta information to SP to acknowledge that SAML assertion being sent through IDP is valid assertion. This will be one time process and could be sent in above XML format

In the same way identity provider (IDP) also need to send their system metadata information to the service provider system.
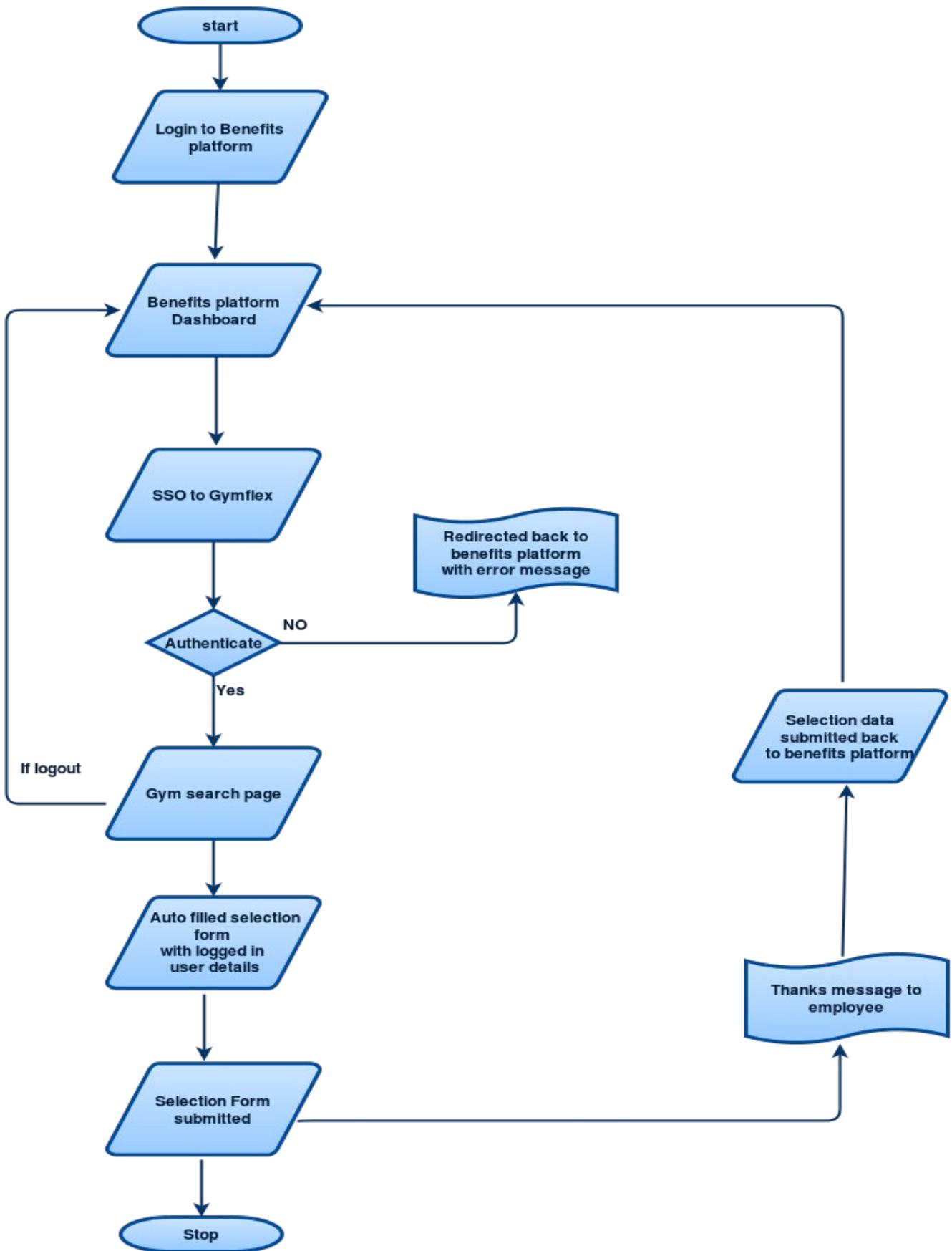The is again a handshake system from IDP to SP, this time IDP will provide some unique meta information to SP and SP will use that meta information while they send SAML assertion.

- ➢ The IDP provides the specific user information when the user comes from the identity provider system and accesses the service provider (Gymflex) system.

- ➢ When the user completes their Gym selection, the resultant information being sent back to identity provider's (IDP) URL (provided by IDP) for updating their own system:

  Service provider, will provide information (Gym selection) to IDP regarding the transaction been made through IDP employee.

  The same information (Gym selection) will then be sent back to IDP and IDP system will update their employee's selection.

Data Flow Diagram :

start

Login to Benefits platform

Benefits platform Dashboard

SSO to Gymflex

Authenticate

NO → Redirected back to benefits platform with error message

Yes

If logout

Gym search page

Auto filled selection form
with logged in user details

Selection Form submitted

Selection data submitted back to benefits platform

Thanks message to employee

Stop

Challenge-2:

While providing SSO solution with the help of SAML Tool we came across the compatibility issue between various programming languages like PHP, DotNet, Java.

Solution Proposed:

We have provided SSO SAML solution which interacts between different platform.

Solution Delivered:

For the **PHP Frameworks** we have used SAML SSO tool SimpleSAMLPHP
https://simplesamlphp.org/

For **DotNet Frameworks** we have suggested a tool from Component Source name "ComponentSpace SAML Component"
https://www.componentsource.com/product/componentspace-saml-component

GymFlex Facilitated with the help of above solution :

❖ Companies Benefits

"If you think you don't have time for employee wellness, then sooner or later, you will have to make time for their sickness."

➢ An active work force helps in producing healthy organization.

➢ GymFlex invites companies to offer discounted annual health club memberships to their employees via payroll deductions and salary sacrifice. Using a national network of Gym chains, leisure centres, hotel health clubs, independent Gyms, boot camps and yoga studios we offer your employees the choice and flexibility they require, whilst providing you with one single supplier for the scheme.

❖ Employees Benefits

"If you want employees to be able to select a membership at the club of their choice, wherever they live or work and get great discounts then GymFlex is for you."

> Employees can choose from thousands of membership options available at clubs including Fitness First, Bannatynes, Nuffield Health, DW Sports, Total Fitness, Virgin Active, Pure Gym, David Lloyd and many other health clubs, Gyms and leisure centers.

> Employees have a company login code, through which they can enter into the GymFlex homepage by their company own website.

> Further on they will enter postcode and choose a membership also, this is viable for previous customers they can renew their membership or choose a new plan.

> There discounted health club schemes provide a simple and effective solution for employers looking to increase the coverage and availability of health clubs.

Business Outcome:

We have provided our best solutions by our hard work & sincere most efforts in

timely manner which being resulted that most of the leading brands now become the corporate clients of GymFlex.

Some of Major Brands are listed as follows: