

# Review Platform - Project Acceleration and New Features Development

## Reco.se Case Study



# CLIENT PROFILE

Reco.se is a Swedish tech company behind the largest independent review site in Sweden where customers describe their previous experiences with a variety of companies. The platform comprises two websites listing different kinds of businesses - reco.se is for local businesses and recotrust.com is for e-commerce vendors and sites.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### INDUSTRY

REVIEW PLATFORM

### CHALLENGE

MAINTAIN EXISTING ARCHITECTURE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY ADD NEW FUNCTIONALITIES TO THE WHOLE RECO.SE PLATFORM. IMPROVE ON MONITORING, LOGGING AND ERROR REPORTING. INTEGRATE WITH A PLETHORA OF DIFFERENT EXTERNAL SERVICES USING MULTIPLE DATA FORMATS AND ENCODINGS.

### TECHNOLOGIES

SCALA, AKKA, PLAY, POSTGRES, ELASTICSEARCH, RABBITMQ, KUBERNETES, SANGRIA, REACT, REDUX



### PROJECT DURATION

2 YEARS

# BACKGROUND

---

SoftwareMill helped Reco.se with developing the backend of the platform but also supported the team with a number of infrastructure projects, one of which was moving from self-hosting to GCP cloud. We were also responsible for a major refactoring that included mailparser project and search API project across multiple microservices.



# CHALLENGES

The project needed an immediate acceleration of software development due to high demand for introducing new features into the Reco.se platform. Some of the old microservices had to be urgently upgraded and refactored. The goal was to add new functionalities and improve the existing ones without any significant downtime of the whole application.

We've joined our clients team to quickly scale their efforts and together we develop the platform on an ongoing basis. The scope of our work includes new features development, but also DevOps tasks and bug fixing. On the technical side, we were responsible for building multiple microservices to add new functionalities along the way, mainly for integrations with external systems as well as for internal data analysis to support business decisions.

The screenshot shows the Reco.se website interface. At the top left is the Reco.se logo. On the right are links for 'Customer service', 'For companies', 'Log in', and a 'Join' button. The main banner features the text 'Sweden's largest independent recommendation site' and 'Here you will find recommended companies with honest reviews'. Below the banner are two search input fields: 'Vad? Ex: mäklare, frisör...' and 'Var? Ex: stockholm, göteborg...' with a search button. Below the search fields are location filters for 'Stockholm', 'Gothenburg', and 'Malmö'. The main content area is divided into three columns. The first column has a header 'Restaurants in Stockholm' and a paragraph: 'In a big city like Stockholm it is not difficult to find a restaurant, but of course you want to find a good restaurant and here you can get the best tips. There is hardly anything better than enjoying good food and service with their loved ones. [Book a table today!](#) »'. The second column has a header 'Hairdressers in Stockholm' and a paragraph: 'The fashion changes frequently and at your hairdresser in Stockholm's inner city you are inspired and refurbished at the same time as you look good. The hairdresser's visit is your moment, find the hairdresser you click with and settle down and let yourself be groomed and stylish in your hair. [Make an appointment today!](#) »'. The third column has a header 'Popular companies on Reco.se' and lists three companies: 'DOFAB AB' (4.9 - 16 recos), 'Real estate agency Ängelholm' (4.7 - 221 recos), and 'SM Byggservice Väst AB' (4.2 - 12 recos). Below these are 'Motor Traffic School in Stockholm' (4.8 - 91 recos) and 'Swedish Property Agency Uppsala' (4.7 - 927 recos). A partial 'Interes for yo' button is visible at the bottom right.



# SOLUTION

---

SoftwareMill worked on maintaining the existing architecture (bug fixing, refactorings) as well as developing a number of new microservices for additional integrations with external services and for handling internal statistics used by the customer service department. Additionally, SoftwareMill led the process of migrating whole Kubernetes cluster together with databases and other resources to a new provider. Apart from programming, the team engaged in plannings and architecting the future functionalities and solutions needed by Reco.se.

Benefits for Reco.se:

- Improved customer service experience by providing additional insights to the data available on the platform,
- Gathering of fine-grained statistics for each customer (internal reco stats coupled with Google Analytics)Faster response time in case of errors,
- Reduced downtime,
- Greater capabilities for scaling by migrating to a new Kubernetes cluster,
- Software libraries upgraded to the latest versions and refactored for better maintainability and security.



# RESULTS

---

Our contribution to the project resulted in introducing multiple new features like bank ID verification, badges solution for the best realtors, improved search, geo-search and many others.

*We've been impressed by how smoothly SoftwareMill's developers adopted our internal technologies and strategies, making for a successful partnership.*

*They're great communicators who offer meaningful recommendations and improvements, making us feel they're part of the team. SoftwareMill team contributed to our project with a broad human capital and technical expertise. We benefited to a great extent from their experience of working in both large and small development projects.*

Jakob Dobrzynski, Software Developer at Reco.se





# GOT AN IDEA? WE'LL MAKE IT HAPPEN

[contact@softwaremill.com](mailto:contact@softwaremill.com)  
[www.softwaremill.com](http://www.softwaremill.com)



We are SoftwareMill, a Poland(EU)-based consulting & custom software development company, delivering services remotely, worldwide for 10 years. Being experts in Scala (Akka, Play, Spark), Java, Kotlin we specialize in blockchain, distributed, big data systems, machine learning, IoT, and data analytics.

We believe that focus on quality, self-improvement and a true engineering approach can result in systems that do their job, bring value to clients, help them scale and grow.