



# Tesco reaps the benefits of playing it safe

As one of the world's top 3 retailers, Tesco produce over 6,000 own label products and work in partnership with over 1000 manufacturing partners. Tesco have found the formula to reduce product development costs and lead times whilst simultaneously meeting the stringent challenges of producing modern, own label food products.

In order to achieve this Tesco had to adopt new radical methods of work which involved a complete rethink of the product specification process. A new philosophy involving closer relationships with suppliers and deployment of a "right first time" approach were integral to Tesco's success.

## Challenges

In a world of increasing product complexity, reducing or regularising key ingredients such as salt and sugar, providing traceability on recipes and accurate information on nutrients, allergens and ingredient country of origin, all create numerous opportunities for error. Add to that the Tesco business drive for lower product costs and reduced timescales and it was clear that they had a formidable task on their hands.

Tesco addressed these issues at two levels: firstly by building a comprehensive database of information in order to ensure legal compliance and to provide an accurate source of information for food intolerance claims and product due diligence enquiries. Secondly, Tesco required a web-based environment for themselves and their suppliers to allow collaboration on all aspects of product development with the inclusion of important checks and validations to pre-empt mistakes. RedSky IT was selected as the chosen business partner to develop this system using its Creations software as the basis for the fully integrated IT solution.



