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# Pushing the Industry Toward a Data-Driven Culture

BY CYBELE TAMULONIS

o other sector has been more influential on construction industry productivity and profitability during the past two decades than technology. As cloud computing has evolved, empowering workers and management with access to real-time data for the first time, construction technologists have spent 20 years building the foundation for businesses to streamline workflows, automate routine tasks and make informed, data-driven business decisions.

COVID-19 put cloud technology to its greatest test as construction companies accelerated adoption of remote project management and collaboration solutions out of sheer necessity. This giant leap forward has been the pandemic's silver lining for an industry facing formidable supply-chain issues in addition to a critical shortage of skilled workers.

It is technology that has provided the bridge from yesterday's anachronistic and often redundant workflows to today's hard-won reality of how things get done efficiently and effectively. With an army of remote employees and field workers using an arsenal of smart devices connected to real-time project data, the industry is poised for a true technological revolution.

For its inaugural list of *The Top Construction Technology Firms*, ™ *Construction Executive* reached out to the top technology companies that are continually innovating to make construction the transparent and collaborative enterprise it deserves to be.

# construction tech startups raised close to \$1.4 BILLION in 2020.

- CB Insights

### TECH ACOUISITIONS HEAT UP

Contractors are not the only companies facing competition in today's market. Established technology providers face growing competition from a dizzying number of startups as more private equity investment firms place well-considered bets on the market potential for niche software solutions in the trillion-dollar construction industry. According to CB Insights, construction tech startups raised close to \$1.4 billion in 2020, and 2021 is on track to surpass that. Construction-focused tech firms Built and Briq, for example, raised \$88 million in Series

C and \$30 million in Series B funding respectively this year.

In an environment where announcements of mergers, acquisitions and new rounds of funding are daily fare, no tech firm can afford to stand still. Executives are acutely aware of the need to continually evolve their offerings to adapt to ever-changing industry needs and the newest technology trends.

Trimble, Autodesk, Bentley Systems and Procore are four examples of publicly traded technology companies that have evolved far beyond their early beginnings through a series of strategic acquisitions.

After its 20th anniversary in 2010, Trimble made a string of acquisitions that took it far beyond its roots in surveying and GPS solutions, purchasing Tekla, Sketchup and Viewpoint, among others. Mark Sawyer, Trimble's director of construction industry strategy, says the company's key areas of development "include embedded collaboration features in our applications and open platforms, purpose-built to work across software from multiple vendors." Regarding Trimble's future development efforts, Sawyer says, "We are focused on helping our customers build more resilient and sustainable businesses. We believe that these goals are very attainable by establishing dataflows that include open, scalable platforms, analytics insights and point tools that enable a constructible process and a connected construction approach. This will continue to be our emphasis as we build out our roadmap."

Autodesk is another tech behemoth that has grown by acquisition over the past two decades. After purchasing Revit in 2002, it went on to acquire PlanGrid, BuildingConnected, Pype and others. Bentley Systems has acquired multiple global tech firms this year alone, including New Zealand-based Seequent in March for roughly \$1 billion.

In May, Procore Technologies acquired INDUS.AI and launched its IPO, giving it a market valuation of nearly \$11 billion. This followed a string of acquisitions by Procore, including Honest Buildings in



We are focused on helping our customers build more resilient and sustainable businesses.

### **MARK SAWYER**

Director, Construction Industry Strategy, Trimble Inc.



Now subcontractors and general contractors can have documentation notarized online, particularly compliance documentation, without having to leave their home offices.

MIKE MILLIGAN Head of Global Marketing GCPay



Increasing contractors' ability to remotely access data across all platforms is something we continue to move forward with.

MIKE ODE

Foundation Software Inc.

### **E** 2021 TOP TECH

#### **ACCOUNTING AND JOB COSTING**

				USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CL	ISTOMER BA	SE
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Deltek		deltek.com	Deltek + ComputerEase	GC,SC,D	S,M	<b>╩</b> ∏	10K	-	6K
Est. 1983	Private	1,001-5,000 Employees	Proactive job costing and construction	on-focused flexib	le solution for in	ncreased profit	tability.		
Extracker		extracker.com	Extracker	GC,SC,D	M,L	:2:	8K	15K	3K
Est. 2018	Private	11-50 Employees	Web/phone apps for change order markup and collaboration.	anagement and r	equest logs, tim	ne/materials, ta	gs, notificati	ons, real-time	document
Foundation	n Software	foundationsoft.com	FOUNDATION	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	:2:	20K	-	-
Est. 1985	Private	201-500 Employees	Construction accounting software pr	ovides the tools	contractors nee	ed to run a suc	cessful busin	ess.	
Intuit Quick	kBooks	intuit.com	QuickBooks Enterprise	GC,SC,A,E,D	М	:2:	155K	-	35K
Est. 1983	Public	10,001+ Employees	All-in-one customizable solution to m	anage a business	and its bottom	line in a flexib	le, efficient p	latform.	
			QuickBooks Online Advanced	SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>* •</b>	90K	-	17K
			Built to help growing industry firms g	et paid faster, m	onitor job costs	and stay profi	table.		
Procore 🕏	BC□	procore.com	Financial Management	GC,SC,A,E,D	M,L	Щ	1M	1M	10K
Est. 2002	Public	1,001-5,000 Employees	Project cost management solution offer	ers real-time insig	ht into financial	health via centr	ralized data c	onnecting all st	akeholders.
Sage ABC		sage.com	Sage 100 Contractor	GC,SC,D	S	<b>₩</b> 🖩	-	-	-
Est. 1981	Public	10,001+ Employees	Efficient, integrated construction and	I field service ma	nagement solut	ion for small to	mid-sized c	ontractors.	
			Sage 300 Construction and Real Estate	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>₩</b> 🖩	-	-	-
			Full project or property portfolio final	ncial managemer	t solution helps	to improve vis	sibility and re	duce risk.	
			Sage Intacct Construction	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	**	-	-	-
			Native-cloud construction accounting	g solution built or	the Sage Intac	ct platform for	the specific	needs of conti	actors.

#### KEY

Firm Size:

#### Firm Type:

GC: General Contractor

SC: Subcontractor

E: Engineer

A: Architect 0: Owner

**Pricing Model:** 

Per Seat/Per User

Site License/Per Company

Per Project/Job

1 Other. For more information, please visit the company's website.

ABC Tech Alliance Member

S: 1-100 Employees/Up to \$25M

M: 101-500 Employees/\$25M-100M

**L:** 500-1000+ Employees/\$100M+

Active users may be rounded. Product descriptions have been edited for length and style. For more complete information, visit topconstructiontechnologyfirms.com.

#### Methodology for The Top Construction Technology Firms: The Standout Tech Companies of 2021™

CE developed The Top Construction Technology Firms: The Standout Tech Companies of 2021™ list by asking hundreds of firms that provide technology and software solutions for the construction industry to complete a nomination form. The information collected included: 1) the firm's product offerings specific to the AEC Industry; 2) the user profile for each product (type and size of firm for which the product is recommended); 3) how each product is sold (by seat, user, license, project, etc.); and 4) the number of active users within the past twelve months by individual users and/or companies. There was no fee to participate, and not every firm that completed the nomination form made this curated list. After carefully scrutinizing the data collected, CE developed its 2021 Top Construction Technology Firms list. For more information, contact surveys@ magazinexperts.com. Note: Some technology firms that did not submit the nomination form by the deadline were included by the editors for the sake of completeness.

ABC's Tech Alliance is a hand-selected group of 13 construction technology companies that add value for ABC members through improved utilization of

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software typically handles many of the functions listed under categories such as accounting and job costing, asset management, document management, project management and collaboration and many others. Due to space limitations, each product could only be included in one primary category. For more complete breakouts, see the full article on constructionexec.com.



The new, younger workforce

in construction is demanding

modern solutions that allow



Officer, Acumatica

Connecting the back office with project stakeholders, including subcontractors, makes for a more efficient project execution in addition to the field technology they are already using.

> BEN CONRY Co-Founder & Head of Customer Success, Flashtract



Early on in the pandemic, we made the decision to focus our development team on the creation of new mobile apps and enhancements designed to aid our customers in complying with COVID-19 guidelines and to help keep their staff members safe.

JOHN ROSCH
Regional Sales Manager
Explorer Software Inc.

hunt for investment opportunities in the construction tech space. After selling Deltek in 2016 for \$2.8 billion to Roper Technologies, Thoma Bravo purchased a majority interest in Foundation Software in 2020. In turn, Foundation was able to leverage that investment by acquiring McCormick Systems.

"McCormick is a great family company, and we're lucky to work with another team that has similar values to ours," says Mike Ode, CEO of Foundation. "We've always focused on developing products that address needs within the construction industry. We retain a heavy emphasis on increasing efficiency within and among the different teams that keep a construction company in business."

The impact of continued investments in construction technology (aka contech) firms will ultimately drive further adoption across the board. Smaller construction firms and subcontractors will gain access to platforms that were previously out of reach.

### TRIAL BY FIRE

As COVID-19 cases rise once again, collaboration technology is no longer viewed as something that would be nice to have; it's an essential capability for contractors to remain viable in a highly competitive market.

Limited access to in-person appointments has inspired many companies to embrace electronic compliance processes, which make the idea of going back to the pre-pandemic chore of chasing down a notary seem downright archaic. GCPay introduced a remote online digital notarization tool, valid in all 50 states. "We created that in the product itself so that it's a seamless workflow that doesn't disrupt automation," says Mike Milligan, head of global marketing for GCPay. "Now subcontractors and general contractors can have documentation notarized online, particularly compliance documentation, without having to leave their home offices."

Further, surveys during the past two years have confirmed that the majority of U.S. workers who transitioned to working from home during the pandemic not only prefer to stay remote, but would seek employment elsewhere if office attendance became mandatory. "Remote accessibility is not only here to stay but will be critical moving forward," Ode says, adding that remote accessibility between Foundation's accounting software and its Payroll4Construction service allowed workers to keep processes flowing even when they weren't in their usual office space. "Increasing contractors' ability to remotely access data across all platforms is something we continue to move forward with."

Ajoy Krishnamoorthy, chief strategy officer for Acumatica, agrees. "The new, younger workforce in construction is demanding modern solutions that allow for data access anywhere, anytime and on any device. We expect this trend to continue as more mundane tasks are automated."

For many firms, the pandemic illustrated how much their administrative personnel relied upon in-person communication to get things done. "Before COVID-19, there was a lot of tech growing from a field-tooffice communication perspective, but now our users are demanding more tools for their accounting and administrative teams," says Ben Conry, co-founder and head of customer success at Flashtract. "They want to use less paper and communicate in real time with all project stakeholders regardless of whether they are in the office. Connecting the back office with project stakeholders, including subcontractors, makes for a more efficient project execution in addition to the field technology they are already using."

During the pandemic, preventing the spread of COVID-19 throughout a company's workforce became essential. More than a few tech companies rose to the occasion to ensure construction clients could easily share information as workers were screened for signs of illness. Daily tracking and notification of employee wellness became increasingly important for managing jobsites, especially for essential workers in charge of maintaining electrical grids, telecommunications, hospitals and other critical infrastructure assets.

"One of our customers had a need to track employee wellness daily and be

	<b>ANAGEMEI</b> MENT AND MAT	<b>n t</b> Erials Tracking/Managemi	ENT	USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CUSTOMER BASE		
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
A1A Softwa	are, LLC	a1asoftware.com	iCraneTrax	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>*</b> II	-	-	-
Est. 2008	Private	11-50 Employees	Business info and reporting for o	crane owners: CRM, jo	b schedules, d	ispatch, equip	ment mainter	ance and flee	t utilization.
B2W Softv	vare	b2wsoftware.com	B2W Maintain	GC,SC	S,M,L	23:	500	-	-
Est. 1993	Private	51-200 Employees	Streamlines heavy construction	equipment maintenan	ce processes t	o prevent issu	es before the	y can impact ι	ıptime.
GoCodes		gocodes.com	GoCodes	GC,SC	S,M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 2012	Private	2-10 Employees	Solution includes tough metal QF	R code tags, software	and phone sca	nner apps to t	rack tools and	d equipment.	
OpenAsset	t	openasset.com	OpenAsset	GC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>II</b>	30K	-	-
Est. 2003	Private	11-50 Employees	Digital asset management system	n for AEC firms to sto	re, find, use an	d share digital	assets.		
Tenna, LLC	;	tenna.com	Tenna	GC,SC	S,M,L	₩.	2K	-	104
Est. 2015	Private	51-200 Employees	One-platform solution provides a	accurate and reliable	equipment data	and tracking.			
ToolWatch		toolwatch.com	ToolWatch Enterprise	GC,SC	S,M,L	•	-	-	4K
Est. 1991	Private	11-50 Employees	Manage tools and equipment effi	iciently across branch	offices, wareh	ouses, tool cr	ibs, jobsites a	and trucks.	
Versatile		versatile.ai	CraneView	GC,SC,D	M,L	<b>H</b> 📤	-	-	_
Est. 2016	Private	51-200 Employees	Mount under the hook of any cra	ne for data insights ir	to picks, mater	ials, redundar	ncies, progres	s and crane u	tilization.
ViZZ Techn	ologies	manufacton.com	Manufacton	GC,SC,D	M,L	П	2K	1K	288
Est. 2016	Private	11-50 Employees	Materials and inventory manager	ment of off-site produ	ction and on-si	te installation	of componen	ts.	

BUILDING	INFORMAI	ION MODELING (BIM)		USER PI	ROFILE	Pricing	CUSTOMER BASE		
Company In	formation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Autodesk 🦠	ÅBC □	construction.autodesk.com	Autodesk BIM Collaborate	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>₩ ■</b>	-	-	-
Est. 1982	Public	10,001+ Employees	Enables teams to align and execute or	nables teams to align and execute on design intent by managing the entire design collaboration and coordination workflo					
Bluebeam, I	nc.	bluebeam.com	Revu	GC,SC,A,E	S,M,L	**:	2M	-	-
Est. 2002	Public	201-500 Employees	Create, annotate and share project do	ocuments, includ	ing submittals,	drawings, take	off and punc	h lists.	
Trimble		trimble.com	Sketchup	GC,SC,A,E	S,M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 1978	Public	10,001+ Employees	3D modeling software that makes it eas	y for contractors,	architects and	designers to cre	eate, visualize	and share proj	ect designs.

notified of potential health risks, enabling them to proactively provide assistance when appropriate. So, we created a survey tool that integrated into the Acumatica platform," Krishnamoorthy says.

ACCET MANAGEMENT

"Early on in the pandemic, we made the decision to focus our development team on the creation of new mobile apps and enhancements designed to aid our customers in complying with COVID-19 guidelines and to help keep their staff members safe," says John Rosch, regional sales manager for Explorer Software. "One of the first things we created was an employee time portal app, with the goal of minimizing physical contact. Field workers could easily submit data for approval from anywhere without compromising social distancing

requirements by handing paper to a supervisor."

Woody Chamberlain, president of e-Mars, says the tracking of vaccinated and unvaccinated workers alike should be taken seriously, and implemented the capabilities to do just that in its certified payroll compliance software. "The government may force contractors to know who has been vaccinated to be allowed on a jobsite. We can store a vaccine document and even prevent filing of payroll if all people on the job are not vaccinated. We are also able to create a notice that an employee is not vaccinated."

Constantly changing state and federal mandates continue to plague the industry, and many tech providers have stepped in to help keep clients working with minimal interruptions. This proved

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The government may force contractors to know who has been vaccinated to be allowed on a jobsite. We can store a vaccine document and even prevent filing of payroll if all people on the job are not vaccinated.

WOODY CHAMBERLAIN President, eMars

BUSINES	S INTELLIG	ENCE, REPORTING A	ND ANALYTICS	USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CU	STOMER BA	ASE
Company I	Information		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Briq		br.iq	Forecast Workbooks	GC,SC	S,M,L	Щ	-	-	-
Est. 2018	Private	51-200 Employees	Enables construction & facilities ma collaborate effectively.	nagement firms to	improve forec	ast accuracy,	save time, imp	orove efficiend	cy and
Eos Group	, Inc.	eosgroup.com	Eos Cortex	GC,SC,E,D	M,L	**	-	-	-
Est. 1995	Private	11-50 Employees	Uses historical cost data with big da	ta and predictive	analytics to pro	ovide deeper b	usiness insigh	nts.	
Prophix Sc	oftware	prophix.com	Prophix Corporate Performance Management (CPM) Software	GC,SC	M,L	<b>::</b> :	1K	_	-
Est. 1987	Private	201-500 Employees	Automated budgets, forecasts and re	eports to maximize	e profitability, n	ninimize risk an	d uncover nev	w business op	portunities.
Toric		toric.com	Toric	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 2019	Private	11-50 Employees	Uses building engineering data to pr	ovide instantaneo	us insights and	visualizations	that enhance	data-driven d	lecisions.



We helped [our users] streamline the practical aspect of managing COVID-19 through the digitization of safety workflows and an extensive library of templates, including many regional and industryspecific safety meeting and inspection templates.

PETER GRANT CEO, Safesite



Getting access to capital is the lifeblood of any construction business, and we've done a lot of work getting capital in the hands of businesses so that they can continue to win in the marketplace. **BOBBY MORRISON** Chief Sales Officer, Intuit

to be a lifeline for small and mid-sized contractors that did not have a dedicated safety staff to create electronic inspection and safety forms for compliance.

"There was a strong need among users for help with the practical implementation of public health guidance," says Peter Grant, CEO of Safesite. "We helped them streamline the practical aspect of managing COVID-19 through the digitization of safety workflows and an extensive library of templates, including many regional and industry-specific safety meeting and inspection templates."

Construction firms continue to dig through a backlog of work from projects delayed by the pandemic even as they prepare to analyze the opportunities in the \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill. Having access to capital is essential for contractors that are planning to bid on potential infrastructure projects even before a contract is signed.

"Everyone's business has evolved since COVID-19, and our technology solutions are no stranger to that," says Bobby Morrison, chief sales officer for Intuit. "In particular, we've put a lot of emphasis into our online ecosystem—having remote cloud access with security, all operationally available in the palm of your hand. We've also seen a tremendous need for access to capital. Getting access to capital is the lifeblood of any construction business, and we've done a lot of work getting capital in the hands of businesses so that they can continue to win in the marketplace."

### DATA ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY

Interoperability is crucial for an industry that depends on many different parties to come together seamlessly to make a project work. Transparency and access to information are ways technology has driven success and profitability, but can only be achieved when all parties involved work from a single source of truth.

Originally founded as Computer Methods International Corporation, CMiC has been building enterprise software since 1974. "Our software has been fully web-based since 2000," says Bill Gustaw, team leader for CMiC's solutions group. "Since 2015, most customers have deployed their software in a multitenant cloud environment. As a result of our web-based roots, SaaS and PaaS deployment models, as well as a growing portfolio of mobile apps, our users didn't miss a beat when it came to switching to a work-from-home model."

"A project management solution is at its best when it unites teams in a single collaborative environment, providing all participants with the tools and integrations to collectively move the project forward," Courtemanche savs.

Jan Tore Grindheim, founder and CEO of Fonn, agrees. "Most management software tools and their pricing structures are, by nature, exclusive. For a tool to be truly effective, everyone on-site needs access to current information. The only constant is change, and that change can be detrimental to schedules and budgets



acumatica.com/construction 888-228-8300

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DOCUME	NI MANAGE	EMENT/DOCUMENT IMA	GING	USER P	USER PROFILE		CUSTOMER BASE		
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Autodesk	ЯВС□	construction.autodesk.com	Autodesk Docs	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>※</b> ■ ●	-	-	-
Est. 1982	Public	10,001+ Employees	Organize and share files across the	project life cycle v	vith a single pla	atform and com	mon data en	vironment.	
Bentley Sy	stems, Inc.	bentley.com	<b>BCDE</b> E,D S,M,L <b>♣ Ⅲ ♠</b> 26K						
Est. 1983	Public	1,001-5,000 Employees	Secure common data environment f	or document and i	nformation ma	nagement of pr	ojects and b	uilt assets.	
GoFormz		goformz.com	GoFormz Mobile Forms	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	*	70K	3K	ЗК
Est. 2012	Private	11-50 Employees	Eliminate paper forms and streamling	ne project manage	ment and appro	ovals between	office and fie	ld.	
SunRay Construction Solutions Sunraynotice.com SunRay App GC,SC,A,E,D S   © C,SC,A,E,D S						1K			
Est. 2012	Private	11-50 Employees	Construction documents service au	tomating prelimina	ary notices, lier	ns and bond cla	im filings.		

DRONES A	AND SURV	EYING		USER P	USER PROFILE		CUSTOMER BASE			
Company In						Projects	Firms			
DroneDeplo	ру	dronedeploy.com	DroneDeploy	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	**	-	-	-	
Est. 2014	Private	201-500 Employees	Capture interior, exterior, ground an	Capture interior, exterior, ground and aerial data for surveys, inspections, 3D models and jobsite documentation.						
HCSS		hcss.com	HCSS Aerial	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	•	-	-	-	
Est. 1986	Private	201-500 Employees	Drone-based data analytics platform	n.						
Nearmap		nearmap.com	Nearmap Aerial Imagery	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>II</b>	10K	-	679	
Est. 2008	Public	201-500 Employees	High-resolution aerial imagery and a	rtificial intelligenc	e insights help	companies ma	ke smart dec	isions.		



A project management solution is at its best when it unites teams in a single collaborative environment, providing all participants with the tools and integrations to collectively move the project forward.

TOOEY COURTEMANCHE Founder, President and CEO Procore



We believe communication should take place in the same location as jobsite milestone tracking and document storage.

JAN TORE GRINDHEIM
Founder and CEO, Fonn Construction

if all parties are not in communication. We believe communication should take place in the same location as jobsite milestone tracking and document storage," Grindheim says.

Contractors spend a great deal of time hunting down information and catching errors in multiple systems on projects that often undergo multiple changes. Cutting wasteful tasks is a key indicator of successful tech implementation, which can eliminate the daily frustration of hide-and-seek information and processes.

Finding that uniformity in management software can cure many issues that slow a project down, such as double entry, responding to change orders and, as Varsha Bhave, president and chief technology officer of Systemates says, scheduling. "Many times, different divisions of a project will each have their own preferred construction scheduling software, which doesn't do project managers or owners any good. It's essential to have a central location where all schedules are stored in a standard format to provide that at-a-glance view to spot potential problems."

"It's crucial for a project foreperson to keep the job moving in order to get the materials they need to keep the project on schedule," says Matt Wagoner, CEO and co-founder of PeerAssist. "Users can digitize text messages, voicemails and emails to create a digital record, which allows material requisitions to flow seamlessly to the purchasing agent. We want to eliminate re-keying and duplicate entry and capture approvals without the process becoming bottlenecked."

### **FOLLOWING THE MONEY**

Tech solutions have long been available to allow contractors to capture labor costs automatically in real time. Making that data transparent to all project stakeholders helps detect problems quickly and prevent profit fade. When labor costs are recorded manually by multiple people, the potential for human error increases, leading to duplicate entry and costly mistakes. Maintaining accurate labor costs is the linchpin of effective job cost reporting.

"Being able to record time once in the field and automatically route it to relevant staff for review and approval speeds up the process, reduces errors and results in labor being posted on a daily basis," Gustaw says. "Project staff always have a current view of labor costs and can use this information to ensure the timely completion and profitability of a project."

ENIERPR	IISE KESUL	JRGE PLANNING (ERI	7)	USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	Cl	JSTOMER BA	SE		
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms		
Acumatica	1	acumatica.com	Acumatica Cloud ERP for Construction	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	0	2K	-	550		
Est. 2008	Private	201-500 Employees	Robust financials, job cost accounting,	project managem	ent, payroll, inve	entory, service	management,	CRM and mob	ile app.		
CMiC		cmicglobal.com	CMiC Enterprise Resource Planning	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>* I</b>	20K	10K	400		
Est. 1974	Private	201-500 Employees	Delivers a complete set of unified capa	bilities to run a fi	rm's full back of	fice on a Single	Database Pla	atform.™			
COINS		coins-global.com	<b>COINS Construction Cloud</b>	GC,SC	M,L	•	10K	-	-		
Est. 1986	Private	201-500 Employees	Suite of solutions for building, contract	ing, civil engineer	ring, heavy/high	way, MEP and s	service mana	gement.			
Computer Corporation		computerguidance.com	eCMS	GC,SC,A,E	S,M,L	*	75K	-	-		
Est. 1981	Private	51-200 Employees	Cloud-based ERP helps commercial conf	tractors manage f	inancials and pro	jects with real-	time data and	automated wor	kflows.		
Explorer S	oftware	explorer-software.com	Eclipse	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>*</b> 🗓	-	-	-		
Est. 1984	Private	51-200 Employees	Integrated solution to manage jobs, ma	intain equipment	, dispatch techn	icians, manage	documents a	orce.			
IFS		ifs.com	IFS Cloud	GC,SC,E	L	2:	148K	18K 30K			
Est. 1983	Private	1,001-5,000 Employees	Integrated business software suite to m	nanage projects a	nd assets from (	design-build thr	ough mainten	ations.			
Jonas Cons Software	struction	jonasconstruction.com	Jonas Enterprise	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>* •</b>	14K	-	1K		
Est. 1990	Public	51-200 Employees	Connects back office to the field to inc	rease productivit	y and manage c	ash flow, WIP r	eporting and	service contra	cts.		
Penta Tech	nnologies	penta.com	PENTA ERP	GC,SC,E	M,L	•	-	-	-		
Est. 1969	Private	11-50 Employees	Enterprise solution for construction, engi	neering and servic	ce firms to manag	ge accounting, p	roject manage	ement and field :	service.		
TRUE Ltd.		constructtrue.com	TRUE Contractor	SC	S,M	2:	1K	-	150		
Est. 2012	Private	11-50 Employees	Web-based, all-inclusive construction	management and	ERP software s	olution designe	ed for subcon	tractors.			
Viewpoint,	, Inc.	viewpoint.com	Spectrum	GC,SC	M,L	•	-	-	-		
Est. 1975	Public	501-1,000 Employees	Web-based ERP solution with tools for	accounting, proj	ect managemen	t, human resou	rces, payroll	and more.			
			ViewpointOne	GC,SC	M,L	•	-	-	-		
Construction management suite simplifies managing projects, processes and people, bringing data together for analysis and reporting.							alysis				
			Vista	GC,SC	L	•	-	-	-		

**ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING (ERP)** 

ESTIMATI	NG AND TA	KEOFF		USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CU	STOMER BA	SE
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Autodesk	<b>ЙВС</b> □	construction.autodesk.com	Autodesk Takeoff	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>₩</b> 🛚 🛎	-	-	-
Est. 1982	Public	10,001+ Employees	Allows estimators to perform 2D take	offs and generate	automated qua	ntities from 3D	models within	n a single taked	off solution.
Beck Tech	ology	beck-technology.com	DESTINI Estimator	GC,SC	S,M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 1996	Public	51-200 Employees	Cloud-hosted estimating software pr	ovides insight int	o the preconsti	ruction data life	e cycle.		
Eos Group,	Inc.	eosgroup.com	Eos Navigator	GC,SC,E,D	M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 1995	Private	11-50 Employees	Estimating management system desi	gned to work wit	h Sage Estimat	ing SQL and Eo	s Cortex.		
Foundation	Software	foundationsoft.com	McCormick Systems	SC,D	S,M,L	:2:	5K	-	-
Est. 1985	Private	201-500 Employees	Estimating software for electrical co	ntractors combin	es takeoff and	design in one p	rogram.		
HCSS		hcss.com	HCSS HeavyBid	GC,SC,E	S,M,L	<b>*</b> 🗓	50K	25K	4K
Est. 1986	Private	201-500 Employees	Estimating software for crew-based	infrastructure co	nstruction.				
On Center		oncenter.com	On-Screen Takeoff	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>*</b> II	-	-	-
Est. 1988	Public	51-200 Employees	Solution to help create accurate take	offs in less time f	or project bidd	ing.			
ProEst 🖄	àc □	proest.com	ProEst	GC,SC	S,M,L		15K	10K	2K
Est. 1992	Private	51-200 Employees	Streamline estimating and preconstrumanagement solutions.	iction tasks to wii	n more work. Ir	itegrations with	n major ERP, a	accounting and	l project

Configurable and fully integrated ERP system with job costing, equipment management, human resources and payroll management.

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· ILLD IXL	on in a	MEI KEI OKTIKA		USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CU	STOMER BA	ISE
Company I	nformation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Al Clearing	5	aiclearing.com	AI HEART	GC,D	M,L	<b>_</b>	65	13	12
Est. 2018	Private	11-50 Employees	Artificial intelligence-powered progre	ess tracking and i	monitoring platf	form provides ι	users with de	eper jobsite in	sights.
Bluebeam,	Inc	bluebeam.com	Project Rover	GC,SC,A,E	S,M,L	**	-	-	-
Est. 2002	Public	201-500 Employees	Keep office and field in sync with a re	eliable, single sou	rce of data.				
StructionS	ite	structionsite.com	Site Documentation	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	4	50K	16K	1K
Est. 2016	Private	51-200 Employees	Field-first workflows capture jobsite	progress throug	h the use of 360	O° photos and v	/ideos.		
			SmartTrack®	SC	S,M,L	4	980	115	55
			360° videos automatically quantify vi	sual scopes of w	ork for tracking	g progress agai	inst schedule	, budget and la	abor.
Trimble		trimble.com	Trimble X7 3D Laser Scanner With Trimble Field Link	GC,SC,E	S,M,L	0	-	-	-
Est. 1978	Public	10,001+ Employees	Construction-ready 3D laser scanner v	with construction	layout and scan	ning software f	or increased p	oroductivity an	d accuracy.

FIELD SER	VICE MANA	GEMENT		USER PROFILE		Pricing	CUSTOMER BASE				
Company In	formation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms		
BuildOps 🕉	BC 🗆	buildops.com	BuildOps SC S,M,L -						-		
Est. 2018	Private	51-200 Employees	Built specifically for commercial MEP	contractors, all-	in-one manage	ment software	for field serv	rice and projec	cts.		
Fieldwire		fieldwire.com	Fieldwire	eldwire GC,SC,A,E,D S,M,L <b>♣ 🎚 ≜</b> 155K 120K 4K							
Est. 2013	Private	51-200 Employees	Mobile and web-based jobsite management software connects field and office teams.								



It's essential to have a central location where all schedules are stored in a standard format to provide that at-a-glance view to spot potential problems.

VARSHA BHAVE
President and CTO
Projectmates by Systemates Inc.



We want to eliminate rekeying and duplicate entry and capture approvals without the process becoming bottlenecked.

CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER 2021

MATT WAGONER
CEO / Co-Founder, PeerAssist

A more recent development has been business intelligence technology solutions that use artificial intelligence to provide even deeper business insights.

"Pre-pandemic, most of our construction industry clients had their finance and accounting teams focused on rearview reporting of what had taken place in the business over prior periods with traditional financial and work-in-progress reports," says Ibrahim Seif, director of sales for Prophix Software's construction and real estate division. "During the pandemic, contractors faced a lot of pressure to closely monitor cash, profitability, costs and risk to stay agile in the changing situation. We saw a major shift in focus for these firms and a demand to leverage their data to provide more insight into forward-looking projections, scenario planning and agile forecasting. This function of the finance team isn't going away."

Being business-flush and cash-poor isn't uncommon in the industry as a result of the traditional construction payable ecosystem. Contractors often start work on a job expecting not to get paid for 90 days while taking loans to cover the costs for materials, equipment and labor.

Chase Gilbert, CEO of Built
Technologies, believes the process can
be improved with digitization. "We
wanted to fix construction lending,"
Gilbert says. "Now we want to follow the
money downstream and fix construction
spending. With good connectivity, you
could eliminate a lot of that need to
borrow. The payable cycles within the
industry are ridiculous, and if we digitize
more of this, we can introduce new
payment methods among parties to help
them either pay or get paid faster."

A common headache for contractors is the approval process for change orders. A poor system can lead to payments for unauthorized work. "When a change order from a subcontractor is submitted into an accounting system, you want to be able to track that in your payment processing system, too," GCPay's Milligan says. "Our users can monitor, track and act on change orders with updates reflected in both their payment and accounting systems."

#### **WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT**

Despite a construction job growth outlook of 5% through 2029, higher than any other industry, getting boots on the

jobsite has been a long-standing concern. The latest U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics Report saw little movement in July due to weak spending in June and a slowing in residential building permits. These factors are driving demand for data intelligence that can inform contractors if they are using their workforce in the most efficient manner.

"The pandemic saw nearly a million people leave the industry in the few months before construction was deemed an essential service. Most of that workforce has since returned to work, but with so much uncertainty and so many team members choosing to work remotely, we've seen the demand for collaborative tools explode. Contractors now need to keep multiple departments up to speed regarding their workforce availability to help inform their own work," says Mallorie Brodie, CEO and co-founder of Bridgit.

The pandemic's impact on employment and a shrinking skilled workforce has left many contractors shuffling people from one project to another to fill gaps; however,



Project staff always have a current view of labor costs and can use this information to ensure the timely completion and profitability of a project.

**BILL GUSTAW** 

Team Leader, Solutions Group, CMiC

	AL TECHNO MENT AND AUTO	<b>LOGY</b> OMATION, SALES TAX, ETC.		USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CU	STOMER BA	SE
Company I	Information		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Briq		br.iq	BriqCash	GC,SC	S,M,L	H	-	-	-
Est. 2018	Private	51-200 Employees	Enables contractors to automate	accounts payable wo	orkflow from pr	ocurement to p	payment and e	earn cash-bac	k rewards.
Built Techr	nologies	getbuilt.com	Built Construction Lending Suite	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	•	-	-	-
Est. 2014	Private	201-500 Employees	Borrowing portal streamlines the	construction draw p	rocess. Reque	st and manage	drawings and	d report on job	statuses.
			<b>Built Financial Toolkit</b>	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	4	-	-	-
			Digitally manage compliance docu	uments and payment	s from one cen	tral dashboard	•		
Flashtract	ØBC □	flashtract.com	Flashtract	GC,SC	S,M,L		-	-	-
Est. 2018	Private	11-50 Employees	Flashtract is a simple, cloud-base	ed construction billing	g tool built for c	ontractors, str	eamlining pay	apps like nev	ver before.
GCPay	`	gcpay.com	GCPay	GC	M,L	_	20K	100K	200
Est. 2003	Private	51-200 Employees	Cloud collaboration solution stream	mlines payment appli	cation process	and integrates	with construc	tion accountir	g systems.

	MONITORII SECURITY AND S			USER P	ROFILE	Pricing	CU	STOMER BA	SE
Company I	Information		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
EarthCam		earthcam.net	61 MegapixelCam Robotic	GC,SC,D	M,L	<b>_</b>	-	-	-
Est. 1996	Private	51-200 Employees	Document milestones with ultra-hig	th resolution, 61MP	panoramic ima	agery, precise l	heavy-duty p	an-tilt camera	•
			Solstice Cam	GC,SC,D	S,M	<u> </u>	_	-	-
			Wireless, battery-powered security	camera for afford	able indoor/out	door jobsite se	ecurity.		
			Work Zone Cam	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<u> </u>	_	-	-
			Plug-and-play professional time-la	ose camera with 24	IMP photograp	hy, live video b	urst and 4K t	ime-lapse.	
<b>OxBlue</b>		oxblue.com	Cobalt Camera Series	GC,D	S,M,L	_	-	-	-
Est. 2001	Private	51-200 Employees	Six 60MP fixed-position cameras off	er wide-angle optio	ns, instant pan a	and zoom, high-	-definition ima	ges and video	on demand.
			OxBlue User Interface	GC,D	S,M,L	_	-	-	-
			Real-time project analysis dashboa	rd. Weather, safety	, site activity ir	ntelligence, sof	tware integra	ation tools and	more.
			Sapphire Camera Series	GC,D	S,M,L	<b>_</b>	-	-	-
			1080p live stream video, time-lapse	e, 360° panoramic i	mages, optical	pan-tilt-zoom,	motion detec	ction and video	recording.
Sensera S	ystems	senserasystems.com	SiteCloud Software and Camera Solution	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	0	179K	5K	2K
Est. 2015	Private	11-50 Employees	Real-time site intelligence using inte	egrated compact so	olar/wireless ca	imeras, sensor	s and softwa	are.	
TrueLook		truelook.com	TrueLook Construction Cameras	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>_</b>	-	-	-
Est. 2010	Private	11-50 Employees	Cameras provide total jobsite visibi	lity with live viewin	g, custom time	-lapsing and 24	4/7 intelligent	security.	

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**PAYROLL** 



Contractors should look for asset tracking and management system providers whose sole focus is on the construction industry with a single, fully integrated platform.

Co-Founder, CEO

#### **USER PROFILE CUSTOMER BASE** Pricing **Product Company Information** Users Projects Firms Firm Type Firm Size eBacon eBacon GC,SC S,M ebacon.com Est. 2003 Private 51-200 Employees Software simplifies certified payroll and prevailing wage compliance with reporting and workforce management tools. S,M,L **eMars** emarsinc.com **Compliant Client** GC,SC Est. 1993 Private 2-10 Employees Certified payroll online compliance software. foundationsoft.com Payroll4Construction GC.SC.D S.M.L 0 201-500 Employees Processes complex construction payrolls including tax filing and free reporting services. **LCP**certified SC lcptracker.com 51-200 Employees Cloud-based certified payroll reporting solution for compliance with prevailing wage requirements. **LCPtracker Professional** GC.D Cloud-based prevailing wage and workforce compliance management solution to monitor contractors and subcontractors on a project.

as Brodie says, "Filling gaps isn't just about hiring more people. In a lot of cases, gaps can be filled by leveling up the current team—but doing it effectively will require greater information sharing."

Ben Schultz, a fourth-generation electrical contractor and CEO of LaborChart, says, "Workforce management is the most neglected piece of every contractor's business. If we can identify the people and their roles and responsibilities, then we can identify what processes they take to execute them and what resources they need to accomplish what they are trying to do. We are always looking at what is working well and what needs improvement within the industry."

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT**

According to the Q2 2021 U.S. Chamber of Commerce Commercial Construction Index, 44% of contractors plan to spend more on tools and equipment by the end of the year, putting pressure on equipment managers to ensure that they have the right procedures in place to track and deploy these assets efficiently.

"Asset management and tracking needs to keep pace with other technologies and advancements within the industry. For contractors to get to the next level of equipment management maturity over the next decade, their tech needs to incorporate the latest business intelligence tools that can manage new asset types such as robotics, autonomous vehicles and assistive

devices," says Austin Conti, co-founder and CEO of Tenna LLC.

The infrastructure spending bill will spur purchases of new equipment, along with an increase in theft. According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, the construction industry loses nearly \$1 billion to equipment theft per year. There were more incidents of theft during the pandemic, largely as a result of unmonitored jobsites and an absence of tracking technology.

"Contractors should look for asset tracking and management system providers whose sole focus is on the construction industry with a single, fully integrated platform. They need a partner that will provide hands-on, first-class implementation and training to ensure proper set up and ongoing customer support for long-term success," Conti says.

There are **348,769** registered commercial drones in the U.S.

- F.A.A.

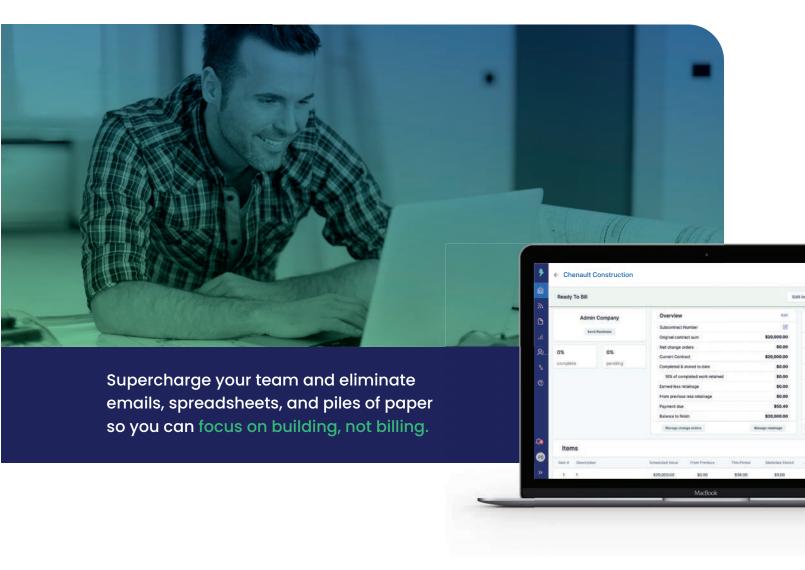
### **REAL-TIME SNAPSHOTS**

Use of unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, increased during the pandemic, and investors are paying attention. DroneDeploy raised \$50 million in Series E financing earlier this year, bringing its

# Still managing sub pay apps over email?

You're not alone. 53% of sub pay app submissions have a mistake.

× MATH ERRORS × MISSING LIEN WAIVERS × UNAPPROVED CHANGE ORDERS





CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER 2021

	STRUCTION BCONTRACTOR P	REQUALIFICATION, PERMITTING,	ETC.	USER P	USER PROFILE		CUSTOMER BASE		
Company	Information		Product Firm Type		Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Autodesk	ЯВС□	construction.autodesk.com	BuildingConnected	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>※</b> Ⅱ <b>≜</b>	-	-	-
Est. 1982	Public	10,001+ Employees	Real-time construction network conr	ects owners and	builders to str	reamline bidding	g and risk ma	nagement.	
On Center		oncenter.com	Quick Bid	GC	S,M,L	<b>*</b> II	-	-	-
Est. 1988	Public	51-200 Employees	Software that promises to help accel	erate the bid esti	mation proces	S.			
PipelineSu	iite	pipelinesuite.com	PipelineRFQ - Bid Solicitation	GC,D	S,M,L	<b>₽</b>	-	-	-
Est. 2002	Private	11-50 Employees	Facilitates sending invitation-to-bid e	mails to subcont	ractors.				
	<u> </u>		PipelinePrequal - Prequalify Your Subs	GC,D	S,M,L	H	-	-	-
			Form builder primarily used for prequ	ualification of sub	contractors.				
			PipelineTab - Bid Tabulation/ Bid Leveling	GC	S,M,L	<b>* I</b>	-	-	-
			Creates itemized bid tabulation sheet	s for side-by-sid	e comparison t	to identify scop	e discrepanc	ies.	
PlanHub		planhub.com	PlanHub	GC,SC	S,M	H	153K	ЗК	120K
Est. 2008	Private	51-200 Employees	Preconstruction bidding software as	a service for gen	eral contracto	rs, subcontract	ors and supp	oliers.	
Procore 5	ÄBC □	procore.com	Preconstruction	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	H	1M	1M	10K
Est. 2002	Public	1,001-5,000 Employees	Connect design, estimate, bids and bu	dget on one integ	rated platform	to make constru	uction more p	redictable and	profitable.
STACK Con Technolog		stackct.com	STACK	GC,SC	S,M,L	:2:	-	-	-
Est. 2012	Private	51-200 Employees	Preconstruction software: plan mana	gement, takeoff	and estimating	, proposal cust	omization an	d real-time col	laboration.
StratusVu	е	stratusvue.com	BidVue	GC,SC	S,M,L	H	30K	18K	10
Est. 2006	Private	11-50 Employees	Platform to send, review and report	on invitations to b	id.				
SubScreen	ner	subscreener.com	SubScreener	GC	S,M,L	•	-	-	-
Est. 2018	Private	11-50 Employees	Searches public and proprietary data	bases for inform	ation that a su	bcontractor ch	ooses to leav	e out of a que	stionnaire.



We've been investing in Al for several years now, and over the course of the pandemic, we've seen significant, tangible results with enhanced Al and machine learning capabilities in our software.

### IBRAHIM SEIF

Director, Sales - North American Construction & Real Estate Prophix Software Inc. total funding to \$142 million, more than any other drone company to date.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration, there are 348,769 commercial drones registered in the United States. An affordable way to manage jobsites, drones are used to manage safety protocols, ensure social distancing and capture images from high-risk areas. Drone imaging can be combined on a BIM platform to generate 3D models that can be updated, modified and shared with all the stakeholders on a project. Drones can be used to capture interior, exterior, ground and aerial data for surveys, inspections and jobsite documentation.

Traditional cameras, primarily used to monitor jobsites for security measures, are being used for a variety of other applications. Real-time imagery from cameras and drones with date and time stamps can dispel disputes between contractors and owners when questions arise regarding project delays or documentation of work completed.

### **DATA-DRIVEN SUCCESS**

The artificial intelligence market is anticipated to grow exponentially within the next few years, largely due to the pandemic—and this is good news for the industry. Using pattern recognition and machine learning, AI can stave off scheduling conflicts, prevent delays and mitigate risk.

"We're connecting AI across our platform. This helps eliminate errors and allows you to make better decisions on the go. We've made a tremendous investment in that over the last few years, and you'll continue to see us invest as we go forward," Intuit's Morrison says.

AI can combine large amounts of data with fast, frequent processing that allows it to learn from algorithms. Once these are learned, AI can be used to advise on projects, scheduling and more.

"We've been investing in AI for several years now, and over the course of the pandemic, we've seen significant, tangible results with enhanced AI and machine learning capabilities in our software. This evolution now gives our customers not only the ability to streamline and automate their planning, budgeting, forecasting and reporting processes but also leverage an AI engine to derive insights that enhance decision-making," Profix Software's Seif says.

"We're not trying to just expose data, we want to use it to help people make better decisions," Built Technologies' Gilbert says. "Whether it's the identification of new opportunities, managing risk or how fast payments are getting in and out the door, what people want now is to supplement what we already provide with other sources.

One of the underlying issues that the pandemic exposed more clearly has been the cost of siloed data. When information isn't flowing freely between all branches of a construction project, cost overruns are usually not far behind.

"We've taken a data-first approach and, as such, we help companies bring their own technology and processes into a central data environment where they gain full visibility and enable continued innovation and adoption," says Chris Peters, senior vice president, North America for Asite. "This has never been more critical than today, as we settle into the new normal. Our goal is to make it easier for organizations to collaborate across the entire project lifecycle in an open and transparent way."

Unpredictability, economic uncertainty and risk allocated to others in the construction chain have been pain points that the tech industry sees being solved—at least in some part—by using data, not just collecting it. According to FMI's Big Data Report, 95.5% of all data captured goes unused in the engineering and construction industry.

Schultz gives this example of a typical missed information opportunity. "If you're an electrical contractor with 100,000 labor hours on a two-year project, there is plenty of information out there that you can reference to see how this project should be staffed to create labor plans. Oftentimes, a contractor does not know if they're going to make money, or lose money, until the



We're not trying to just expose data, we want to use it to help people make better decisions.

CHASE GILBERT CEO, Built Technologies, Inc.



Our goal is to make it easier for organizations to collaborate across the entire project lifecycle in an open and transparent way.

CHRIS PETERS
SVP North America
Asite

PROJECT MANAGEMENT, COLLABORATION A		AND SCHEDULING	USER P	USER PROFILE		CUSTOMER BASE			
Company In	Company Information		Product F	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
ALICE Technologies alicetechnologies.com		ALICE	GC,SC,D	L	<b>_</b>	-	-	-	
Est. 2013	Private	11-50 Employees	Artificial intelligence-powered constr	uction simulation	n platform creat	es schedules t	hat reduce ri	sk while cuttin	g costs.
Asite		asite.com	Asite Adoddle	GC,SC,D	M,L	<b>※</b> ■ <b>▲</b>	325K	56K	78K
Est. 2001	Private	201-500 Employees	Connects field and office teams to bu	ild better with a	ccess to contra	cts and projec	t financials.		
Assignar		assignar.com	Assignar	GC,SC	S,M,L	**	12K	20K	422
Est. 2014	Private	51-200 Employees	Crew and equipment management, se	cheduling, GPS to	racking, field da	ita, timesheets	, analytics an	nd more.	
Autodesk 5	ABC □	construction.autodesk.com	Autodesk Build	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>₩ # *</b>	-	9K	-
Est. 1982	Public	10,001+ Employees	Project management and field solution	n connects team	s, workflows a	nd data to deli	ver projects o	on time and wit	thin budge
B2W Software b2wsoftware.com		b2wsoftware.com	B2W Schedule	GC,SC	S,M,L	:2:	500	-	-
Est. 1993	Private	51-200 Employees	Schedule and dispatch employees, ed	quipment, materials and trucking with increased visibility and resource coordination					
		'	ONE Platform	GC,SC	S,M,L	:2:	15K	-	-
			Unified applications for estimating, so	cheduling, field tr	acking, mainte	nance and elec	tronic forms.		
Bentley Sys	tems, Inc.	bentley.com	ProjectWise	E,D	S,M,L	<b>※</b> Ⅱ <b>▲</b>	336K	102K	3K
Est. 1983	Public	1,001-5,000 Employees	Design, work-in-progress and collabo	oration solution f	or engineering i	nfrastructure (	orojects.		
			SYNCHRO	GC,SC,E,D	S,M,L	<b>※ ■ ▲</b>	1K	600	250
			4D planning, project and field manage	ement solution to	optimize decis	ion-making, re	sources and	profitability.	
Civalgo		civalgo.com	Civalgo Operational Platform	SC	S,M,L	*	2K	7K	150
Est. 2017	Private	11-50 Employees	Project management solution for effe	ctive planning, fi	eld execution a	nd project con	trols.		
CMiC		cmicglobal.com	CMiC FIELD	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>₩ </b>	100K	10K	350
Est. 1974	Private	201-500 Employees	Manage all aspects of project delive and bidding.	ry operations: c	ollaboration, di	awings and do	ocuments, ch	nanges, subco	ntractors

### **2021 TOP TECH**

PROJECT N (Continued)	MANAGEM	ENT, COLLABORATION A	AND SCHEDULING	USER PROFILE Pricing		CUSTOMER BASE			
Company In	formation		Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Model	Users	Projects	Firms
Contractor I	Foreman	contractorforeman.com	Contractor Foreman	GC,SC	S	:2:	13K	162K	2K
Est. 2016	Private	2-10 Employees	Construction management system for	or small and medic	ım-sized busine	sses.			
Digital Cons Works, Inc (		digitalconstructionworks.com	DCW Integrations Platform With Insights	GC,SC,A,E,D	M,L	•	-	-	-
Est. 2019	Private	11-50 Employees	A joint venture of Bentley Systems a	and Topcon, DCW is	s a product-agr	nostic technolo	ogy integratio	on and services	s company.
Elecosoft		elecosoft.com	Powerproject	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>* 1</b>	-	-	-
Est. 1895	Public	201-500 Employees	Powerproject makes managing projects resource management features.	ects easy. It has in	tuitive scheduli	ng capability, 4	4D BIM integ	ration, a mobile	app and
Fonn		fonn.com	Fonn	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	•	17K	30K	300
Est. 2016	Private	11-50 Employees	Store key documents, communicate	in real time and el	fficiently monito	r projects off-	-site on one p	olatform.	
HCSS		hcss.com	HCSS HeavyJob	GC,SC,E	S,M,L	<b>* I</b>	100K	184K	1K
Est. 1986	Private	201-500 Employees	Project management software strea	mlines operations	between field a	and office. Dig	ital time card	s reduce pape	r waste.
IMAJION		imajion.com	IMAJION	GC,SC,A,E,D	L	:2:	752	24	22
Est. 2020	Private	2-10 Employees	Connect remote and on-site workers	s using augmented	d reality markup	, file sharing a	and video con	ferencing.	
InEight		ineight.com	InEight Software	GC,SC,E,D	L		300K	-	750
Est. 2014	Private	501-1,000 Employees	Capital project software provides in	sights to minimize	risks, improve	operational ef	ficiency and o	control project	s costs.
Microdesk	1	microdesk.com	BIMrx	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	**	450	100	100
Est. 1994	Private	201-500 Employees	Tailored for streamlining Autodesk w			setup, data/m	odel manage	ment and docu	mentation.
Newforma		newforma.com	Newforma Project Center	GC,A,E	S,M,L	<b>;2</b> ;	150K	_	1K
Est. 2004	Private	51-200 Employees	Connect everyone on the project to	the information the		mails to docu	ment sets. RF	ls. submittals	and more.
		Project Management	GC,SC,A,E,D	M,L	Ш	1M	1M	10K	
Est. 2002	Public	1,001-5,000 Employees	Customizable project management p				oiect informa	ition and data f	or all users.
ProjectTeam	n. Inc.	projectteam.com	ProjectTeam.com	GC,E,D	S.M	<b>;2</b> ;	_	_	_
Est. 2016	Private	11-50 Employees	Create and share requests for inform payment apps and budgets.		submittals, pun		reports, cont	racts, change	orders,
Raken		rakenapp.com	Raken App	GC,SC	S,M,L	**	17K	193K	-
Est. 2014	Private	51-200 Employees	Real-time field-to-office communica	tion with daily rep	orts, time card	s, production 1	tracking, che	cklists and mo	re.
Reconstruct	t	reconstructinc.com	Reconstruct's Visual Command Center	GC,A,E,D	M,L	<u> </u>	1K	500	100
Est. 2016	Private	51-200 Employees	Combines reality capture, design an	d schedule integra	ition for full pro	ect visibility a	nd a historica	al record of wo	ork.
RedTeam So	ftware	redteam.com	RedTeam Software	GC,SC	S,M,L	<b>* I</b>	10K	2K	559
Est. 2005	Private	51-200 Employees	Robust construction project manage	ement software fo	r commercial ge	eneral contrac	tors.		
StratusVue		stratusvue.com	BIMfx	GC,SC	S,M,L		30K	18K	10
Est. 2006	Private	11-50 Employees	Links BIM attributes to the construc	tion process for fa					
		, ,	Plans and Specs	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	Щ	30K	18K	10
			Connects a contractor's ERP to the						
SubHQ AB	C I	subhq.app	SubHQ	SC	S,M	П	50	300	_
Est. 2019	Public	2-10 Employees	Solution for field subcontractors to						
Systemates		projectmates.com	Projectmates	D	S,M,L	projects, from	-	300K	-
Est. 1997	Private	11-50 Employees	Configurable collaborative solution t	_			ects while cu		d delavs.
Topcon Posi Systems		topconpositioning.com	MAGNET	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>2 1</b>	-	-	-
Est. 1994	Private	1,001-5,000 Employees	Integrated field, office and enterpris	e solution for proje	ect managemer	it, data collect	ion and custo	omized renorti	ng.
Trimble		trimble.com	Trimble ProjectSight	GC,SC	S,M,L	<u> </u>	-	-	-
	Public		-				of collaboration	n and informa	ation
Est. 1978	Public	10,001+ Employees	Construction management software	to help manage p	rojects from a s	single source o	ot collaboration	on and informa	tion.



# DELIVER WITH CONFIDENCE

Construction projects sometimes require you to do everything and do it well. But how can you know it all? Be everywhere? With Trimble Connected Construction, you can know what is happening in the office, in the field and in the future. Through decades of experience and deep domain knowledge, our solutions connect people, processes and data at every phase of the project, in real time.

CONSTRUCTION.TRIMBLE.COM

Private

Private

Private

Private

Private

Private

Private

**Safety-Reports.com, Inc.** safety-reports.com

**Company Information** A1A Software, LLC

Est. 2008

Est. 2013

Est. 1986

Est. 2012

Est. 2020

Est. 2011

Est. 2015

Smartvid.io

Safesite ABC -

Safe Site Check In

**HCSS** 

**HammerTech** 

a1asoftware.com

11-50 Employees

hammertech.com

11-50 Employees

201-500 Employees

safesitehq.com

11-50 Employees

2-10 Employees

11-50 Employees

11-50 Employees

smartvid.io

safesitecheckin.com

hcss.com

	USER PI	ROFILE	ILE Pricing		CUSTOMER BASE				
Product	Firm Type Firm Size		Model	Users	Projects	Firms			
3D Lift Plan	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	<b>₩</b> 🖩	2K	-	984			
Simple and complex crane lift planning, crane selection and rigging design with access to thousands of crane load charts.									
HammerTech	GC,SC,E,D	M,L	_	-	10K	250			
Manage prequalification, training, daily reports, work hours, online enrollments, equipment, permits and more.									
HCSS Safety	GC,SC,E,D	S,M,L	<b>₩</b> 🖩	20K	425	425			
Solution that eliminates paper from safety programs and reduces administrative tasks.									
Safesite	GC,SC	S,M,L	<b>:</b>	-	-	-			

200

If you are creating labor plans and using your data, you will be able to know when you go off course.

> **BEN SCHULTZ** Founder and CEO LaborChart



We believe in empowering construction businesses to use the best mix of solutions that address their unique needs.

**DUSTIN STEPHENS** Vice President Sage Construction and Real Estate

last 10% of a project. At that point, it's too late to make any corrections. If you are creating labor plans and using your data, you will be able to know when you go off course," Schultz says.

Safety management solution that touts a proven track record of cutting incident rates in half.

GC,SC,A,E,D

GC.SC.A.E.D

GC.SC.D

Customizable and private digital screening app to ensure the safety of employees and visitors onsite.

Suite of environment, health and safety software tools to streamline safety processes and centralize data in one easy-to-

M.L

Reduce risk with artificial intelligence-powered predictive analytics, safety observations and safety monitoring.

Safe Site Check In

Safety-Reports.com

Newmetrix

Solving tech and labor issues means appealing to the younger generation entering the workforce, which expects modern solutions and constant connectivity. Pew Research reports that millennials now make up the largest part of the workforce, and they have no patience for contacting multiple people separately by phone or email when a task can get done more efficiently by collaborating on one platform.

"As younger, tech-savvy people enter the workforce and the use of machine learning artificial intelligence, "Internet of Things" and automation continues, construction companies will drive profitable and successful projects," Krishnamoorthy says. "Modern cloud accounting systems offer access to data while connecting with other systems that are important for different users within the organization."

### THE FUTURE OF CONSTRUCTION TECH

As tech giants invest millions in smaller, successful companies to close integration gaps without reinventing the wheel, the industry is a step closer to full integration and allowing contractors more freedom of

### Millennials (age 23-38) number 72.1 MILLION, making them the largest living adult generation.

200

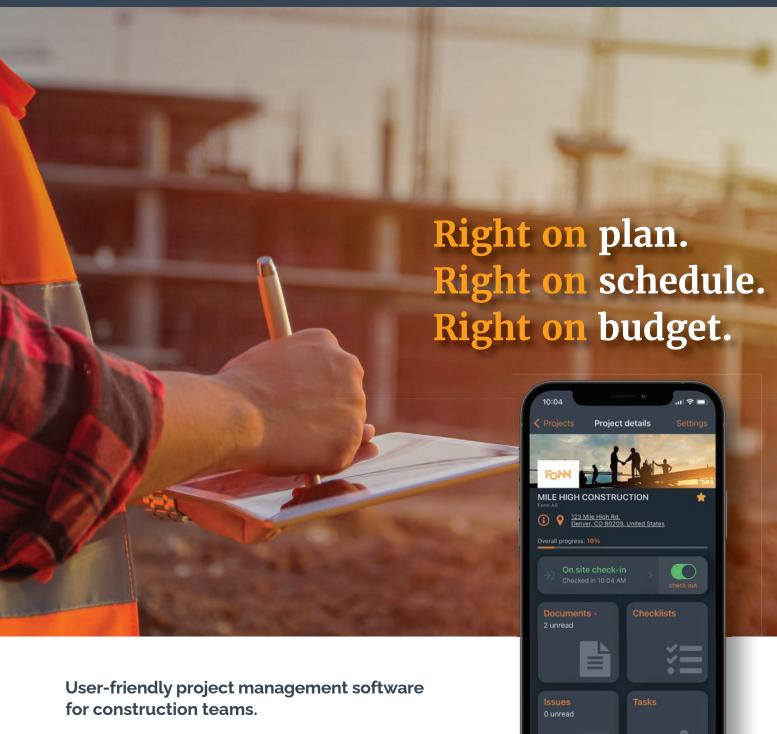
100

- Pew Research Center

choice. These investments shed a positive light on the next 10 years for construction, giving the industry the ability to work efficiently, stem potential disruptions and even guide other industries in the future of work. Transparent and standardized solutions not only allow contractors to gain operational efficiencies, but prepare them for potential disruptions and inform them for future projects.

"We believe in empowering construction businesses to use the best mix of solutions that address their unique needs," says Dustin Stephens, vice president of Sage Construction and Real Estate. "This means having the flexibility to choose from our solutions as well as those of other best-inclass technology providers. We recognize that it benefits our customers when we can integrate our solutions with other solutions





Fonn is construction management software that increases productivity through streamlined collaboration. A web application in the office, and a mobile app on site, Fonn is for construction projects of all sizes. Projects are done on time, on budget.

WORKFORCE AND LABOR MANAGEMENT  Company Information			T	USER P	USER PROFILE		CUSTOMER BASE				
			Product	Firm Type	Firm Size	Pricing Model	Users	Projects	Firms		
Arcoro		arcoro.com	Arcoro HR Management Solution	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	•	300K	-	-		
Est. 1999	Private	51-200 Employees	Cloud-based human resources mana management and more.	Cloud-based human resources management solution for recruiting, onboarding, benefits, learning, performance management and more.							
			ExakTime	GC,SC,A,E,D	S,M,L	**	400K	-	-		
			Attendance solution to streamline pa	yroll and manage	employees via	mobile app or	on-site rugge	ed timeclock.			
Austin Lan Technolog		austinlane.com	ALMobile	GC,SC	M,L	<b>:</b>	25K	1M	-		
Est. 1999	Private	11-50 Employees	Employee time entry and attendance	tracking organize	es field data, in	tegrating with	accounting ar	nd payroll solu	tions.		
Bridgit gobridgit.com		gobridgit.com	Bridgit Bench	GC,SC	M,L	•	1K	9K	135		
Est. 2014	Private	51-200 Employees	Workforce intelligence for constructi	on designed to m	aximize profits	and reduce ris	sk by taking a	people-first a	pproach.		
LaborChart laborchart.com		laborchart.com	LaborChart	GC,SC,E,D	S,M,L	:2:	7K	-	258		
Est. 2014	Private	11-50 Employees	Workforce management solution incl	udes planning, so	heduling, forec	asting, analyti	cs and comm	unication.			
myComply	/	mycomply.net	Projects Pro	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	<b>H</b> 📤	70K	1K	5K		
Est. 2015	Private	11-50 Employees	Combines "Internet of Things" hardw qualified to be there.	are with cloud-b	ased software	to ensure all w	orkers on the	jobsite are 10	00%		
On Center		oncenter.com	Digital Production Control	GC	S,M,L	<b>₽</b>	-	-	-		
Est. 1988	Public	51-200 Employees	Combines on-screen takeoff and qui	ck bid costs, as v	ell as timelines	to track labor	production, l	nours and cos	ts.		
PeerAssis	it	peerassist.com	PeerAssist	GC,SC,D	S,M,L	# ● 6	50K	10K	500		
Est. 2006	Private	51-200 Employees	Streamlines time/materials tracking,	purchasing, chan	ge order mana	gement and co	nstruction/sa	fety/equipmer	nt e-forms.		
Penta Tech	hnologies	penta.com	STRUXI	GC,SC	S,M,L	<b>:</b>	3K	109	10		
Est. 1969	Private	11-50 Employees	Labor productivity solution replaces	manual data entr	y with software	e that updates	every hour or	n labor perfor	mance.		
Syscon, In	ıc.	syscon-inc.com	Field Integrated Time System	GC,SC	S,M,L	**:	2K	-	-		
Est. 1986	Private	11-50 Employees	Enter job hours by job, cost code on	Android or iOS de	evices for back	office approva	al. Integrates v	with Sage 100	Contractor		



Because construction is a key component of an economic resurgence, connected data, as well as the ability to gain valuable project insights and share those things across teams will play a key role in a post-pandemic world.

BRAD BARTH Chief Product Officer they are using, and we want to make it easier for technology vendors to work together.

"We want to be part of a revolution—one that takes construction from an industry that has been a challenge to evolve to one that's leading the way in efficiency," Grindheim says. "Thus far, we have taken a non-digitized industry and made it digital and mobile. In the next 10 years, we want our algorithms teaching users how to avoid costly mistakes before they happen."

The pandemic changed the way the construction industry does business and forced it to scrutinize its technological capabilities and where it was letting valuable data fossilize. While the COVID-19 crisis accelerated digital transformation, the innovation that is sweeping the industry today will have to be closely aligned with product roadmaps that align with pathways to widespread adoption.

"Because construction is a key

component of an economic resurgence, connected data, as well as the ability to gain valuable project insights and share those things across teams will play a key role in a post-pandemic world—especially as our industry continues through its data revolution," says Brad Barth, chief product officer for InEight.

Construction companies no longer lag other industries in the use of technology—at least, those firms that are making the required investments to improve the bottom line. Key players in technology will continue to innovate, leveraging data from connected back offices and web-connected field workers, to create the applications that will make the business of construction more predictable and more profitable in the future.

Cybele Tamulonis is a contributing editor for Construction Executive. For more information, email cybele@magazinexperts.com.



## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

CMiC has been instrumental in supporting our growth and has become a critical component of our corporate strategy.

Joe Mannarino, Co-Owner, Buffalo **Construction Consultants** 



The CMiC multi-tenant cloud is the fully-integrated solution we were looking for. [...] We're excited about further evaluating how CMiC can positively impact our business.

Jason Switz. Chief Financial Officer **CHASSE Building Team** 

### Set the Stage for Sustained Growth With CMiC's ERP Platform

ith the accelerating pace and increasing complexity of business today, many organizations have incorporated robust tools into their technology stack to drive scalability. The construction industry is no different. Learn how three U.S.-based construction companies— Affordable Solar, Buffalo Construction Consultants and CHASSE

Building Team—implemented CMiC's ERP platform to address their business

### HOW AFFORDABLE SOLAR MET ITS AGGRESSIVE GROWTH GOALS WITH CMIC'S CONSTRUCTION-FOCUSED ERP PLATFORM

challenges and set the stage for accelerated growth.

In recent years, Affordable Solar, a New Mexico-based specialty contractor, found itself grappling with a rapidly growing number of projects that were also increasing in complexity. Despite this positive business outlook, what became clear was that the company didn't have the tools or processes in place to accommodate the anticipated growth. In essence, its dependence on legacy systems and limited integrations were unlikely to support the effective execution of future projects.

With the goal of driving automation and integration, Affordable Solar's approach was to deploy a fully unified, construction-focused solution. Designed to support the full construction project lifecycle, CMiC's purposebuilt platform was exactly what it needed to scale its business.

The CMiC ERP platform enabled breakthrough business outcomes,

- Establishing automated procurement and invoicing processes.
- Developing accurate data flows across a wide array of business functions to drive higher margins.
- Automating the approval process with a seamless workflow that was fully integrated—from order placement through approval.
- Accurately tracking KPIs.

### HOW DEPLOYING CMIC HELPED BUFFALO CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS REALIZE ITS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OBJECTIVES

Buffalo Construction Consultants, a full-service construction management firm based in upstate New York, was founded in 2017, but quickly catapulted to over \$40 million in annual revenue by 2019. To sustain this rate of growth, executives launched a digital transformation initiative to replace spreadsheets and QuickBooks with a proper ERP.

From a strategic perspective, implementing a robust accounting system and seamlessly migrating data from previous tools were at the top of the priority list. From a tactical perspective, deploying the new software would help to automate, streamline and integrate key tasks, including managing submittals, RFIs, subcontracts, change orders, accounts payable and time entry.

BCC's extensive research, leading to the selection of CMiC as its ERP platform, paid off. Key business results achieved include:

- With the change management module, it automated the organization of project costs by cost codes to stay on top of potential change orders.
- Real-time reporting (by subcontractor), allowed BCC to



communicate with clients in real time.

- Automating and standardizing the processes required to compile daily reports and timesheets reduced the time required from hours to seconds.
- Creating workflows automated the scanning and entry of invoices to the appropriate project manager for approval.

### WHY CHASSE BUILDING TEAM CHOSE CMIC TO HELP BOOST **EFFICIENCY AND DRIVE GROWTH**

CHASSE Building Team is an Arizona-based general contractor focused on the education, multifamily and commercial building sectors. During a period of steady growth, CHASSE continued to implement various software modules to support the expanding needs of the business. However, the lack of integration between these systems meant that data could not be shared, impeding effective communication and collaboration across the various business units. A big obstacle was that key tools could not be accessed from remote jobsites.

Leaders at CHASSE decided that what they needed was a fully unified cloud-based solution. After a thorough software selection process, it became clear that CMiC's cloud offering would help them address the shortcomings of their legacy systems. To quickly streamline day-to-day accounting requirements, CHASSE identified key CMiC modules that would be deployed as part of the initial rollout: general ledger, accounts payable, accounts receivable, job costing and job billing.

Through CMiC, CHASSE has been able to realize key business benefits, including:

- Reducing the number of steps involved in issuing subcontracts by employing CMiC's Microsoft Integration Package.
- Simplifying the processes involved in opportunity management and
- Eliminating redundancies and double entry during data input. Visit cmicglobal.com to learn how CMiC's suite of applications have helped a wide array of construction firms achieve operational excellence while supporting better informed decisions that are data-driven.

CMiC's innovative solution transforms how construction firms optimize productivity, minimize risk and drive growth by unifying their operations with a single database software platform.

### PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

- 30+ of CMiC's customers have revenues of \$1B+
- 400+ SMB firms have deployed CMiC's cloud-based software since 2016
- \$100B of construction revenue is handled by CMiC every year

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### **CMiC**

Toronto, Ontario (416) 736-0123 sales@cmicglobal.com cmicglobal.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

With Bridgit Bench, we can filter for the individual strengths and weaknesses of our team and have total team optimization.

Leon Foster. Chief Performance Officer, Lemoine



**Workforce Intelligence from** Bridgit transforms workforce data into actionable insights that help inform your organization's strategic and tactical business decisions.

# The New Dawn of Workforce Planning: Workforce Intelligence

onstruction is a \$10 trillion industry that shows steady growth year after year, but labor productivity in the United States is lower than it was 50 years ago. When you combine lagging labor productivity with a labor shortage, there's no question why contractors are feeling rising pressures to get the most out of the workforce. Because of the dynamic nature of construction, projects are often won or lost in the planning stage. With labor accounting for 20-40% of a project's total cost, improving the effectiveness of a contractor's workforce planning is one of the best ways to protect margins.

### **HOW DOES WORKFORCE PLANNING LOOK NOW?**

For the last 20 years, workforce planning has almost exclusively been managed by one member of the operations team using a series of spreadsheets. In some cases, basic point-solutions are also used to schedule project teams but, similar to spreadsheets, the shortcomings remain consistent:

- Lack of accessibility makes collaboration nearly impossible.
- Applications become highly personalized, making information hard to digest for the larger team.
- There is no insight into workforce utilization, leading to unnecessary overhead costs.
- Maintenance is tedious, leaving little time to plan ahead.
- Forecasting project demand can quickly become inaccurate, putting future projects at risk.

"We go into our staffing meetings with a spreadsheet and a wild guess," says a vice president at a Top 50 contracting company. If that sounds familiar, fear not. There is a positive takeaway for spreadsheet users: opportunity.

### THE CURRENT APPROACH TO THE PROJECT JOURNEY

The journey a project takes through its lifecycle is lined with many challenges:

- Blind bidding: Without insight into workforce availability, skills, experience and client relationships, the bidding strategy often becomes "Bid more to win more."
- Workforce plans: After projects have been awarded, comes the challenge of forecasting the workforce demands and understanding the impact to the project pipeline. These challenges get amplified when projects start with late crew build-up, resulting in a 10% decrease in productivity.
- Project delivery: Challenges when ramping resources up and down and managing project teams when delays happen will eat away at a project's profitability.

### THE STRATEGIC APPROACH

Bridgit has built the leading workforce intelligence platform exclusively for construction: Bridgit Bench. While workforce planning in construction is complex, Bridgit's goal is simple: Help contractors maximize profits and reduce risk by taking a people-first approach. By combining deeper insight into workforce availability with holistic views of their entire project



pipeline, Bridgit is helping contractors of all sizes by bringing their people to the forefront of strategic decisions—where they belong. Here's how it is reshaping the project journey:

- Workforce intelligence: Contractors are using people and project delivery data to inform future bids and team composition.
- Selective bidding: Contractors are able to forecast project demand, collaborate on pursuits and pursue the right projects for their teams more aggressively.
- Project delivery: Contractors are able to easily ramp resources up and down, and adapt their workforce strategy to maintain utilization.

The best part about this strategic approach is that it's cyclical. Every project helps inform future bids and project delivery.

### PEOPLE ARE THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY TEAM'S SUCCESS

Collaborating on strategy is nearly impossible when contractors aren't using the right tool for the job. Bridgit recognizes that nearly every department's success is dependent on people and having access to the right information. It's helping to foster more meaningful discussions and enable cross-functional collaboration. While most Bridgit customers transitioned from a single-user approach to workforce planning, here's a glimpse at the teams now using workforce intelligence to inform their work:

Operations teams are using workforce data and analytics to build stronger project teams based on experience and skills and allocate resources more effectively with utilization oversight.

Executive teams now have a holistic view of their workforce strategy and project pipeline. They can identify any gaps in the pipeline. Tracking project pursuits means a better understanding of where they win or lose, as well as which projects are most profitable.

Preconstruction teams are planning roles and allocations for future projects. This benefits the estimating team with a better understanding of the available team members and their experience. This helps to put forward more enticing bids and avoid late crew build-up.

Human resources teams are looking at project demand and comparing it against their workforce capacities. By identifying pinch points where demand exceeds supply, HR teams can create informed recruitment strategies and avoid last-minute hiring.

### WHY BRIDGIT?

- Informed bidding and staffing decisions
- Forecast project pipeline
- Labor scheduling and requesting
- People, project and pursuit tracking
- Customizable and secure integrations

### **COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Founded in 2014
- Used by 140 general and specialty contractors
- Tracks 20,000+ projects

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

**Bridgit** 

Kitchener, Ontario (800) 783-2127 info@gobridgit.com gobridg.it/ce

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

"

Projectmates allows
us to effectively track,
communicate and manage all
changes that occur within a
construction project.

Andrew C., Construction Manager RJP Consulting

### **EQUIP YOUR TEAM TO:**

- Manage entire project in one platform
- Minimize construction costs and delays
- Collaborate in real time, from anywhere
- Streamline processes
- Forecast and plan capital projects
- Create digital bid packages
- Report on entire construction program
- Produce clear and concise audit trail
- Integrate with existing software
- Increase speed-to-market

### Projectmates Recognizes an Owner's Need for Real-Time Information

rojectmates has always been meant for owners. Its creator,
Systemates of Richardson, Texas, developed the web-based
construction management program to meet an urgent need by
public and private "serial builders" for real-time project data.

With Projectmates, all of that information seamlessly "rolls up"
from dispersed project teams throughout a project's lifecycle, from
initial planning to project closeout. Owners can access anything they
need to know at a moment's notice, and from any device—including
project challenges, outstanding change orders, schedule updates,
vital budget information, etc. Projectmates even captures all of the
communications related to a specific project, so project teams don't have
to dig through emails and text messages.

The collaborative platform provides real-time visibility across the entire construction program, so issues can be addressed before problems develop. As a result, the software dramatically improves project execution, cuts costs and delays, increases accountability and reduces risks. The proof is in the numbers. Projectmates' unique approach has saved clients an average of \$32,900 by eliminating the need for paper bids and submittals, \$7,500 per project by switching to a digital bidding process and more than \$100,000 in annual "interest" savings for late invoice payments.

From faster scheduling to huge decreases in bid processing times, clients report four times more projects are completed by using Projectmates. And change orders are reviewed and approved within an average of six days, which is 4.75 fewer days than the industry standard. Reducing these timeframes keeps projects on schedule to avoid costly delays.

Projectmates is configurable, intuitive and easy-to-use. With features such as automated construction workflows, capital planning and cost tracking, the program solves many of the construction industry's pressing problems. From eliminating the need for paper to increasing productivity, the platform gives owners the ability to automate their construction programs so they can always deliver on time and within budget. Additionally, Projectmates provides the data needed to make critical decisions—especially when it comes to being proactive and getting ahead of potential risks.

Systemates is not standing still, of course. The company is continuously adapting its Projectmates product in tandem with







client needs. The company put a lot of attention in completing a new application programming interfaces (API) with more than 1,000 endpoints, giving customers the ability to integrate the product with almost anything in the world. As a result, the latest version, released earlier this year, can work with any modern software to reduce task duplication and improve overall efficiency.

That means an owner doesn't need to change any existing software. Projectmates works with them all. A modernized user interface will soon be launched, but don't expect it before it's ready. Since Systemates is a private company, it doesn't feel the pressure to release too soon. As a result, there are virtually no bugs in the software once it hits the market. And if someone does have an issue, customer service is "best in class."

#### PANDEMIC READY

Over the past year and a half, all market sectors have experienced unexpected changes and challenges, but few as much as the construction market. The industry has seen a historic rise in the price of materials due to a myriad of factors. International tariffs on trade and the pandemic have caused disruptions in the supply chain, and natural disasters and lockdowns have led to the depletion of standard building materials.

Between increasing demand for construction and an already limited supply of materials, those in charge of managing construction are left with the difficult task of keeping construction budgets under control.

In that regard, Projectmates has seamlessly "rolled with the punches." It has even been awarded as a top product by a national publication for contributing to the success of the built environment in the face of a global crisis and for helping the construction industry meet the requirements of essential workers when it was most critical.

The publication commended Projectmates as a staple for many construction companies throughout the pandemic and for its commitment to continuous improvement. Winners of the award were selected based upon extensive feedback of both the editors and verified users based upon product usage, product integration, industry experience, ease of use, usability of technology and usefulness for long-term growth.

# 100/100 IN THE DUN & BRADSTREET OPEN RATINGS PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Provides functionality to every aspect of construction projects, from preconstruction to post-construction and closeout.

Brooke B., Assistant Project Manager Horizon Retail Construction. Inc.

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

Systemates, Inc.
Richardson, Texas
(214) 217-4100
info@systemates.com
projectmates.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE

# LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

"

The construction industry in 2020 adopted in one year what would normally have taken three years.

Henry D'Esposito Senior Analyst, JLL

Asite's open construction platform enables organizations working on capital projects to come together, plan, design and build with seamless information sharing across the entire supply chain.



# COVID-19 Drives Digital Transformation for Construction Industry

f anything, the COVID-19 pandemic acted as a digital accelerator for the construction industry, causing organizations and individuals alike to embrace the digital age. Forced to roll up their collective sleeves, construction businesses had to send office workers home to work remotely and prioritized jobsite safety to keep projects moving forward.

Whether contractors worked from their kitchen tables or coordinated site work in the field, digital devices became essential for everyone in construction to keep projects moving forward. Ultimately, digital savvy meant digital survival as everyone around the globe began to connect virtually with all the players in the construction supply chain.

### REMOTE WORK EXPOSED WEAK WORKFLOWS

As COVID-19 spread across the globe, many in construction still relied on workflows that were a mishmash of emails, spreadsheets and document management tools. Disjointed workflows were soon exposed as the construction industry embraced remote work.

As a result, there was a seismic shift during the pandemic in how all businesses—including those in the construction industry—kept projects on track and on budget. Workflows and models of working will likely never be the same in its wake.

This progress is exciting when considering the much-cited 2017 McKinsey & Co. report that declared construction as being the second-least digitized sector. It noted that if construction productivity were to catch up with the total economy, it could boost the sector's value by an estimated \$1.6 trillion.

### **INCREASED DIGITAL ADOPTION**

According to commercial real estate firm JLL's "2020 State of Construction Tech," the construction industry in 2020 adopted in one year what would normally have taken three years—thanks to the pandemic.

Much of the technology adopted will likely endure beyond COVID-19, according to Henry D'Esposito, senior analyst for construction research at JLL. He believes what occurred in 2020 taught the construction industry how technology could create an advantage for those who are willing to invest and learn how to use it.

Echoing this sentiment is Niki Taylor, lead digital engineer at Laing O'Rourke Australia. She notes that the pandemic "forced the masses to use what we would generally use day to day." She also highlighted the increase in digital adoption as information has become more accessible. This is particularly true, she says, when it comes to construction as traditional barriers to digital transformation have fallen during COVID-19.

One of the toughest barriers with the construction industry to overcome has been mindset. No doubt, it is often hard to get veteran construction pros to give up their Excel spreadsheets, paper blueprints and colored pencils.

Previously, construction firms were held back by risk aversion and an overall lack of understanding of digital solutions and their benefits. The



pandemic and the need to maintain operational resilience quickly changed this mindset, removing these roadblocks.

On top of this, the pandemic exposed technology gaps, forcing organizations to swiftly adopt technologies that previously may have taken years to implement.

### DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION BECOMES A PRIORITY

In a recent McKinsey survey, when asked why their organizations didn't implement these changes before the crisis, just over half said that it wasn't a top business priority.

According to IBM, in the wake of the pandemic, 62% of executives have assigned "high or very high priority" to digital transformation in 2022, compared to just 17% in 2018. It would seem a wide range of executives now recognize that digital solutions have evolved from being a luxury to a must-have.

Studies show that many now recognize technology's importance as a critical component of the construction business strategy.

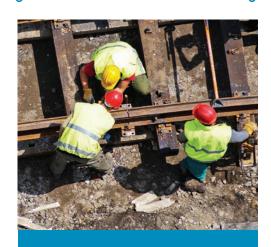
While many in construction may have viewed this new emphasis on technology as a temporary fix, many are embracing digital transformation as the new normal. As economies recover from the pandemic, driving digital transformation strategies will play a prominent role in any construction business' productivity and profitability.

### **COVID AS A GAME-CHANGER**

We can't deny that COVID-19 has forced firms to adapt, driving them to accelerate their digital transformation efforts. This process has been so profound that many of the changes introduced during the pandemic will remain. Technological changes are expected to continue, with migration to the cloud and hyperconnectivity remaining a dominant driver in construction.

No doubt, construction firms will look to build on their progress and continue to adopt new construction technology tools. Now is the time to build digital resilience so your business is in the best possible position to succeed in the new normal.

# 56,975 PROJECTS DEPEND ON ASITE TO CONNECT OWNERS, BUILDERS AND OPERATORS



### **COMPANY CONTACT**

**Asite** 

New York (212) 201-0730 info@asite.com asite.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEM



LABORCHART

**CORPORATE PROFILE:** 

# LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

"

Having one source of information where you can track your workforce and accurately forecast ahead is incredibly powerful.

Michael Williamson, Project Manager Tharp Plumbing Systems, Inc.

### WHY LABORCHART?

- Built by construction, for construction
- Real-time information
- Controlled transparency
- Field and office collaboration
- Accurate forecasting
- Save time and money
- Proactive communication
- Historical data you can learn from

### COMPANY CONTACT

### LaborChart

Overland Park, Kansas (913) 276-0294 info@laborchart.com laborchart.com

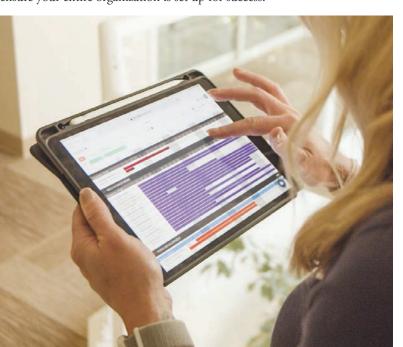
SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# Know Your People, What They're Good at and How to Plan Ahead With a Workforce Management Platform

aborChart is a customer-driven workforce management platform that serves contractors big, small, near and far. For the past several years, LaborChart has grown into a high-growth construction software company built with a unique blend of construction and software expertise. LaborChart helps contractors around the world manage their most important asset—their people. From general and specialty contractors to construction rosters of all sizes, LaborChart provides a secure and easy-to-navigate platform that can be accessed anytime, anywhere.

Whether it's skyscrapers or software, building takes research, commitment, passion, expertise and a solid team that understands the uphill battle ahead of them. LaborChart is the trendsetter, trailblazing the industry as WFM pioneers. It helps construction companies with their WFM approach, including resource management, planning and scheduling, forecasting, analytics and communication. With a digital workforce management platform, contractors are empowered with a holistic view, one true source of truth they can rely on and real-time information that keeps up with an ever-changing industry.

LaborChart allows construction companies to get rid of their spreadsheets, trash their static whiteboards and house all of their data in a reliable digital platform. From controlling who can see what and communicating scheduling updates to forecasting ahead and identifying workforce needs, LaborChart can be customized to fit your business and ensure your entire organization is set up for success.





# **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

# Procore's Groundbreak: Better Margins, a Safer Jobsite and a Global Construction **Community Reunion**

This conference focused not only on the tools, but also taught leadership and the value of company culture!

> Stephanie Dash **Empire Office**



Virtual Groundbreak left me excited about the future of Procore and our industry.

> Evan Reilly Skanska

hat indescribable, network-expanding "construction conference" you're drawn to this time each year? Here it comes again. And while Procore's Groundbreak 2021, held October 12-14, will not be—technically speaking—a hardhat area, we do advise you to brace for the unexpected. If you're a returning guest, we can't wait to see you again and catch up, honestly. If you're new to Procore's

Procore's yearly Groundbreak gathering is many-sided. Jaw-dropping keynote speakers? You bet. Past speakers—from Peyton Manning to Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak—demonstrate Procore's determination to shake the proceedings up with technicolor thought leadership. Construction content you can immediately leverage? Yep. 60+ engaging sessions of idea-planting construction brilliance will send your team back to the jobsite with actionable momentum. A detailed look at tomorrow's margin-easing advances? Hey, that's what Procore is all about—and you're on the inside. Add to all that a networking opportunity you can literally build on.

### **GROUNDBREAK 2021: THE SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUTH**

Procore's vision—improving the lives of everyone in construction—begins and ends with the folks on the ground. Groundbreak is the blueprint—the one virtual meeting place where construction's community members show up for each other and affirm a central truth: Construction is as much a calling as a career.

At Groundbreak, you'll explore and advise on the evolving Procore platform, swap notes and laughter with friends new and old, and choose front-row seats to more than 60 sessions hosted by visionaries and construction experts—enlightened insiders who intimately know your daily struggle.

So, is this thing all furrowed brows and "learnings?" Nope. Groundbreak is like walking onto the most familiar and energizing jobsite you've ever known and finding your crew has decked the place out. Groundbreak is a construction conference like Toronto's The One is an office tower. The description is correct, but powerfully insufficient.

For more information and to register, visit procore.com/groundbreak.

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### Procore

Carpinteria, California (866) 477-6267 sales@procore.com procore.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION



# **GROUNDBREAK**

POWERED BY PROCORE

# Get inspired to build new horizons.

Shape the future of building at construction's global conference of the year.

#### DISCOVER

### Gain an edge.

- Dig in to 5 keynotes built to make you a better leader.
- Join discussions on the topics that matter to you.
- + Exchange ideas and collaborate with leaders in the industry.

### **LEARN**

### Become an expert.

- + Explore 60+ sessions on safety, inclusion & diversity, industry insights, and more.
- Hear about the latest industry solutions.
- Get insider knowledge from experts who know construction.

### **INNOVATE**

### Shape the future.

- Engage with Procore experts and get your questions answered.
- Be first in line to see the newest releases.
- Watch demos and see the latest industry solutions from around the world.

Register today at procore.com/groundbrea







# LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY



# 100+ POSITIVE REVIEWS ON CAPTERRA | 4.6 OUT OF 5 AVERAGE RATING

Our processing time for subcontractor accounting has gone from five days a month to less than a day.

> Desiree Albano BNBuilders

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### **GCPay**

Portland, Oregon (877) 447-2584 marketing@gcpay.com gcpay.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# Simplify Construction Payments With GCPay

ne big theme in construction right now is the rise of technology to improve cost control, payment processes, scheduling and off-site construction. The "future" of work—technology—has become the "now." And general contractors that are adopting new technology are reaping the benefits.

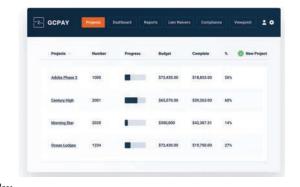
### **ESTABLISHED. YET AGILE**

Since 2003, GCPay has offered a paperless alternative to construction billing, and its software mimics the process of traditional workflows for accounting, project management, contract administration and compliance departments—virtually cutting your AFP processing time in half (or more). What's changed since then? A lot, actually.

Most recently, GCPay has expanded its services—significantly. Contractors can now easily manage and process ACH transactions, quickly sign documents electronically and notarize documents from anywhere, anytime. What hasn't changed? GCPay's world-class customer support. Staff will answer by the third ring and solve most issues within five minutes. Don't believe it? Check out the Capterra reviews.

# HASSLE-FREE INTEGRATION

Endless email threads, incomplete lien waivers, missing compliance documents, paper checks and outdated spreadsheets: Sound familiar? Those are all automated and integrated now. GCPay



seamlessly integrates with major construction ERPs like Sage, Viewpoint and CMiC to solve this and help you eliminate double data entry.

When construction accounting software is well integrated, documents, data and payments pass seamlessly from one place to another. When software is not well integrated, well, you get the idea.

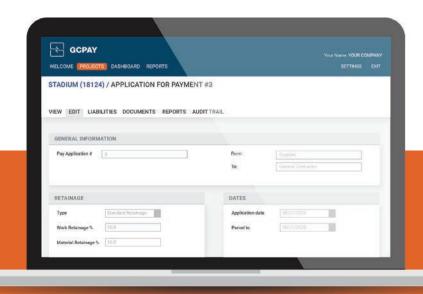
### KISS. AND NO, NOT GENE SIMMONS

GCPay believes in the KISS (keep it simple, stupid) principle. That's why it's created a software platform to help your business grow and become more efficient every single day—without all the fluff. Everything is in one place, neatly organized and intuitively designed. And it just works.

### **GET STARTED**

Construction payments are hard. They don't have to be. Head over to info.gcpay.com/ce to learn how you can start simplifying your construction payment processes.

# Time = Money. Keep both.



Keep everything in one place.

"Our processing time for subcontractor accounting has gone from five days a month to less than a day."

- BNBuilders

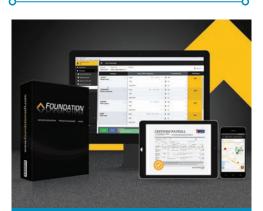


# LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

# AMERICA'S #1 PROVIDER OF CONSTRUCTION BACKOFFICE SOLUTIONS\*

### **COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Over 36 years of providing software and services for the construction industry
- Accounting, project management, estimating, mobile tools and payroll services
- Developed, sold and supported in house



### **COMPANY CONTACT**

Foundation Software Strongsville, Ohio (800) 246-0800 info@foundationsoft.com

foundationsoft.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# Foundation Software, Building a Better Back Office



hile Foundation Software is best known as the developers of FOUNDATION®, America's #1 construction accounting software\*, that's only a part of what it offers. From accounting, project management and estimating to full-service payroll processing and mobile applications, Foundation provides the tools contractors need to take control of their back office.

FOUNDATION job cost accounting allows contractors to track financials, run payroll, pay invoices and report on critical construction-specific information—like retention, prevailing wage, AIAs and more.

Built for commercial, industrial and government contractors of all sizes, FOUNDATION is trusted by more than 25,000 construction professionals across the United States to be the financial-tracking backbone of their back offices. Complete with mobile timecards, field logs and service dispatch, contractors can access the data they need and reduce entry errors by automatically syncing data back to the office.

For contractors looking to simplify their payroll, Foundation has Payroll4Construction, the payroll service built just for the construction industry. With over 36 years of construction payroll experience, the experts at Payroll4Construction have seen, and solved, the toughest payrolls around, including union fringes, prevailing wage and multiple rates, trades and localities on a single timecard.

Featuring a mobile app that allows contractors to enter and sync timecards, Payroll4Construction makes it easy to move data from field to office. And once payroll is complete, staff can access dozens of free construction reports, including certified payroll, EEO and new hire reports—saving time at every step of the payroll process.

Now, contractors can get an even more complete back-office package with Foundation's latest offering, McCormick Systems estimating. The nation's leader in estimating and digital takeoff for the electrical, mechanical and plumbing industries, McCormick helps contractors get faster, more accurate estimates.

With McCormick's Design Estimating Pro, estimators can design-build directly on their digital blueprints and quickly share drawings with their team. Together with McCormick's integration with FOUNDATION, contractors have control at every step of every job, from estimate to job completion.

Get an inside look at how Foundation Software's products and services help contractors run the business side of construction by scheduling a personalized demo today.

\*See why we're #1 at foundationsoft.com/claim.

# 44 FOUNDATION PROVIDES THE TOOLS CONTRACTORS NEED TO BUILD A BETTER BACK OFFICE. \*\*



Preview our construction software and other ways we support your business.

foundationsoft.com/abc

**FOUNDATION** software

Job Cost Accounting | Project Management | Mobile | Estimating



## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**



### 1000+ 5 STAR PAYEE REVIEWS

Built has streamlined our payment and waiver collection process, and I would recommend this system to any contractor!

Whitney Goodwin, VP, Accounting The Wolff Company

# **Built Revolutionizes Billing With** Payment Management System

owering smarter construction finance, Built Technologies offers innovative software solutions that simplify money management for lenders and builders. Borrowers can streamline communication with lenders, facilitating seamless information exchange and faster draws, while home builders and general contractors use Built to manage compliance documentation and expedite payments in conjunction with your current accounting system.

Throughout the industry boom of the last year, Built has engineered better software solutions and enhanced financial capabilities to specifically improve the jobs of contractors and builders. Having greatly enhanced its suite of construction-focused solutions, Built brings billing into focus for construction professionals across the country.

Built's payment management system, called the Built Financial Toolkit, includes the company's foundational products, Lien Waiver Management and Built Pay, plus additional benefits that make this tool even more enticing. Now including Compliance Tracking, Built Pay and Built Club, the Financial Toolkit makes sense of billing by centralizing finances in one easy-to-use platform and offering team-wide access to improve accountability and progress.

A system that manages legal documentation, Compliance Tracking includes Lien Waiver Management and then some: contractors and builders can manage all critical legal docs, such as certificates of insurance, W-9s, sworn statements, notice to owners, lien waivers and supplier lien waivers. Plus, the advanced search feature makes finding necessary documents a matter of a few clicks. Built Pay, which can work in tandem with Compliance Tracking, guarantees fast and easy payments. A tool critical to project progress, Built Pay supports nearly every form of payment: wire transfer, ACH transfer, credit and debit card payment, real-time payments and paper checks.

Offering greater flexibility for how and when construction pros pay their subcontractors, Built Pay improves efficiency via digitization and automation: general contractors can optionally mandate completed compliance documents before vendors and subcontractors are paid. Finally, Built Club offers Built users access to a marketplace of discounts from popular suppliers. Not only can Built users save by streamlining project documentation, expediting subcontractor and vendor payments, as well as simplifying bank draws, but they can save on the cost of project materials simply for being part of the Built family.

# **COMPANY CONTACT**

**Built Technologies** Nashville, Tennessee (800) 655-8138 marketing@getbuilt.com getbuilt.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

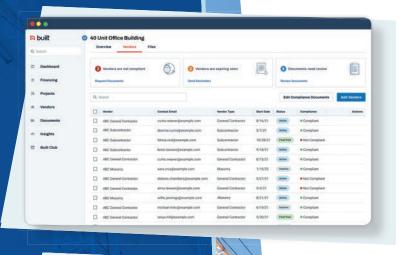




**GAIN COMPLETE VISIBILITY INTO INVOICE AND PAYMENT STATUS FOR ALL-TEAM ACCOUNTABILITY** 

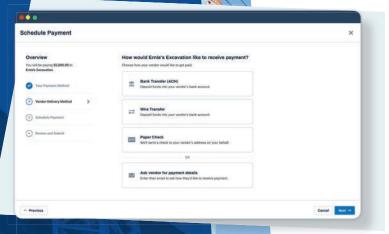
# **Built's Payment Management System Offers Smarter Financial Solutions**

Sync with your current technology stack for full integration and seamless money management



### COMPLIANCE **TRACKING**

Digitally send, track, and manage important legal documents like certificates of insurance, lien waivers, W-9's and more from one central dashboard.



10% Off In Store and Online

10% Off In Store and Online

ACE Ace Hardware

10% Off In Store and Online

10% Off In Store and Online

### **BUILT PAY**

Pay vendors automatically with ACH, wire, credit/debit cards, real-time payments, or paper checks, and optionally require signed compliance documents before dollars are remitted.

### **BUILT CLUB**

As a Built user, you'll gain access to an exclusive marketplace featuring special discounts from popular suppliers.

Get Built, and get to building, faster.

www.go.getbuilt.com/ce/tech





## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

It took under five minutes to link 70 assets to Tenna. [We] now have one platform that filters OEM data from multiple manufacturers into one spot for our users to access.

Pat L., Severino Trucking

### **Tenna Integrates With Your Business Ecosystems**



p to this point, contractors have struggled with seeing real gains and value using construction technology. Equipment management technology, however, makes this easier on contractors by providing key information about their high-value construction equipment and assets that integrates with other systems they are already using. Equipment management information greatly contributes to construction finances, as equipment is a major cost center for a contractor, so ERP and accounting systems are a natural place for contractors to share their equipment data. This type of integration is becoming less of a niceto-have and more of a must-have.

Because equipment plays a critical role in building projects, integrating equipment data with project management and operations programs is another natural and increasingly necessary integration opportunity.

Construction businesses spend a lot of money on the assets required to execute their projects and the systems required to run their businesses efficiently. An integrated construction technology ecosystem benefits contractors by maximizing the use of these systems for overall productivity and efficiencies, as well as accurate and complete data which, in the long run, significantly impacts finances and the bottom line.

Top contractors use integrations to give their teams the flexibility to connect their systems without creating data gaps for better reporting, clearer visibility and communication, and faster insights.

Is your equipment data integrated with the rest of your business and operational information? Contact Tenna to learn more about how to leverage construction technology to mature your equipment management processes and drive meaningful improvements in your business.

Tenna is the construction technology platform revolutionizing equipment fleet operations. We are the standard for the construction industry.

### **TENNA Integrations**



### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### Tenna, LLC

Edison, New Jersey (833) 50-TENNA discover@tenna.com tenna.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# **Know More, Control More, and Make More with Tenna Integrations**





### **Tenna's Equipment Management platform** links to your entire business ecosystem

As Tenna continues to be the construction technology platform that revolutionizes equipment fleet operations, we look to also be an integral part of your business' technology ecosystem with an integrated construction equipment management solution. We are the standard for the construction industry. Built on over 100 years of construction experience, we speak your language.



www.tenna.com 833.50.TENNA

CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER 202





# **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

Line of sight on payables, receivables and inventory is critical for your business. The QuickBooks ecosystem has exactly what you need, when you need it.

Bobby Morrison, Chief Sales Officer, Intuit

### WHY OUICKBOOKS?

- QuickBooks is the #1 tax and accounting software in the United States.\*
- Businesses that use QuickBooks for labor costing report adding 11% more billable time to their invoices, on average
- 90% of QuickBooks users are likely to recommend QuickBooks to other customers.

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### Intuit

Mountain View, California (844) 333-1844 quickbooks.com/constructionebook

QuickBooks: Built for **Construction From the Ground Up** 

ntuit is making deep investments to continue to evolve their QuickBooks product ecosystem to meet the changing needs of growing construction businesses. Bobby Morrison, Intuit's chief sales officer, says, "It's the place where our products and services best meet the needs of the market. We're prioritizing partners and bringing features to life within our product and across our app marketplace to help construction companies power their prosperity."



Morrison says a common misunderstanding is that

QuickBooks is just accounting software. "QuickBooks is much more than financial management software. We enable payroll. We get you access to capital, we'll help you get paid—and make payments—through our payments platform. We help you manage time, whether you're on-site or remote. The QuickBooks ecosystem is really the single source of truth for your business."

The construction industry has experienced vast changes in the past year. Workforce shortages, supply chain disruption and fluctuating building prices have all required more efficiencies.

"Mobile use of QuickBooks has become even more critical for businesses since the pandemic. It's become a must-have, not just a nice-to-have, as workforces have shifted from traditional offices into the field," Morrison says.

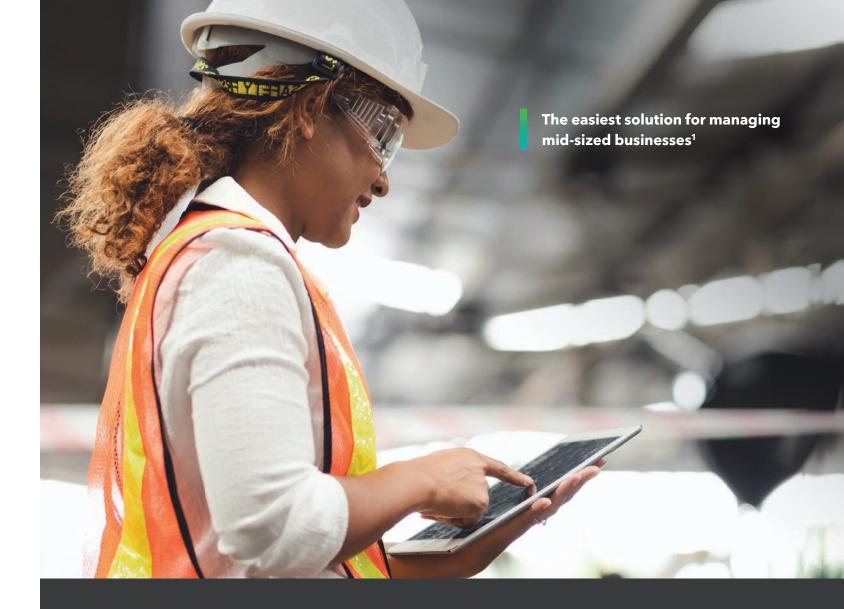
But secure cloud access is only part of how the QuickBooks ecosystem helps construction companies win in the marketplace. "The nature of work is shifting—and the ability to do real-time job costing gives construction companies a competitive edge," Morrison says. QuickBooks integrated solutions also help businesses decrease labor costs and increase profits through better time tracking. Businesses using QuickBooks services for labor costing report adding 11% more billable time to their invoices, on average.

Morrison reports that QuickBooks advisors and partners are constantly working with construction companies to learn what they need from the software. "We're doing a lot of work with system integrators and technology leaders in construction and making sure that we are creating those deep, rich API integrations so everything is seamless. At the end of the day, you can spend more time with your clients."

Morrison underscores that the QuickBooks ecosystem meets your business where you are. "Whether you're just getting started or you've been in business for years with over 100 employees, QuickBooks and the entire portfolio is built to scale with you, not ahead of you."

\*#1 accounting software for small to midsize business based on PCMag, as of November 2019.





# Built for the future. Ready for now.

Create a financial foundation for your construction business with QuickBooks.



Find out more: quickbooks.com/constructionebook



## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

InEight's background allows the company to understand our needs and offer us a construction solution rather than just software.

Tom Baskind, Technology Manager Graycor

### **COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Experience a 30% improvement in staff utilization using InEight construction software solutions.
- Over \$400 billion worth of construction projects around the world have relied on InEight's field-tested project management software.
- InEight software clients have experienced up to 10% in savings in software and technology costs

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

### InEight

Scottsdale, Arizona (866) 225-9570 projectcertainty@ineight.com ineight.com

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

# Leaders in Transforming the **Construction Industry**

ith its roots dating back more than three decades, InEight's field-tested software is transforming the way contractors and owners manage capital construction projects. In Eight's proven solutions span every phase of construction, from design to estimating and from field execution to turnover. The company helps stakeholders get the real-time insights needed to minimize risks, improve operational efficiency and control project costs.

### **BUILT FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS**

InEight's integrated platform of software solutions was developed by construction professionals to meet the unique demands of large capital projects and to help them overcome their greatest project pain points. Whether in energy, infrastructure, mining, utilities, water or general building, more than 300,000 users and more than 750 customers worldwide rely on InEight to power more than \$400 billion in projects.

### CONNECTED DATA DELIVERS HIGHER PROJECT CERTAINTY

Because InEight's integrated platform connects information over the entire project life cycle, owners and contractors have a better view of project progress and can spot risks before they happen. In Eight software lets users store and manage project knowledge in a single source of truth. And with prescriptive dashboard views, every stakeholder sees critical data in real time. This higher level of visibility and accuracy helps users make critical project decisions that result in better outcomes.

### **ACCELERATE YOUR IMPLEMENTATION**

InEight software is delivered ready and field tested, so implementation is faster. Plus, long-term costs are less because InEight's solutions require little to no customization. Prospective customers also have peace of mind knowing InEight's experts manage almost all implementations.



### **GUIDED BY A TEAM OF CHANGE EXPERTS**

InEight's implementation experts are certified in organizational change management, so they understand the impacts of change and how it affects companies. These experts come from organizations that adopted InEight software and played a key role in its implementation.

### **COMMITTED TO INNOVATION**

In Eight is unmatched in its dedication to developing software that transforms capital projects. The company significantly invests in research and development and is continually advancing its products. With hundreds of software developers around the world working hand in hand with industry professionals, InEight is developing solutions that directly solve the needs of owners, contractors and engineers.

## Software Made Easy

xplorer Software is a global provider of enterprise software solutions. Its flagship product, Eclipse, is an integrated job cost, accounting, equipment control, and project management solution. Eclipse was designed as cloud-based software to deliver powerful, real-time data to users wherever they are, whenever they need it.



Explorer's Eclipse software makes it simple to increase profits by quickly identifying potential risks through its combination of advanced accounting modules and powerful analytics tools. Eclipse's dashboards make it easy to understand, control and evaluate projects from beginning to end in one convenient place. Users can create powerful, dynamic custom construction reports in minutes while setting up multiple dashboards to track specific key performance indicators on projects or operations, so they don't have to waste time searching for critical information.

Eclipse is fully integrated so users can monitor jobs, maintain equipment, dispatch technicians, manage documents and track the workforce all in one place; along with drill-down capability right from financials. With over 30 modules, Eclipse bridges the gap between accounting and operations to provide users with all the features they need to succeed in the construction industry. Its focus on select vertical markets allows it to deliver deep domain expertise to the industries it serves, including heavy construction, general contractors, specialty contractors, sub-trades, architects and engineers. With over 50,000 users across six continents, Explorer Software has created a powerful solution that is helping the construction industry find success worldwide.

### **CORPORATE PROFILE:**

# **LEADERS IN** CONSTRUCTION **TECHNOLOGY**

Eclipse is fully integrated so users can manage jobs, maintain equipment, dispatch technicians, manage documents and track the workforce all in one place.

### PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

- Fully integrated browser-based solution
- Built by construction professionals for the construction industry
- User friendly, non-technical report writer
- Explorer will never end-of-life its products
- Choose from on-site or SaaS deployment options
- Privately owned family business for 36 years

### **COMPANY CONTACT**

**Explorer Software** North Vancouver. British Colombia (800) 665-8966 sales@explorer-software.com explorer-software.com



## **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

### **PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Self-Service Job Cost and **WIP Reporting**
- Workflow for Collaborative **Budgeting and Forecasting**
- Detailed Analysis on Labor Performance
- Developing Scenarios to Model How Changes Affect Profitability
- Interactive Dashboards to Pinpoint Projects at Risk

# **Prophix Provides Real-Time** Visibility Into Your Financial **Data for Project Profitability**

rophix Software centralizes all of a contractor's financial information and ensures project job cost information is always in sync with accounting. With a single source of the truth, everyone—from the field to the office—is always working with the most up-to-date cost information, preventing cost overruns, reworks and project delays.

As the construction industry continues to move from offline to digital-based programs, the need for data and understanding its impact on a construction business is accelerated. Every day, contractors are challenged with new decisions that impact the future, and they need information to make those decisions, fast. Whether it's information about key business metrics or information about jobs, you need the right data right now.

What if there were a way to bring together all your data into a single, easy-to-use environment, where everyone is on the same page? Where you didn't need to rely on a consultant or IT to get answers?

Forecast cash, analyze bids, manage equipment rates and understand the impact of safety incidents—Prophix is truly a system to run your business on.

# **safesite** • •

# Safesite Users Save Eight **Hours Every Week and Reduce** Injury Rates by up to 57%

n 2014, Safesite Co-Founders Peter Grant (CEO), Leigh Appel (CTO) and David Fontain (COO) lost a mutual friend in a workplace accident. The incident sparked an interest in streamlining workplace safety everywhere and helping ensure all workers get home safe. Together, they developed an easy-to-use safety management app that formed the groundwork for Safesite.

Today, over 18,000 companies of all sizes and industries trust Safesite, a powerful, easy-to-use safety management solution proven to reduce injury rates by up to 57%.

Safesite's intuitive, out-of-the-box platform is used daily by safety pros and teams to complete safety actions in the field, ensure compliance, improve safety engagement and drive down incident rates. Members can access the platform on any device and streamline safety management processes, saving up to eight hours per week per employee.

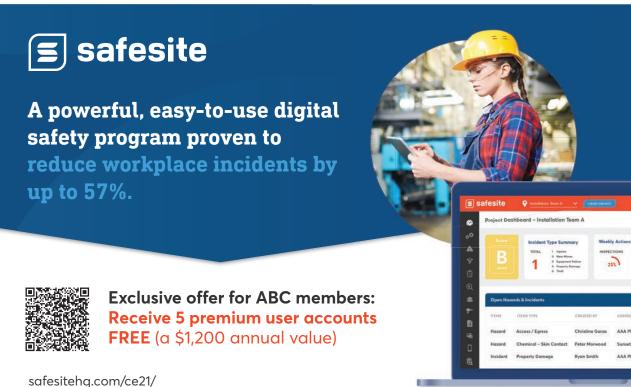
With the highest number of free features on the market, including a custom inspection builder, hazard management, incident reporting and an advanced safety scorecard, Safesite reduces safety-related expenses by up to 20% annually. Additionally, Safesite enables 20 of the ABC STEP key components and streamlines safety actions required for STEP membership. CORPORATE PROFILE:

# **LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY**

The weekly use of the Safesite app helps develop safety into our foremen's muscle memory for an overall safer jobsite.

> Safety Director, Residential Builder





CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER

# **IEXECUTIVEINSIGHTS**

How can contractors leverage technology to most efficiently manage their workforce?



End-to-end, employee-focused tech gives construction companies the edge.

Contractors can't afford to lose out on talent because of their recruiting systems.

JOHN HERR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



When applications for estimating and operations are connected, or unified, contractors gain tremendous efficiencies.

PAUL MCKEON

FOUNDER AND CEO
B2W Software

What are the most important KPIs for construction firms to monitor and why?



Routinely measuring productivity across trades can provide key stakeholders the visibility to take action and reallocate resources to avoid delays or cost overruns.

MATT DALY

CEO AND CO-FOUNDER StructionSite

What KPIs should construction businesses analyze to make critical business decisions?



Tracking and analyzing financial KPIs is typically performed by reviewing reports, such as cost estimates vs. actuals, under- or overbilling, and project cash flow.

**NEIL ASHIZAWA** 

CHIEF PRODUCT OFFICER
Jonas Construction Software

What is the best approach construction firms should take when adopting new technology?



Scale will only lead to ROIs that are considered impossible in our industry. A year from now, there will be the ones that have the data and those that don't.

MEIRAV OREN
CEO AND CO-FOUNDER
Versatile

Why is it important to have interoperability in the construction industry?



Where it takes five minutes to locate, compile and upload data for one submittal, you are talking about thousands of submittals and document exchanges over a project.

SLATER LATOUR
CHIEF MARKETING AND
PRODUCT OFFICER
Newforma

What tech trends do you expect to become standard in a post-COVID world for construction?



A mobile-first approach has become even more vital, enabling a disparate workforce to maintain productivity and stay safely connected with teams.

YVES FRINAULT CO-FOUNDER & CEO Fieldwire Read all the insights these leaders have to share at ConstructionExec.com/ ExecutiveInsights



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# onstruction technology and software adoption is on what they see a second

onstruction technology and software adoption is on the rise as hundreds of new entrants are being added to the growing list of available options each year. This includes everything from point solutions for every process, to fully integrated platforms for project bidding, to workforce management.

It's undeniable, with the increase in construction tech and tech investments, recently reported on by Forbes, that contractors are being flooded with calls and emails from different technology companies every day. All are trying to address a specific pain point with the latest and greatest solutions. Repetitive sales and marketing emails can definitely be overwhelming, but it's a good indicator that the construction industry is finally getting the attention it deserves from the tech industry.

Here's how a typical software sales process goes:

- A member of the contractor's team is introduced to a solution and reaches out to the provider to learn more about its unique offering.
- That team member is then given a brief demonstration of the solution and the value it can bring to the company.

 If the team member likes what they see, a second demonstration is often done with a larger team.

Diving Deeper During Tech

The team decides if there's

 a business case to adopt the
 solution and either move
 forward with implementation,
 or decides to keep looking at
 other options.

That's a very simplified version of the process. There can often be multiple demos involved, sandbox environments and free trial periods. However, it's when the larger leadership team gets involved that the questions really start rolling in, and rightfully so. Contractors want to make sure they're getting a good return on their investment and that the roadmap of the software or technology aligns with their organizational goals.

Information about a software solution or new technology often gets brought to light after, or during, implementation. This can be a pain in and of itself as this new information may have affected the decision to adopt.

Because there isn't a point-solution for evaluating point-solutions, here are three topics that often get overlooked, but should be considered when putting a new investment through its paces during evaluation.



# Integration Roadmap, Method and Expectations

Integrated software will continue to be increasingly important as the industry undergoes a digital transformation, but the questions usually stop pretty quickly regarding integrations.

It's not until contracts are signed and implementation is under way that a contractor discovers that building the integration will require a development team working with complex APIs and might take months to get right. The cost and time of getting the new solution to where it needs to be increases, and the perceived return on investment decreases.

A fully integrated tech stack will eventually be the norm in construction, so don't hesitate to spend a little more time discussing how the software provider intends to fit its piece in the tech stack puzzle. Some questions to consider would be:

- What integrations are available today?
- What integrations are being worked on, and what does that roadmap look like?

- Who does the heavy lifting building an integration, the contractor or the software provider?
- Will a custom integration use an API and require ongoing maintenance, or is there a thirdparty automation platform being used?

# Required 'Homework' During Implementation

Speed of implementation is important when deciding on a new software solution. Contractors want to get up and running quickly to keep the momentum going and maintain buy-in, which can be difficult when introducing new tech to the larger team.

"How long will it take to get up and running?"

This is when a contractor will get the "best case scenario timeline," which is rarely ever the case. A best-case scenario timeline usually means the time to implement after the contractor's data is shared. If a contractor were to ask for a guaranteed implementation date, it's almost guaranteed this timeline would suddenly have a few days, or even weeks, added to it.

Think of it this way—if a contractor is looking to import active, upcoming and historical projects into a new tool, how exactly does that work? Do they just send the data they have and let the software company sort it out, or will someone on the contractor's end need to organize and deliver that data?

It's not uncommon that this "homework" will exponentially increase the time to value, which is not the contractor's fault.

Contractors are typically working at capacity and don't have time to organize all the necessary information to get a new tool up and running. Sure, in the long-term contractors will benefit from taking the time to ensure their data is accurate and organized, but it's important to know what the expectations are on their end before moving forward. Some questions to consider are:

- How will data be imported into the tool, and who owns that?
- What is the lift required by the contractor?

Some tech companies will send a data template to help speed up the import process, but it still requires the contractor to transfer their data to the template. If that's the case, contractors should ask to see the template and the required information so they can understand the work that will go into implementation before the "best-case scenario timeline" even starts.

### **Development Methodology**

A tech company will use a few different methodologies to develop and release new features. However, the most commonly used methodologies for software development are Waterfall and Agile. As a basic overview of each:

• Agile methodology is all about iterative development. Tech companies release new features quickly and frequently, and then get feedback from their customers and make incremental improvements at a rapid pace. This methodology allows them to adapt quickly and shift priorities to respond to customer demand.

• Waterfall methodology should be familiar to contractors. It follows strict and linear principles and takes a topdown approach like a waterfall. For example, a project starts in phase 1 and doesn't move on to phase 2 until phase 1 is complete. In the software world, this means less frequent feature releases, but bigger releases as all the planning is done before development begins.

### Why Does This Matter?

As the end user, a contractor should consider if they want their software provider to be predictable, or adaptive to their needs. The development methodology will also impact a contractor's ability to offer input. With Agile, the conversation is ongoing, and changes can be made quickly. With Waterfall, there's a lot of planning involved, but it's nearly impossible to pivot once development is underway. Some questions to consider are:

- What development methodology is used?
- How and when can feedback be communicated?
- How frequently are features released?

The bottom line is: Don't hesitate to ask more questions. Software and technology companies should be comfortable getting into the specifics of their integration roadmap, development method and a realistic implementation timeline that includes the required lift on the contractor's end.

Michel Richer is content marketing manager for Bridgit. For more information, visit bridgitsolutions.com.

# How to Use Al in Construction—and How Not to Use It

rtificial intelligence—the building of an algorithm that can make decisions like a human brain does—is revolutionizing the construction industry. From technology innovations that reduce costs, delays and overruns to autonomous equipment that performs dangerous or difficult tasks for humans, AI helps construction companies operate better.

It has limitations, though, and the ineffective use of AI causes misperceptions to exist. Here's a look at how to get the most out of AI.

#### **Developing AI**

One of the common misconceptions about AI is that it can be built to immediately make decisions as effectively as a human does. However, humans are not capable of making decisions the instant they're born. As children (and their brains) grow, they learn from the experiences, situations and environments they are placed in. With AI, the process of teaching a system or algorithm how to make decisions based on correlations that it identifies after looking at hundreds

or thousands of examples is called machine learning.

As the algorithm sees increasingly more examples, it gets better at knowing what is or is not relevant to reach a conclusion, similar to how human brains develop. Humans learn over time, with their brains realizing that, given a certain set of actions and variables, a desired result will be achieved and if those actions and variables are repeated, the same outcome should be attained. In machine learning, this is called supervised learning. In circumstances where the outcome may not be known, the brain can make an educated guess based on similar past experiences as to what some of the unknowns may be; this is called unsupervised learning.

Humans unknowingly learn from thousands of examples every day. A brain can make critical connections and understand that if it encounters similar circumstances again, it would know how to handle the situation and subsequent outcome. The human brain is an amazing organ, and it starts learning before a child is born and continues to learn until the individual dies.

### **Common Misconceptions**

AI is often thought of as a magical black box that can solve any problem instantly. Theoretically, that may be the case. But, as it is with humans, baby steps must be taken along the way to achieve that result.

Leadership at most companies has complex problems in mind they would like to solve and believe the only way to solve these problems is to use AI. They start collecting vast amounts of data and data scientists without understanding how the data or people will be used. Yet throwing large amounts of people, money and data at a problem will not result in an effective solution. Just as children cannot solve complex problems until they learn the basics, AI has the same challenge. It must start with the basics and, as they are mastered, it can move on to the more complex problems at hand.

AI companies in construction often claim that they can immediately rid projects of all delays or overruns and ensure a project's success. However, frequently they have skipped the fundamental first step of cataloging their data and evaluating its validity. Since an AI system or algorithm relies on its



past experiences like a human does, if the data that is coming in is of low quality, the result will match.

Essentially, garbage in, garbage out. As construction projects experience delays and overruns, they become overly optimistic (compressed) and inaccurate, which in turn causes the AI predictions to

be overly optimistic and inaccurate. A company leveraging AI must first take a step back, look at all the data and establish milestones that will help determine what data is needed and what the expected outcome is. Once those parameters have been set, milestones can be tracked. Additionally, the AI solution or algorithm can be evaluated periodically and systematically so it's known early on whether AI will be the solution to the complex problem at hand.

#### Humans and AI

Undoubtedly, AI is here to stay and will continue to transform the construction industry. But before trying to completely replace the human element, companies need to understand the data they have and utilize the real-world experiences of construction professionals to enhance and make sense of the data. Simply throwing a large volume of data at an algorithm will result in searching for a needle in a massive haystack, without even knowing what a needle looks like. To avoid such an ineffective and costly approach to AI, companies should take baby steps and build the AI system over time.

Rohit Sinha is CTO of SmartPM Technologies. For more information, visit smartpmtech.com.



CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER 2021

# Integrated Tech Stacks Can Supercharge Growth for Construction

BY TOM STEMM

hile the use of technology is certainly on the rise among construction businesses, the level of access that each employee has to such solutions is inconsistent at best and nonexistent at worst. According to research by Dropbox, 75% of construction businesses use some form of cloud-based document storage solution.

Despite this, paper still reigns supreme at many construction sites, with contractors preferring the tactile nature of paper forms over tablets or other software solutions. This ends up costing the business in lost forms, confusing processes and multiple versions of documents stored in different locations. To combat this, construction businesses can deploy integrated technology stacks, which can help ensure consistent access and usage across different business divisions.

# What Are Integrated Technology Stacks?

Construction companies that wish to embark on a digital transformation journey can be bombarded by a barrage of software and hardware solutions vying for their business. Digital collaboration and mobility



solutions account for 60% of all investment in construction technology, according to McKinsey & Company. Business leaders must navigate a complex and saturated market to find the solution that works best for their organization.

The needs of each business department can vary greatly from one division to another, and software providers are providing increasingly targeted solutions for disparate use cases. Consequently, businesses often fall into the trap of signing up for multiple solutions that do not work with each other and consider that a technology stack.

It is estimated that approximately a quarter of construction businesses use applications that are not integrated with the rest of their business. To achieve

increased productivity and efficiency, an integrated solution should be implemented.

### Why Integrated Tech Stacks Are Crucial for Any Growth-Oriented Construction Business

1. Integration Removes
Inter-Departmental Barriers
to Collaboration
Among contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and office staff, the construction business is inherently broken down into information silos. Before the digital revolution, communication among these stakeholders was limited to the sharing of essential files and forms via email or text. However, with integrated software, files that are required for compliance or administration can

# Connecting & Building Your Business While You Build The World



Contractors work hard for their money and the work is tangible, something you can see and experience. It's impossible to hide the result!

When processes break down and contractors are losing time, money, and profit, as former contractors, we take exception to it. We seek to understand how we can improve the process to eliminate the waste and help our construction peers to connect their field operations and office teams in order to accomplish their goals with less strain and improved results.

PeerAssist has unveiled our new construction purchasing solution to help contractors to avoid the chaos of a process that is burdened by disconnected tools and decentralized communications that come in various forms.

Project teams become frustrated when they just need a simple thing - "material to be available onsite and ready for use when needed". When that process turns into chasing people, paper, texts, emails, and spreadsheets all flying down various paths, you know you have a breakdown in the process. The problem only gets compounded when you discover that you're paying too much for the materials that you're

acquiring, experiencing delays in getting the material you need in time, and always feeling the process is reactive vs. proactive.

PeerAssist allows construction firms to take back control of the process with a rapid, yet methodical and fully documented process that captures the material request in the field where the work is happening. Staff can select the material that is needed, have a log automatically populated, track the status from request to fulfillment, compare pricing from suppliers to ensure optimal pricing, and analyze the data to better understand how to improve.

### **Key Tangible Benefits:**

- Avoid delays in purchasing process
- Capture with more accuracy
- Spend less time chasing people for answers
- Increase visibility and accountability
- Mitigate risk and cost overruns
- Fully maximize profit

Learn more about how PeerAssist can help your construction team, go to peerassist.com/ce21.



peerassist.com

20 S. 3rd St., Suite 210 Columbus, OH 43215 Communication is also conducted on this integrated platform rather than separate text and email chains that provide limited contextual information. This makes it easier for individuals to provide feedback or contribute to ongoing discussions.

2. Improved Data Management Provides Better Insight for Decision-Making Decision-making requires a significant amount of deliberation and research. However, a lack of data can make this process little more than guesswork. Improved data collection and analysis using integrated technology stacks allows business leaders to gather operational and administrative information at a level that was not possible before digitalization.

To effectively employ decision analytics, managers need to be able to collect large amounts of data, extract actionable insight and present this information in a visual and easily understandable manner. Integration, when executed well, can combine data from different departments to give business leaders a holistic view of their entire

operation and ensure that each decision is informed by the latest available data.

3. Enable Higher Levels of Productivity and Efficiency With Standardized Processes
Construction companies often view projects as one-offs and unique.
This creates the misconception that it is difficult to standardize processes across different projects. However, many individual tasks and compliance requirements are identical across most projects. Integrated software can help companies reduce the amount of time spent on repetitive tasks that

take up a significant chunk of an employee's day. With integrated productivity software, employees can recoup over five hours each week to spend on higher-value tasks rather than repetitive processes that can be automated or streamlined.

### How Businesses Can Choose the Right Stacks for Specific Use Cases

Digital transformation in the construction industry will continue to grow. Construction companies must ensure their investments are suited to their unique business needs. As software offerings become increasingly

specialized and targeted, business leaders need to ensure that each component of their transformation adds value to their existing stack of solutions.

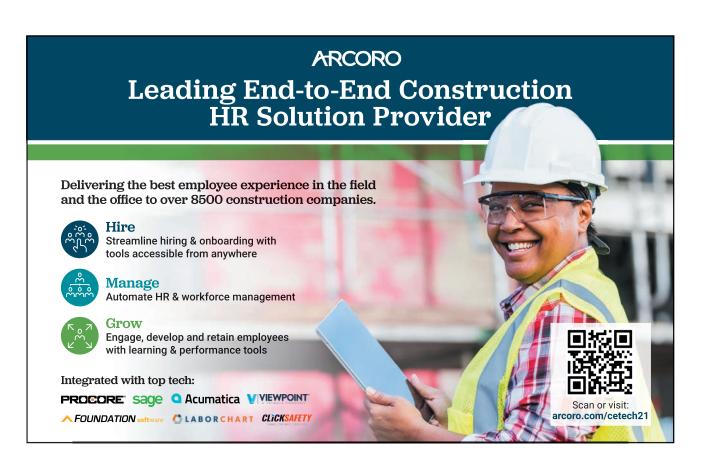
To ensure their tech stack consistently provides a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, business leaders should:

- Communicate with on-site, office and remote employees to gain insight into their specific needs;
- Ensure that each software or hardware inclusion is aligned with overall business objectives; and
- Minimize redundancy through regular evaluations of the technology stack.

Technology breaks barriers to communication, improves productivity and increases collaboration across business divisions. Integration allows these benefits to exist throughout the business rather than in individual departments that embrace these solutions. Construction companies can choose from a practically endless list of software solutions, and integration is the key to unlocking the true potential of these applications.

Tom Stemm is the CEO and founder of Ryvit. For more information, visit ryvit.com.





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CONSTRUCTION EXECUTIVE | SEPTEMBER 2021



# Wearables: Driving Jobsite Productivity and Profitability

BY BOB DOLAN

roductivity issues plague the construction industry's bottom line at a cost of billions of dollars each year, according to a 2020 study published in *Construction Engineering and Management*.

Where labor can account for a significant percentage of project costs, and with much of the industry shifting toward the delivery method of integrated project delivery, significant effort will be focused on maximizing workforce productivity.

Simply improving the efficiency of on-site labor during the execution phase can decrease the risk of

cost overruns and reduce delays, producing significant savings.

Fortunately, the industry can combat workforce inefficiency through innovative technologies, such as "internet of things" sensors, which help improve the communication, workflow, safety and overall productivity of the jobsite. Contractors are increasingly connecting these devices between workers and to equipment and key areas of the jobsite, generating critical information on how labor and resources are being utilized and how they are interacting with the environment. This enables

them to increase productivity and shorten project timeframes, which ultimately help improve the bottom line.

Innovative contractors are doing just that using wearables and other sensors to improve productivity.

### Identifying and Eliminating Workflow Bottlenecks

Workers spend an enormous amount of time waiting around on jobsites—for supplies, tools, information and other subcontractors to complete tasks ahead of them. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the U.S.

construction industry employs nearly 7.5 million workers at an average industry salary of \$32.16 per hour. Based on a 40-hour work week, that means each minute of each day accounts for more than \$1 billion of production value to the industry per year.

The attendance and worker location data collected by IoT wearables can help managers better understand workflow and determine if they have the right tradespeople in the right areas to complete the task on time. A single delay often triggers ripple effects across the entire project. For example, an understaffed HVAC crew could prevent a team of bricklayers from closing

off a wall encasing the duct work on time, slowing progress on each ensuing step. Connected worker solutions give project managers the insight to identify shortages of skilled labor in specific zones and distribute workforce accordingly.

As an example, one construction firm noticed there was a bottleneck around the hoist. It collected data from worker wearables and a sensor on the hoist to gain insight into the problem and figure out whether a second hoist was needed. The contractor was able to track how long workers waited for a hoist, and not only determined that it needed a second one, but also that it would be more efficient to dedicate one

hoist for heavy equipment and the other for workers.

# Locating Equipment and Optimizing Utilization

Often multiple crews share equipment on large jobsites. Time spent tracking down a tool is a suboptimal use of skilled labor, and by using sensors to track equipment in real time, site supervisors can quickly and easily locate the equipment that is needed. Additionally, by tracking how often—and how far—workers have to go to get equipment, project managers can determine where to best place these tools to avoid wasted time and to maximize efficiency.



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## IoT wearables can help managers better understand workflow and determine if they have the right tradespeople in the right areas to complete the task on time.

Many jobsites require significant investment into rental equipment. Contractors can also determine how much time equipment and tools are actually being used, which is particularly useful to identify additional equipment needs for rental or purchase, or

conversely identify unnecessary or unused equipment.

### Identifying and Addressing Safety Issues

It's impossible to overstate how crucial worker health and safety is and its impact on human lives. In addition to those overarching concerns, safety and health issues also contribute directly to lost time, potential delays and worker compensation claims, which are among the highest of any industry, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Forward-thinking contractors are using wearables and other sensors to reduce safety incidents and exposure to health risks. Wearables provide real-time alerts to workers as they approach hazardous or restricted areas that have beacon-based sensors. Additionally, these connected jobsites allow workers to identify and report

safety issues in real time and enable managers to activate evacuations and other worker safety alerts.

Site supervisors also use the sensor data to keep workers safe. For example, by tracking the amount of time employees spend in hazardous areas, site supervisors can limit their exposure. Additionally, in the event someone tests positive for COVID-19, supervisors can use the sensor data tracking close interactions to quickly and accurately identify the specific individuals who may have been exposed, and avoid complete operational shutdowns, associated costs and delays.

## Improving Cost Assessment for Future Bids

By analyzing the data on how long subcontractors spent in certain areas to complete tasks and how many workers were needed to accomplish specific tasks, contractors have a historical record that they could use to more accurately bid other jobs.

Using data that is automatically collected from wearables and other sensors not only enables contractors to gain insights into workforce productivity and equipment usage, but also to understand the interaction among workers,

the equipment and the jobsite environment. Armed with this information, they can identify inefficiencies and bottlenecks that they can fix, and respond with data-driven decisions, such as shifting on-site labor and tools to other zones or projects where they can be more productive.

This real-time knowledge on a jobsite, with so many moving parts, enables contractors to work smarter, streamline the workflow and positively impact the bottom line.

Bob Dolan is vice president of construction for Triax Technologies. For more information, visit triax.com.



