Project Pro®

11 Reasons To Use A Construction Software Platform For Improved Business ROI

A Specialty Contractors' Guide For Growth In 2021
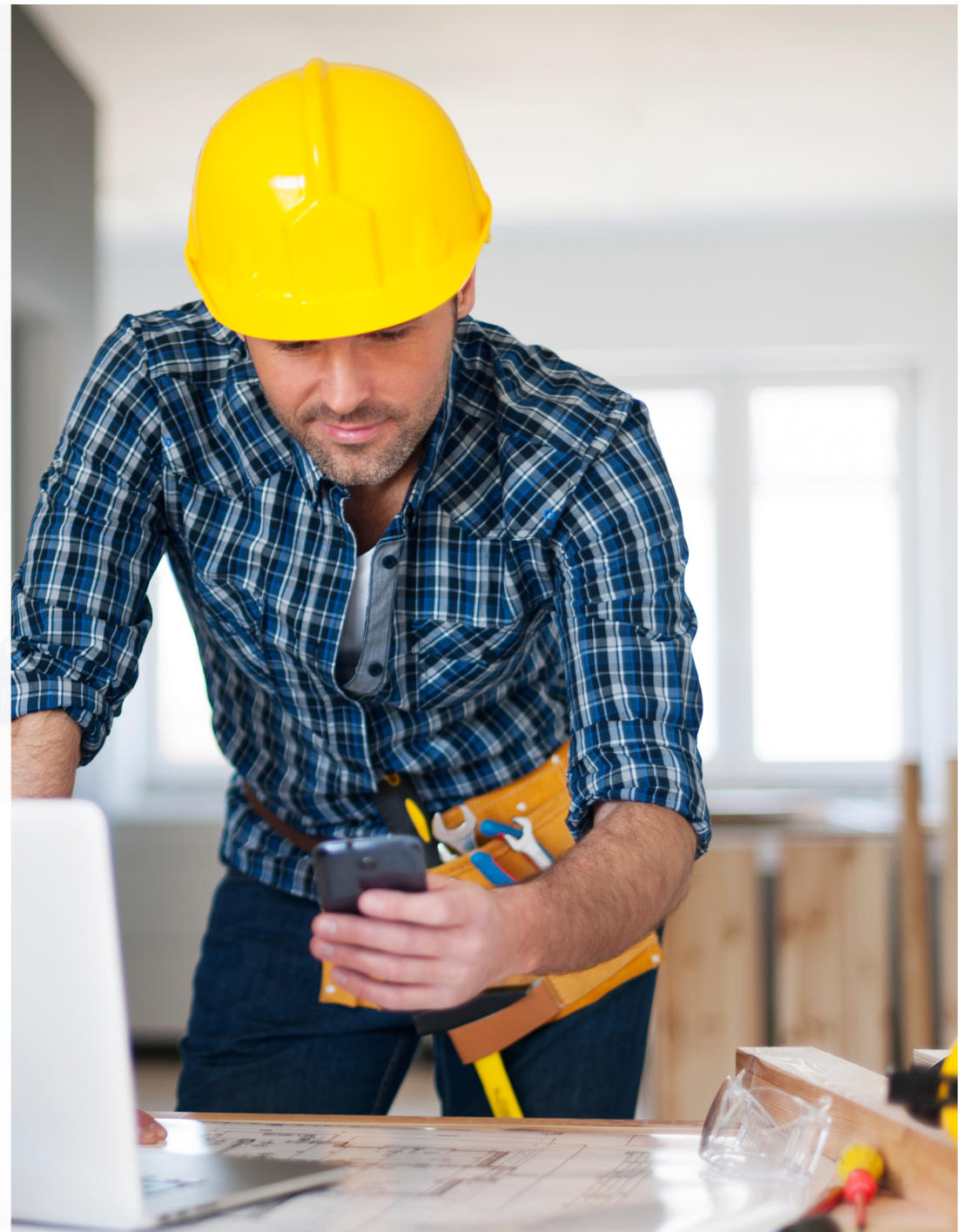
Table of Contents

Introduction

When you are a part of the construction business, it is necessary to have a space for potential business changes that can help achieve the resilience and scalability goals. However, meeting such goals need contractors to switch to advanced construction software that can help improve the operations for added profitability.

Irrespective of your business size, using construction management software can help your brand to have a stronger foundation with huge financial success. Since this software is designed to help sync office and field teams, it becomes easier to manage bids, plan jobs, monitor progress, and meet timeline goals.

But what exactly is a Construction Software Platform? What are the benefits of construction software? How can it help contractors with improving business performance?

Integrated construction project management technology is more of a modern approach to point solutions. These next-generation solutions focus on unified functionalities and business benefits. Since they are built for improving business workflows, an even more sophisticated experience is created using these platform solutions that offer an improved analytic response, operational collaboration, and more.

By design, it's built for specific workflows, providing a complete range of sophisticated collaboration, monitoring, analytic, and reporting tools, all available on any device in any location.

It delivers seamless integration of multiple processes—including job costing, contract development, resource planning, forecasting, productivity tracking & analysis, change order management, document management, compliance control, and customer management. In addition, a construction platform is modular in architecture and can be deployed and configured to match specific business objectives.

In short, a robust construction platform can help specialty contractors optimize operations and maximize margins. With that in mind, the idea of replacing traditional methods and legacy systems with a major digital upgrade may seem daunting.

That's why we developed this playbook, to help you explore and evaluate the benefits of capitalizing on advanced technology. The following pages list 11 reasons to invest in a construction-specific platform. We also included a checklist of action steps you can execute to move your company forward.

Say No To Siloed Systems

Working on an integrated construction software brings you unrestrained business control which is quite impossible with siloed systems in place. Most siloed software packages have contractors struggling with the data integrity which brings functionality issues with their business. On the other hand, using integrated construction software can help save money and simplify workflows for added convenience in managing the business. Moreover, working with integrated software does not require contractors to have different tools to work on routine activities.

In addition to this, working on disparate systems for managing multiple construction projects or a single project with numerous elements involved could make things more complex. This is especially true when it comes to assembling data from processes such as accounting, job costing, payroll, and field productivity tracking; compiling process information could leave gaps related to overall revenue. Also, using a business-specific centralized solution like ProjectPro could help consolidate project data for better and more robust construction.

Seek Agility

Construction focuses on quick decision-making, as taking too long to process a task could make your customers unsure about your service or lose confidence in your business. However, the contractors who are able to make quicker decisions are often considered to have a better position with challenges and project changes. Moreover, agility in the business process could help contractors to move forward while planning for the upcoming projects in a highly precise manner.

In contrast, sticking to legacy systems does not leave any scope to be agile. FMI and AGC made a construction industry risk survey in 2019 that found 39 percent of respondents had strategic agility as a top risk to their business. It was noted that contractors who had construction management software in place measured better fluidity and control with decisions. Also, centralized information on the software gave contractors access to real-time databases, improving coordination amongst various on-site and off-site departments.

For instance, you can use construction software to help with corrective business actions when you are approaching a direction that would lead to over expense. Since manual systems do not offer such liberties, integrated systems allow contractors to know the exact position of their project, making it easier to plan profitable actions.
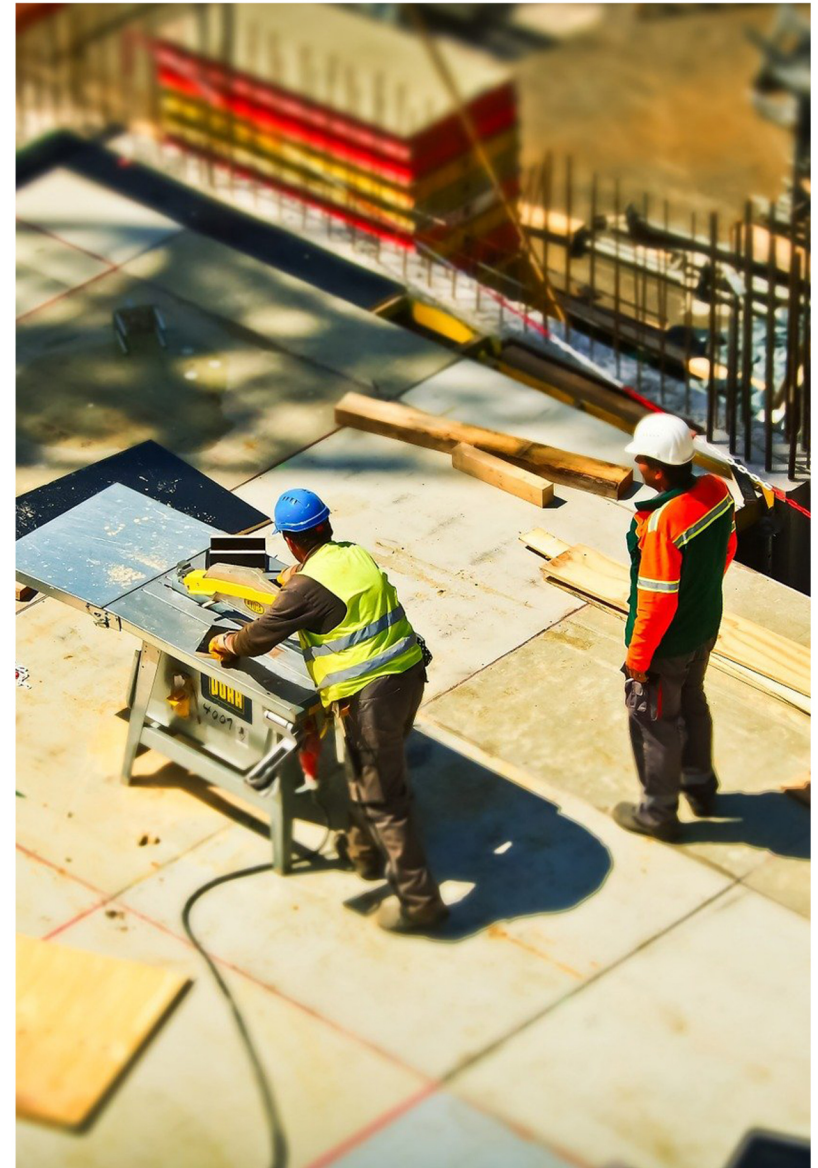
Operational Efficiency & Productivity

Using construction project management software is everything that you need for added operational efficiency and productivity. It not only helps you to drive precise data entries but improves the operational process related to the project. According to research made by McKinsey Global Institute, construction firms who are ready to align with digital platforms to run their business tend to have a 4 to 6 percent reduction in costs with a productivity growth likeliness of 15 percent.

Quite the reverse, most contractors still prefer to stick with legacy systems instead of modern solutions. The same can be verified through the JB Knowledge Construction Technology Report made in collaboration with Construction Dive in 2018 that found spreadsheets as the primary choice for data-keeping. However, all such firms tend to be struggling with integration gaps. The report states that "unfortunately, contractors are still relying heavily on spreadsheets, email, and document storage solutions to cobble together their client relationship management and bid management processes."

All in all, working on spreadsheets is not just time-consuming but an error-ridden process that needs the remedy of digitization. Using an integrated construction accounting and project management software could help contractors with streamlining the processes of generating submittals, RFIs, transmittals, document management, and more through pre-defined templates. Moreover, the cloud support available on these tools makes it easier to manage the data by giving quick virtual access to field and office teams.

Also, progressive construction needs shared systems that do not need data transfer across multiple systems, and working on integrated construction platforms makes it easier for contractors to track field productivity components allowing mobile communication at all times.

Better Collaboration

Even though a large number of construction firms and contractors have shifted to digital platforms due to the pandemic, there are still some firms that prefer external file-sharing practices. The AGC survey made during 2019 found that tools like Dropbox were widely used by contractors to share files over a synchronized database.

But the fact is, working on cloud-based software helps to keep the field teams, office teams, contractors, and project managers in sync when it comes to the seamless flow of project data.

Especially when it comes to construction accounting operations like ledger, payables, receivables, billings, costing, payroll, and project management functionalities, using a construction technology like ProjectPro provides seamless integration on all field and office data.

Transparency In Reporting Process

The billing process demands extreme transparency with the project reporting. This is why most contractors opt to use a construction accounting solution that can help with essential accuracy and consistency with data.

No matter if you are working directly with the project owner or a general contractor company, the reporting process needs to be sound and technical to maintain the quality of reporting. In other words, contractors who need to sustain and grow in the future all have understood the need for sophisticated reporting as a part of their business success.

Cost Improvement

Even though the construction software platform requires an upfront investment, the idea of reducing labor costs and regularizing the budget helps contractors to save development time and is a much more effective alternative than manual cost planning.

Moreover, firms who have realized the loss they need to tackle due to error-prone and tedious manual operations should start working on business and project mapping processes. It would be the best thing that contractors can do to realize all the labor costs associated with wasted time and eliminating those unwanted expenses from the routine construction operations.

Enhanced Decision-Making

Using conventional systems is more of a business liability than an asset. Especially, when it comes to instant decision making, timely insights are necessary to work on effective planning and business projections.

Here comes the role of construction accounting and project management software. Since these solutions are based on modern technology, it gets quite convenient to cut down the barriers to growth while improving the decisions. Also, using such a solution in business decision-planning can help contractors to have a single source of truth with cost forecasting, estimates, management, along with project tracking and control in the field.

Advanced Security

When you choose a dedicated platform to work on your construction needs, it gets easier to define the business best practices, standards, as well as project security. Working on a solution like ProjectPro helps you get over the chances of data breaches while giving you the freedom to define access controls to ensure only limited data is shared with employees.

This is especially beneficial with projects where general contractors or specialty subcontractors don't want employees to have access to certain business-specific data.

Since changing construction process needs evolved practices for financial control, workflow management, and approvals, using construction technology helps to meet all needs related to advanced security practices. Also, working on such a system helps to keep certain inputs private and not to be reflected into the project or business finances.

Added Cash Flow

One thing that often restricts construction contractors from having a solid project pipeline is the poor cash flow and capital. This is especially true if you are a specialty contractor or construction subcontractor. It is more likely for contractors to work around the burden of excessive labor and material costs than it might be to disturb the cash flow.

In such circumstances, you can find the cash flow related benefits of the construction software platform. Since general contractors and subcontractors need to work on payroll, taxes, and all job-related expenses, using construction software helps you to have the best of cash flow management.

Therefore, contractors who have cash flow concerns with their business could simply rely on construction software to help with managing budgets, billings, and ensure timeliness with finances.

Sustainable Competitive Advantage

It is natural for clients to have an inclination towards contractors who are using advanced business technology to work on their projects. As project owners have a strong belief that technology is the key to progress and helps to steer away from remaining stagnant, specialty contractors see construction software as the secret to better net profits and efficiency.

Since advanced construction accounting software like ProjectPro has integrated capabilities to offer, it allows contractors to operate and execute all activities with perfection. This perfection further works as the base to operational consistency, resource optimization, and more reliable business performance that captures the attention of the contractors.

Business Scalability Benefits

Most of the time, specialty contractors face struggles dealing with the scalability of their software solutions when they need to expand their business. However, such limitations should be considered as a need for change that seeks growth and sustainability. Adopting a construction software that is built on scalable architecture is everything that a contractor needs to work on future expansions.

All in all, Construction firms and contractors who make the right choice with the construction software platform find it easy to accommodate employees, departments, and anything that necessary for business expansion.

About ProjectPro

ProjectPro is a **cloud-based Construction** Accounting Software Solution integrated with Microsoft Dynamics 365 Business Central. It is designed to help construction companies manage tasks and requirements related to Project Accounting, Resource Management, and Project Management.

Streamlining business processes for construction firms, real estate developers, and contractors, ProjectPro can be used to work on integrating data, transaction processing, and robust reporting. Moreover, features like Cloud and Power BI help construction companies with improved Business Decision Making.

Some of the other features include Project Management, AIA Contract Billing with Retention, Advanced Job Labor, Change Order Tracking, and Material Planning. Moreover, ProjectPro includes Subcontract Management, RFQs, TimeSheets, and keeps users updated with real-time Notifications and Alerts. It also comes with a dedicated mobile technician app that can help with field service operations.

At ProjectPro, we help construction companies with customized software solutions to make their construction business sustain and grow in this digitally growing world. We help you turn your vision into a value with promising services and a pleasant customer experience.

Contact Us

📍 **1250 Pittsford-Victor Road**
Ste 190, Pittsford, NY 14534

🌐 www.projectpro365.com

✉ sales@projectpro365.com

📞 +1 647 696 4534

Take Care! Stay Safe!