EBOOK

Get Your Field Teams Out of Your ERP

PROCORE®

Table of Contents

PROCORE®

ERP: The Original Digital Solution for Construction

For decades, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems have dominated the construction industry.

These blended systems disrupted the industry in the 1990s by bringing areas such as planning, purchasing, inventory, project management, and finance all under one umbrella—offering the first form of an "all-in-one" solution.

While on-premise ERP systems still hold immense value in their historical data archive and customizations, they also come with a lot of baggage such as server maintenance, software and hardware upgrades, and dollars and time spent doing data re-entry and redundant manual processes. Companies must also be willing to re-engineer processes to fit the ERP system and invest in ongoing training of IT staff as well as system users. If the system is installed locally, investment in additional hardware may also be required.

Today, cloud-based platforms are rapidly gaining market share due to their lower maintenance costs, faster time to value, scalability and integrations, and mobile offerings.

PROCORE®

One Vendor Does Not Fit All

ERP solutions are based on the concept that one software vendor can control your entire technology stack.

It is an unrealistic expectation when you take into consideration the complexities and idiosyncrasies that can reside in individual business units as well as various industry segments.

This is one of the biggest pain points for construction firms: integrating various point solutions required to run the numerous facets of construction management. From accounting and payroll to drawing management and scheduling, construction firms with ERPs are forced to cobble together a host of applications without the potential for information exchange and scalability.

Business owners find themselves buying additional solutions from other vendors because, for instance, the ERP's package is helpful for accounting, human resources, invoice tracking, and inventory control, but insufficient for sharing and marking up project plans in the field.

Most of these point solutions don't talk to each other; they require different user credentials with different user interfaces and workflows that cause more administrative work for teams. These one-off software solutions ultimately bring you back to square one, but instead of managing scattered email communications and spreadsheets, you're trying to wrangle siloed applications that generate countless data points that don't communicate with one another—leaving you with no single source of truth. You're stuck with redundant and frequently inconsistent information that must be reconciled for each transaction.

As a result, companies try to build individual point-to-point interfaces that connect each independent system—creating an even more complex jumble of messy integrations. This is why Application Program Interfaces (APIs) have become so crucial to creating the next generation of software solutions.

It's imperative that each of these programs work as a single cohesive system to effectively track the entire construction process—from the initial planning stages through completion and even to post-project management.

Unfortunately, all too often, siloed information and softwares' inability to integrate with one another, causes ample rework and blown budgets. With no place to turn for a comprehensive repository of up-to-date information, companies are forced to maintain redundant and inconsistent information across multiple solutions.

PROCORE®

3

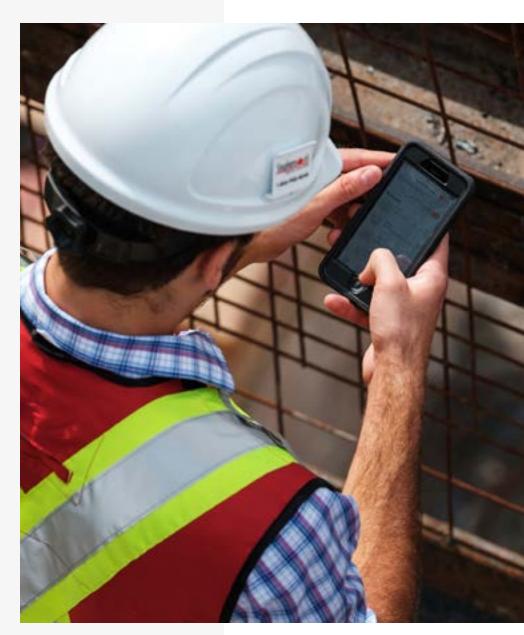ERP + Cloud Platform:
It's OK to Have Both

Every aspect of business involves working with others.

Because of this, ERP systems are useless when it comes to community collaboration, as they were never designed to work with partners. A construction project can only move as fast as the decision-making process of its team members. Therefore, field teams' limited accessibility to project data drastically inhibits the communication and collaboration required for timely decision-making and judgment calls. Field teams require accurate data and around-the-clock accessibility to that data—for all project team members.

Many enterprises considering the latest in construction technology mistakenly think it has to be one solution or the other: a reliable Tier 1 ERP system or cloud-based platform.

But this is simply not true. You can have the best of both worlds.

Keep your ERP system for operating business-critical applications that have very specific requirements or technical limitations, under your own control and own data centers, but invest in a cloud-based platform to break through the longstanding flaws of your ERP systems, by delivering hyper agility.

PROCORE®

4

Free Your Field Teams
from Your ERP

Investing in a cloud-based platform will 1) connect all of your collaborators and applications, 2) provide a single source of truth, and 3) enable all involved parties to plan and execute together— all in real time.

As a result, your field teams can share information more quickly, widely, consistently, and transparently, with less reliance on proprietary hardware or software. With a cloud-based platform designed for mobile field use, you will be able to integrate solutions together, seamlessly reusing information created in one application to populate data fields in other applications—avoiding wasteful double entry.

With data flowing freely between systems, devices, and software applications within a construction business, authorized employees and managers will have real-time access to the latest information from across their operations. Moreover, with data aggregated and connected, company executives will also be able to extract business intelligence—helping them make better, more informed decisions.

For the first time in history, the lifecycle of construction has the potential to be unified and effortlessly predictive. Imagine having the ability to accurately forecast next year's profits before you start a single build, or prevent accidents before they happen. That's the kind of predictability the platform offers.

PROCORE®

5

—

Where We Stand Today

There are two different camps today: those that want to preserve their investment in ERP with a complementary field platform, and those that desire a full transition away from their ERP solution for a field platform that integrates with other best-in-class accounting solutions for their back-office needs.

The first camp, a dual platform strategy that embraces legacy systems, allows the ERP to continue to exist within the confines of the organization, but it adds extensibility to partners. Using the dual platform strategy to gracefully transition from legacy ERP to a modern platform allows companies to evolve at their own pace and minimize risk.

For those in the second camp, the field platform serves as a straight replacement technology for the ERP. In this instance, companies start by building out the new platform as an alternative to ERP, enabling them to simplify their businesses and introduce agility and scalability through the power of integrations.

Today, business agility is the new requirement for success. Firms are redefining their business models, their processes, and their involvement with their partner community as they evolve and adapt. Organizations are relying on platforms for real-time collaboration and information exchange needed to support business growth.

PROCORE®

Produced by

PROCORE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Procore Technologies, Inc., is a leading provider of cloud-based applications for construction. Procore connects people, applications, and devices through a unified platform to help construction professionals manage risk and build quality projects—safely, on time, and within budget. Procore has a diversified business model with products for Construction Project Management, Construction Financials, Quality & Safety, and Field Productivity. Headquartered in Carpinteria, California, with offices around the globe, Procore has more than 2.5 million users managing billions of dollars in annual construction volume.

TALK WITH AN EXPERT

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 1.866.477.6267 or email us: sales@procore.com

Visit The Jobsite >
Procore's Hub for Original Content

Watch Procore TV >
Procore's Official YouTube Channel

More Resources >
Free eBooks & Downloads

PROCORE®   procore.com