




**6 signs it's time
to upgrade your
construction
software**

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When it comes to construction management software and systems, sometimes it can be hard to work out what's still in fine form, and what needs replacing. Here we outline six sure signs that it's time to shift your construction business to a cloud platform.

Is it time to switch to a cloud platform for construction?

For most businesses, growth happens slowly and organically as you take on more work and team members. While your smaller, manual and disconnected systems can work fine – perhaps you use a mix of spreadsheets, emails, job bags and finance software. However, there is always a point during times of growth when all that manual work and lack of oversight will begin to hold your company back. As your business gets busier and more complex, switching to a cloud platform for construction delivers the automation and oversight you need to continue growing.

But the big question is – when is the right time to switch? If any of the scenarios below sound like your business, that time is now.

1 Do you often catch problems too late?

Project oversight is a key part of staying on time and budget – if you have the information you need to get in front of problems, you'll have more options and a better chance of sticking to schedule. Without the real-time visibility delivered by a cloud platform, you risk catching issues too late and struggle to keep clients in the loop. This means the solutions for those problems are often less-than-ideal and more expensive than they need to be.

2 Are project estimates regularly inaccurate?

If build costs regularly exceed your estimates, you're likely basing them on inaccurate reporting – a sure sign you need to upgrade to a cloud platform. Collating and analysing information from multiple systems doesn't just take too long, it also leaves too much room for human error. With all your project data stored in your cloud platform, you can generate accurate, timely reports at a click of the button so it's easier to get your estimating right – and better manage client expectations.

3 Do on-site and office teams collaborate ineffectively?

Construction companies can experience a divide between on-site and office workers. That's nearly always because the teams are using different, disconnected systems. They see information at different times and in different formats, and neither group has a full understanding of how their work affects the other. It's partly why you so often see an 'us-vs-them' culture, which lowers morale, limits productivity and makes managers' work far more difficult.

Even in companies with good team culture, the impracticalities of disparate systems can hold you back – it's almost impossible to keep everyone up to date, leading to confusion, delays and misunderstandings. A cloud platform for construction solves all these issues with all business information and operations easily accessible and updated in the same integrated platform.

4 Do employees waste time on manual data entry?

If you're relying on spreadsheets or disconnected systems, your team will be wasting days a month on manual processes. This burdens your office team and limits the time they can spend on value-add tasks. Managers also have to catch up on paperwork at the office because they don't have mobile or onsite access to office systems. A cloud platform for construction doesn't just eliminate data entry, it can also automate many repetitive tasks and give your people access to the system from any device anywhere.

5 Do you usually have an incomplete view of project details?

Having an up-to-date and overarching view of your project is a huge part of keeping within timelines and budgets. With a cloud platform for construction, all information flows into the same system, so you can generate the reports you need to guide decisions, update clients quickly and keep projects on track. Without it, you're left guessing, or relying on manually assembled reports that are generally out of date by the time you receive them, and often full of errors.

6 Do you often see misunderstandings with clients or between teams?

When employees use multiple systems to process orders, make project updates or generate reports, misunderstandings are inevitable. That's because there's an unavoidable data lag – one system may be up to date, but it could take hours or even days before that information is updated in other systems – if they ever are. Meanwhile, teams are operating using old or incorrect data. A cloud platform for construction creates a single source of truth – when data is updated it's instantly accessible to those who need it, from any device.

Is it time to move to a cloud platform for your construction business?

If any of these signs sound like your business, your being held back by manual or disconnected systems. Upgrading to a cloud platform for construction – like MYOB Advanced Construction Edition – will set your business up for continued success. MYOB Advanced is designed specifically to help construction businesses easily manage projects from anywhere, anytime on any device. You'll increase collaboration, streamline operations and get the visibility you need to keep projects, budgets and timelines on track.

See how the move to the MYOB Advanced Construction Edition could improve your business – contact us today.

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