CMiC

UNIFIED vs STAND-ALONE
MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

A shift is underway in construction. Time horizons are shrinking. Complexity is increasing. Specialization is winning. Outsourcing is rampant. Competition is accelerating.

THE GOAL

Connect people, systems and information no matter where they're located. Enhance your efficiency, increase your revenue and scale your corporate growth. Modern construction companies excel when all departments act in harmony together, when real-time data is the foundation for strong and informed decisions.

Like your peers in the construction industry, you may be on the lookout for the optimal project management solution. There are two major approaches to consider,

and the wrong choice could cause long-term damage to your business. To lower initial investment, many executives begin their search for a stand-alone project management solution without considering the very real, long-term value of software that unifies project management with financials.

Collaboration = Growth

THE DECISION

OPTION #1

STAND-ALONE

Multiple stand-alone solutions each built to manage a single aspect of your business.
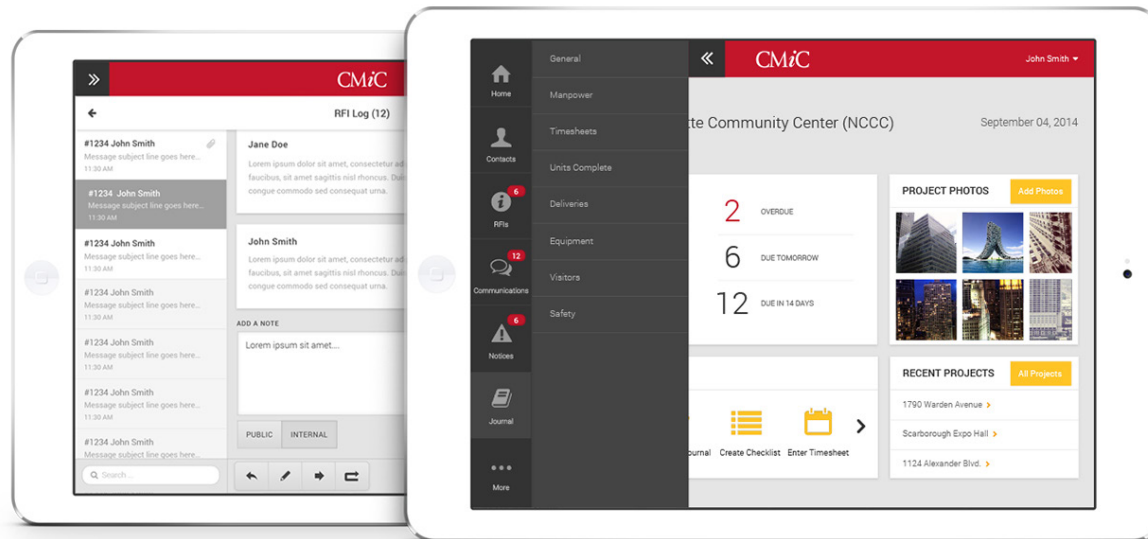
OPTION #2

UNIFIED

An integrated platform that replaces your current suite of project management, financial and resource planning software with one unified secure database.

Stand-alone Systems

While some best-in-class examples for drawing management or email will be worth integrating, stand-alone solutions in general can cause serious headaches. First, it's up to you and your employees to make all the solutions fit — which usually means more unproductive work for project leads, finance and IT. An isolated financial app, for instance, may get the job done, but if it doesn't share truth seamlessly with your project management software, your business risk multiplies.

There are also security concerns. When companies use multiple software solutions, it requires extensive testing, risk management, multiple log-ins and mirrored security matrices. With each new plug-in or API from an expanding roster of vendors, risk grows.

THE UNIFIED SOLUTION

Unified software streamlines everyday functions by standardizing reports and giving key players access to the crucial project data they need. There's no finger-pointing or conflicting reports to reconcile — it's simply a single source of truth.

Companies scaling their businesses from a single database solution are freed from the excessive overhead and additional resources required to administer their solution. So why do executives remain apprehensive when it comes to an integrated solution?

Most organizations underestimate the time and money needed to link together incompatible platforms. Unfortunately, it's nearly impossible to avoid the complexity that comes with stand-alone solutions and bridging software. Re-keying information benefits no one, and when functions overlap between systems, it wastes time and creates conflicting sets of data.

Integrated Platform = Efficiency

MYTHS & FACTS

Stand-alone solutions breed complexity and often lack important collaborative functions. Many of today's leading construction executives are just now seeing past these 4 common software myths.

Short-term Gain = Long-term Pain

MYTH: Financial software should only be replaced when it stops working (AKA: If it isn't broken, don't fix it). After all, why replace perfectly good financial software?

FACT: When searching for a new project management system, some executives shy away from an integrated solution. But there's no telling what challenges will arise when bridging together stand-alone systems. Crucial functions like file sharing and bookkeeping, for example, become more difficult, compromising efficiency across departments.

MYTH: Bridging software is just as efficient as an integrated solution.

FACT: Stand-alone software vendors may offer a "bridging solution" to connect their software with an organization's current software. But how can these "middleware" solutions offer the same level of connectivity and security as integrated software?

Compared to a unified solution, bridged-together systems are more expensive and prone to error. Functions and data begin to overlap and conflict with one another. IT issues become more frequent and may stall operations due to untimely upgrades and different levels of support offered by software vendors.

MYTH: All unified solutions provide similar benefits and tools.

FACT: All unified solutions are built for internal compatibility, but CMiC takes this high-level benefit a step further. From the ground up, CMiC is built to adapt and streamline both internal and external tools into its own native platform, creating a unity of function and data.

MYTH: Newly purchased software should meet our current demands with minimal upfront investment.

FACT: Executives are under serious pressure to meet current demands while minimizing investment cost. With these goals in mind, it's easy to neglect future needs. But what happens when a company's software is unprepared for the future?

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Powerful Software = Smart Future
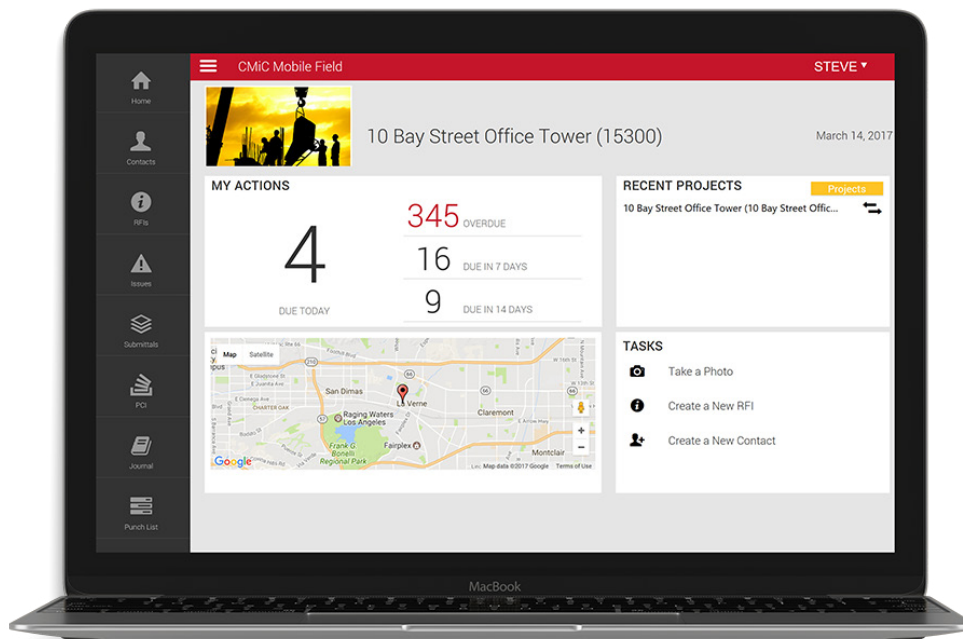
THE BIG PICTURE

Stand-alone solutions may offer specialized functionality, but they usually come with a variety of expensive challenges that slow operations and weaken decision-making. Behind their shiny surface lies serious risks for data conflicts and IT failure — easily creating fail points in critical operations.

Looking towards a smart future, the advantages of a single database solution are too powerful to ignore. From basic security and file sharing to at-a-glance, executive-level transparency, unification is the path of lowest risk and highest reward.

Transparency

Security

High Reward

Low Risk

File Sharing

THE CMIC ADVANTAGE

Single Database = Unifying Solution

A single, secured database with the most comprehensive and advanced construction solution.

Customizable business intelligence dashboards offer all-in-one control of multiple projects and access to company data and advanced tools with row-level security.

Unified folders improve transparency and cut down on inefficient tasks.

Enterprise mobile seamlessly connects on-site contractors with project stakeholders and integrates with mobile apps for advanced functionality.

CONNECT

Unified Platform = Full Potential

CMIC BLOG

QUIZ

LET'S CHAT

LIVE DEMO

Want to learn more about CMiC? Check out our blog.

Take our "Change Quiz" to see if your organization is ready for change.

Not sure if you're ready for change? Talk to a solutions consultant.

If CMiC sounds right for your firm, schedule a live demo today.

Visit Our Blog

Take the Quiz

647-777-8888

Schedule Demo

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CMiC

CMiC is the leading provider of complete, integrated and advanced enterprise software solutions for construction and capital project firms. CMiC's powerful software solutions increase efficiency across the enterprise, streamline processes and maximize profitability by lowering costs, improving productivity and increasing interoperability.

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