



CONSTRUCTION

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# BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ERP

# Beginner's Guide to ERP:

# Construction

Construction companies today are grappling with increasing competition, rising inflation, increasing costs, labor and supply shortages. Top that with time-consuming manual processes, disconnected systems and data (accounting, project management, etc all using different software), communication challenges and subcontractor management and you've got a real mess on your hands.

The best way to face these challenges head on is to connect your construction business from end-to-end. Enterprise Resource

Planning (ERP) software. Enterprise resource planning or ERP software will ensure your construction business is a connected one. A full-scale, comprehensive construction business management solution designed to meet the specific needs of your construction business will help you set your business apart from the competition.

In this Beginner's Guide to Construction ERP, you'll learn about the powerful capabilities of industry-specific software and how it can help set your business on the right path.



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# Challenges for the Construction Industry

The construction industry is a dynamic, ever-evolving sector. Companies today grapple with key operational and competitive threats.

*Among the core challenges facing the industry are:*



## Rising Inflation and Increasing Costs

With the rise of inflation in the US, costs for goods have increased which thereby affects already thin profit margins.

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## Supply Chain Disruptions

Along with rising inflation, the global pandemic among other global events have affected material supplies. Companies have had to adapt their operations and source alternative materials.

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## Communication Challenges

Communication challenges between field teams and administration or corporate offices resulting in mistakes and bad information.

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## Disconnected Systems

Using separate systems for accounting, project management, subcontractor management and other aspects of construction operations thereby resulting in poor communication and lack of insights across departments.

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## Lack of Visibility

Lack of real time visibility for inventory, costs and job progress thereby negatively impacting job costs and deadlines and making it difficult to forecast for the future.

# Construction Industry ERP Software Fundamentals

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software integrates all key functions of your construction business, including:

- » Finance and accounting
- » Project management
- » Inventory management
- » Field and subcontractor management
- » Purchasing and procurement
- » Compliance
- » CRM and sales

*With construction ERP software, you have a single-source-of-truth for your business empowering you with an integrated operation and tools designed to allow decisions to be made on the go, with optimized communication between your front and back office and faster decision-making. With ERP software, you can integrate financials, project management, subcontractor management, payroll, inventory, accounting, and more into one comprehensive software system.*

ERP software is designed to bring solutions to long-standing challenges in a complicated industry, such as the construction industry. ERP replaces disconnected systems with a fully connected system used by many industries to help streamline communication, optimize operations, manage production or inventory, maximize output, and increase profits. Connected technology allows for mobile integration, better insights, and improved communication between teams and offices. Decisions can be made on the

go helping businesses avoid costly delays and finish projects on time and on budget. Margins in the construction industry are tight, and delays can sometimes mean the difference between a profit or a loss. ERP software provides business-critical support for construction companies with a consistent and comprehensive 360 view into all aspects of an operation. And best of all? ERP software is truly scalable and provides a solution that grows with your business.

The right ERP software gives you real-time insights into your entire business.

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## Financial and Accounting Management

Construction professionals need a solution that simplifies managing your businesses' financials. ERP software incorporates functionality designed to give you a comprehensive look at your financials and has functionality that allows you to:

- » Utilize one system to manage finances and accounting
  - » Support for payroll and multiple subcontractors
  - » Automate data collection
  - » Use forecasting tools to see the financial impact of specific decisions or expenditures
  - » Maximize profits
  - » Lower financial and business risk with accurate projections and forecasting
  - » Manage financials for the entire organization
  - » Customize dashboards, alerts, audit reports, and financial reports
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## Project Management

Project management is at the core of a construction business with multiple projects often occurring simultaneously. This is especially true when working with subcontractors and vendors on a job site. Your ERP software can:

- » Create automated workflows to increase project management efficiency and stay on track of tasks
- » Leverage real-time information to stay on top of every project and budget
- » Access real-time data and task-views for faster decision making and keep up with any changes in project scope
- » Gain remote access to critical documents whether in the field or the office
- » Track documents, field activities, and costs from a 360° integrated system
- » Adjust project timelines as needed with streamlined communication



## Inventory Management

Your ERP solution should help you maximize your resources through strong inventory management functionality. Use inventory management tools to:

- » Real-time visibility into your inventory
  - » Access information on-the-go with mobile integration
  - » Leverage RFID and barcoding tools to reduce manual entry and errors
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## Field and Subcontractor Management

Increase communication between field offices and back offices and streamline subcontractor management while on the go. With your ERP solution, you can:

- » Improve productivity by optimizing job sites, hiring processes and work schedules
  - » Empower back office to work more easily with the field to ensure employee time, employee or subcontractor expenses and change orders are captured
  - » Streamline work processes, including ordering, equipment availability, inventory and personnel management
  - » Eliminate double entry and further save time and money
  - » Increase profits on projects by making each job more efficient
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## CRM and Sales Management

Manage your clients with integrated modern CRM and sales management capabilities:

- » Perform marketing, quoting and sales tasks directly within the system
- » Manage delivery and post-sales support to maintain strong client relationships
- » Maintain always up-to-date and accurate customer data
- » Use automation features to support better communication with customers, helping you to grow your business and boost your reputation

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# How ERP Software Helps Your Business

A truly modern cloud-based ERP solution helps you optimize and grow your construction business at every level. Invest in an industry-specific platform that eases your challenges and improves operations.



## Connect Office and Job Site

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24/7 access to data no matter where you are

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Streamline communication between crew, management and contractors

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Up-to-date status of projects in real-time

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Data synchronization enables office to respond to field documents faster



## Plan and Execute Jobs

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Manage all projects in a mobile-integrated single-system

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Keep jobs on schedule with visibility into inventory and equipment

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Real-time task views and remote access to project plans

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Adjust plans on-the-go as needs change



## Manage Financials and Control Costs

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Manage expenses and inventory with ease

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Easily forecast costs

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Simplify payroll for crew and subcontractors

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Manage labor and material costs in a single database

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Streamline project bidding and job costing

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# NexTec Recommends Acumatica Cloud ERP

Acumatica Construction Edition provides industry-specific features and functionality to improve the way you work, including:

- » Real-time views of every project
- » All of your company's data in one complete system
- » The ability to adapt the software to your specific requirements
- » Seamless integration of your processes (project accounting, contracts, change orders, document management, compliance, retainage, inventory, customer management and more)
- » Availability wherever, whenever you need it

Whether you're a general contractor, subcontractor, specialty contractor, homebuilder or land developer, you can rely on Acumatica to handle all of your processes in one solution, saving you time, effort and money.

## The Acumatica Difference



Acumatica has been named Best Cloud ERP Solution, Best ERP

Software, and best in customer satisfaction and useability.

## True Cloud Solution

Acumatica is a Cloud-based ERP solution and provides a consistent experience for all users, whether they access the system from a phone, tablet or desktop. Acumatica's SaaS model ensures reliability and security and will give you the assurance that your data is managed appropriately and in compliance with all applicable regulations.

## Real-Time Collaboration, Reporting, and Analytics

Acumatica Construction Edition is a modern Cloud ERP system that's designed to help you meet industry challenges. It provides broad and deep functionality that enables you to tackle accounting, contracts, change orders, compliance and customer relationships all on one integrated platform. With real-time access to data from anywhere, you can keep an eye on project costs and your bottom line.

## Open Architecture and Rapid Integration

Acumatica seamlessly integrates with hundreds of commonly used applications, including Office 365, Salesforce, Magento, Power BI, Box, HubSpot, Amazon Alexa and Tableau. The Construction Edition further integrates with other construction solutions including ProEst, Procore, Microsoft Office, DocuSign and many more. By choosing an Acumatica partner like NexTec, you can quickly integrate all your mission-critical applications and customize your solution to fit your specific business needs.

## Anytime, Anywhere Access

Because Acumatica is a secure, cloud-based ERP, all critical stakeholders can access the platform from any device and any location. That means your construction business can run from the field to the boardroom and beyond.

## Future-Proof Functionality

Acumatica grows with you. Use what you need, add users as desired and scale your business up or down as circumstances dictate. Pay only for what you use, not for how many users you have.



# Why You Should Choose NexTec as Your Acumatica Implementation Partner

NexTec is a gold-certified Acumatica implementation partner with more than 28 years of experience in ERP consulting and implementation. We take a holistic approach to integrating the many moving parts of your business to remove much of the manual guesswork and improve your ROI.

As leaders in our industry, we bring a unique multi-fold advantage to our construction clients that allow us to:

✓	Focus on giving you the best software options
✓	Leverage our experience in ERP and the industries we serve
✓	Support your key business initiatives
✓	Drive tangible growth across your business





Contact us today and  
schedule a demo to learn more

SCHEDULE A DEMO



Contact us to learn more:  
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### About the NexTec Group

NexTec Group is one of North America's largest and most experienced technology consulting firms, specializing in industry-specific solutions for mid-sized organizations. For nearly 30 years, NexTec has been a trusted partner to businesses, delivering, implementing, and supporting the core Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Business Intelligence (BI) solutions they need to scale and grow.

With seasoned consultants from coast to coast, and a premium portfolio of innovative business management solutions including Acumatica, we help you get the most out of your technology investments. Our over 90% customer retention rate is a testament to the lasting, impactful relationships we build with our clients.

To learn more, visit [www.nextecgroup.com](http://www.nextecgroup.com) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).