

Construction Industry Benefits from Cloud Technology

By Penny Belluz, Director of Operations / Partner, TELECO

The adoption of new technology is rising in all industries to assist businesses in operating and competing in unprecedented ways. Cloud adoption for construction has been exceptionally beneficial and has had a relevant impact on operations.

Cloud computing is a service that stores your company's data on a remote server instead of a physical server in a closet at the construction company's location. This data can then be accessed by an employee with an internet connection from any device. Cloud computing is ideal for construction companies because their employees always operate at remote job sites. Additionally, as projects become more complex and more extensive, so does the data requirement. Large projects also include multiple project phases, change orders and the necessity to share critical information in real-time among many team players. Those companies that adopt cloud and adapt quickly to the changing environment and leverage technology will get an edge over their competitors and experience numerous benefits.

Increase in Profits

By moving to the cloud, construction companies will immediately experience cost savings. There is no requirement to purchase expensive on-site servers as well as the service cost to maintain them. There is also no additional investment in redundancy hardware if there is a failure

with the primary on-site hardware. The scalable architecture of cloud data will also benefit you from paying for only what you use. With on-premises hardware and servers, it is continuously operational regardless of your capacity of use. With cloud data, you pay for only what you use and when you use it, which results in lower operating costs. You are also saving energy and money by not powering on-site servers and hardware 24/7, which makes it a better choice for our environment as well! Cost savings are also achieved by gaining efficiencies by running your team more smoothly and effectively.

Improve Collaboration

Cloud facilitates collaboration by allowing your people to work from wherever they are, improving efficiency and increasing productivity. No longer is there a need to have an employee return to the office to review a set of plans or confirm the latest change order request and then return to the job site. The cloud will provide collaboration tools that can be instantly used from your mobile device, laptop, tablet, or computer, empowering your employees to use their device of choice. Cloud apps allow you to access, drag, drop and share files and folders. Employees can easily Direct Message (DM) coworkers to ask a question, or users can easily set up a quick video call between coworkers and project members. Cloud collaboration can also include shared calendars,



safety checklists, to-do lists and team reminders to delegate, schedule, manage and keep project tasks on time. Sharing current information and transitioning smoothly between phases of a project without data loss will boost productivity and profitability.

Increased Security

Security is and should be a concern for all business owners to protect their data from cyber-attacks. Major Cloud platform providers take appropriate measures for safeguarding their physical infrastructure, and it's something they take very seriously. They are certified in security standards and actively work to maintain these standards. Another advantage is that if an employee's device is lost or stolen, your data will remain safe as it is not stored on the device and cloud access is password protected.

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Scalability

Scalability is vital as businesses grow for specific projects or diminish as projects come to completion. Cloud computing can scale on-demand with the business to provide the required storage for new employees and new projects. It will adapt to meet the business needs and current environment. In the cloud, new servers can be provisioned in minutes, especially when construction projects kick into high gear in warmer months. Cloud scalability is essential when working in an industry that may change according to the season and the cyclical demands it brings.

Cloud computing is an exciting technology advancement for all businesses, especially in construction, to meet specific challenges. By embracing innovation in technology over traditional methods, they can overcome challenges and improve productivity. To ensure success, align with a Managed Technical Services Provider (MTSP) that inquires and takes the time to discuss your specific challenges and what your goals are for your business. This partnership will allow you to successfully put together a strategic road map to cloud adoption and achieve a competitive advantage in the industry. Start your digital transformation today!



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