gci

From Manual to Magical:
Transforming Operations with Integration

The Challenge

When GCI, a San Francisco-based general contractor specializing in renovations, infrastructure, labs, and interiors was facing challenges related to a cumbersome manual data entry process and a challenging user interface the company looked for a solution to integrate its project management platform and its accounting software. They settled on a collaborative project management solution, GCI then turned to Morpheus to streamline their integration processes. This has had a transformative impact on GCI's operations.

Background: Identifying Pain Points

GCI leadership recognized the need for a centralized project management solution because the construction industry has been transitioning from traditional, manual methods to cloud-based platforms for recording, storing, and using project management, and accounting-related data. Additionally, the lack of seamless integration between project management and accounting led to the creation of disjointed workflows that hampered productivity and accuracy.

"The global change that we were trying to make was to have a software solution that allowed the project management and accounting teams to collaborate in real time," says West. "The ability to put something in the cloud would eventually give us a single source of data that we could use to analyze our costs, revenue, and time." And integration would help facilitate this.

To track project management activities, GCI had been using Viewpoint Vista, which lacked the project management functionality GCI needed. After looking at alternatives for about 18 months, GCI chose Autodesk Construction Cloud (ACC). Now the challenge became integrating Vista and ACC's cost management capabilities. To overcome that obstacle, the ACC team suggested to West that he contact Morpheus for a custom configured integration.

"ACC told us, 'Hey, Morpheus is our partner. We're a huge company, and we love these guys and use them.' That endorsement was appealing to us, and we felt confident working with a partner that already had our needs figured out."

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Choosing Morpheus: The Integration Solution

So, at the urging of Autodesk, GCI approached Morpheus and after just a few meetings it became apparent they were the right choice. Key factors for the GCI team were a highly configurable integration platform and an industry reputation for a very collaborative approach. With Morpheus, GCI could now bridge the gap between its project management platform and accounting software to enhance data accuracy, reduce redundancy, and streamline workflows.

The Implementation Process: Overcoming Challenges

During the implementation phase, GCI faced challenges aligning its accounting team with the integration process. Because of proactive communication and related support from Morpheus, GCI's innovation team navigated the integration's complexities and facilitated a smooth transition from a cumbersome, disjointed solution to a streamlined one that is user-friendly for everyone because the integration operates seamlessly and invisibly without user involvement.

Weekly meetings and dedicated support from Morpheus were instrumental in overcoming hurdles and ensuring that the project was successful.

Configurability and Customization: Tailoring Solutions to Business Needs

A highlight of a Morpheus integration is its configurability. A major significance of that feature is the fact that GCI did not have to change its business processes to accommodate the customized integration, which allows the company to meet its unique business requirements.

In GCI's case, those needs include the ability of finance, operations, and IT team members to have a clear, real-time understanding of project status, estimated revenue, and projected costs based on change orders and other modifications to project scope that occur during the normal course of a project. Without an integration, access to that valuable data is simply not possible.

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> - **Jon West**, *Project Manager*

Says West, "Most people in the company don't know that there's a seamless integration going on behind the scenes that makes everything happen by connecting two totally different worlds [project management and accounting] that speak different languages."

Morpheus helps reduce the complexity in their processes by being able to invisibly move data between the project management and finance solutions. This is of tremendous value because it means GCI is now free from time-consuming and manually intensive work. In the past they had to enter data into their finance application via a clunky interface. Now all the data moves automatically, and West believes, among other things, the result is that billings have become more efficient and accurate.

By leveraging Morpheus's expertise and best practices, GCI has optimized its workflows and simplified processes,

resulting in significant efficiency, accuracy, and productivity improvements across the company's project management and accounting functions. Specifically, seamless data synchronization and automated workflows have minimized manual errors and reduced turnaround times, empowering teams to focus on value-added tasks.

Besides the mechanics of the integration, West and his colleagues appreciate the meetings that Morpheus held leading up to the rollout and immediately following the launch. Says West, "It made things go a lot smoother and especially gave our accounting team a lift I wasn't anticipating."

West believes that the unexpected benefit GCI's accounting team has derived from the integration results from the fact that they were aware of the process from the beginning rather than told about it at the last minute.

As West puts it, "Make sure your accounting team is aware of everything you're doing. They're going to have to back check some pieces [of the integration] and you should probably check with them on all your reports and where things are being published in your accounting software just so they are in tune with it."

It's not Just Technology: People Matter

A significant yet often underrated benefit of the Morpheus team is their personality and responsiveness. When onboarding a new technology, it's refreshing to interact with the creators who know the platform inside and out. Post go-live, we engage with real people, not chatbots, for support. The passion of the Morpheus team is evident in every interaction. This is a benefit that GCI's team greatly values and appreciates.

What the Future Holds: Expanding Integration Horizons

Looking ahead, GCI plans to explore additional integrations, such as invoice approvals, billing processes, and job cost projections. With Morpheus as GCI's trusted integration partner, the company remains committed to leveraging innovative solutions that drive business growth and success.

Conclusion

GCI's collaboration with Morpheus has revolutionized the company's project management practices, enabling seamless integration between project management and accounting systems. By embracing customization and configurability, GCI has optimized workflows, enhanced efficiency, and positioned itself for future success as the construction industry becomes increasingly dynamic.

Integrating project management and accounting software has had a transformative impact on GCI's operations and serves as a testament to the value of collaboration between industry leaders in driving innovation and business excellence.

WHY MORPHEUS?

FULLY AUTOMATED

COMPLETE CONTROL

ENDLESSLY CONFIGURABLE