

Things To Consider When Buying/Updating Your Accounting Software



Ok, so you've tried the patches, add-ons, plug-ins and upgrades; read or re-read the manual and revisited your training notes; spoken to your services provider's help desk and tried making the changes to YOUR accounting processes that they suggested were necessary; but, it still doesn't quite work.

Why do you find yourself looking forward to updating your accounts and job costing activities with the same joy as a pending visit to the dentist?

As a construction company, there are a few things you need to (or are likely to) consider differently to other industries. CIS and subcontractor verification is one of these; understanding what a job is ACTUALLY costing you and ensuring that you're billing accurately (taking into account retentions and variations) is another.

Whether using a generic accounts software or an industry tailored package, if your accounts leave you a little frustrated, perhaps a look at what other products out there might better fit your needs is long overdue?

But, don't leap into a new software relationship without considering these six key factors:-

- 1** Why are you looking to change? Crucial in avoiding having the same issues arise with a new provider.
- 2** What are the must haves vs. the nice to haves?
- 3** Is your budget realistic for the service you need?
- 4** Have you done your research? What do their other customers say about them?
- 5** Does any potential new supplier understand your accounting needs?
- 6** How will you be supported once the implementation of new software is complete?



Considering these points, as part of a little pre-planning and forethought about what your business needs, increases your chances of finding a solution that fits you rather than you fitting your business to the needs of your accounting software.