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Why 2016 is the Year to Retire Your Old PM Solution

Cory McFarlane, PMP, LEED AP BD+C, CHC
Pinnacle/CSG

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The Next Big Thing

There are a lot of predictions for the future of technology. *So which are here to stay?*

All predictions all have one thing in common:

Eliminating barriers between technology and people.

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The Next Big Thing

Eliminating barriers means:

+ Bigger data sets

+ Better flow of information

+ Improved collaboration among team members

The Problem(s) with Outdated Technology

Apps designed in the '90s and programs that run on in-house servers mean:

+ Limited access to project data

+ User licenses inhibit collaboration

+ Have to hunt through hundreds of emails
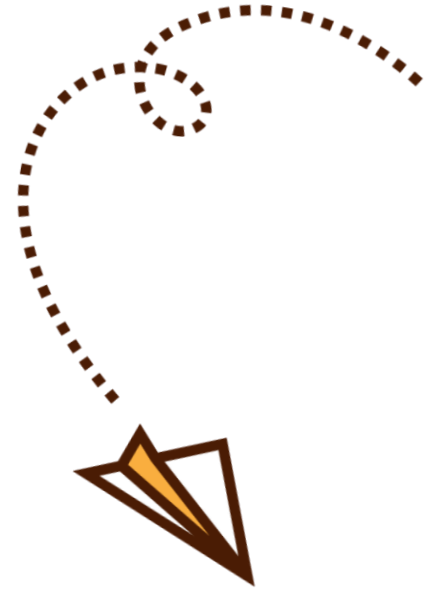
+ Projects slip due to lack of communication

Some Sunsets Aren't so Nice

Some of the software solutions that were state-of-the-art just a few years ago are now being "sunsetted," or phased out.

Some Sunsets Aren't so Nice

Where does this leave you?

+ Old technology with sluggish operations

+ System freezes

+ Siloed information

+ Lots of questions with no technical support

3 Choices to Stay Competitive

1

Upgrade your current technology

2

Stay behind

3

Move to next generation of software

Choose a Software That's Built on Proven Technological Developments

+ Cloud will gain momentum in 2016
+ Leverage cloud-based solutions:
    > Access information instantly
    > No installations
    > User licenses
    > High security
    > Ownership of data

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Invest in a Software That Promotes Mobility
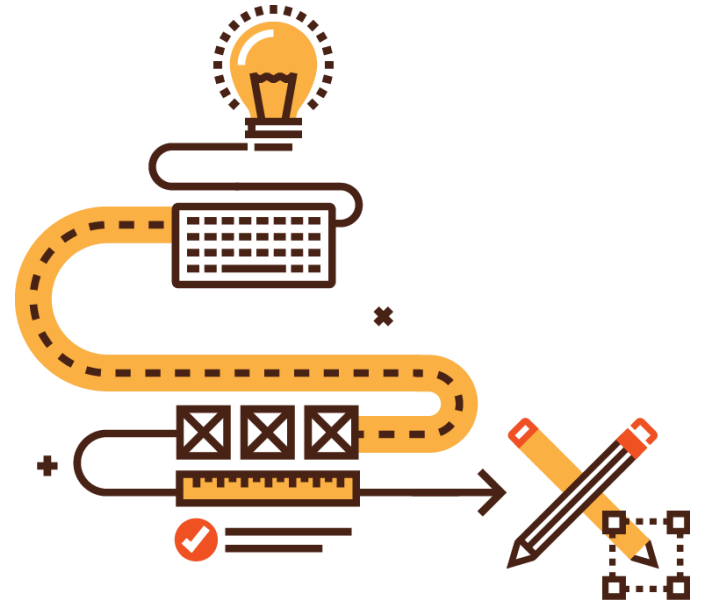
+ Leverage cloud and mobile-based solutions:

> Access project information from anywhere, at any time, with any mobile device

> Teams aren't chained to their physical location → FREEDOM

> Remote access with offline capabilities

> Save man-hours AND traveling costs

Pick a Software Provider That Specializes In What You Need

Do your homework:

+ Analyze current process

+ Think about the future

+ Pick an industry-specific software

+ Experiment with potential solutions

+ Involve your team

Understand the Vendor Landscape

Find a vendor that has:

+ Resources & stability to (continually) enhance products

+ Partnerships with key providers

+ Loyalty to customers

+ Company references

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Questions to Ask References

How long was implementation?

How comprehensive are the features?

How well does the software work?

Usability:
Is it easy to use?

What is the uptime and reliability?

How is the customer support?

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Invest In A Scalable Solution

Find software that will grow with your business:

+ Customizations

+ Number of users

+ Database structure

+ Reporting and connectivity to other systems

Intuitive Interfaces…Finally

+ Reduce training time

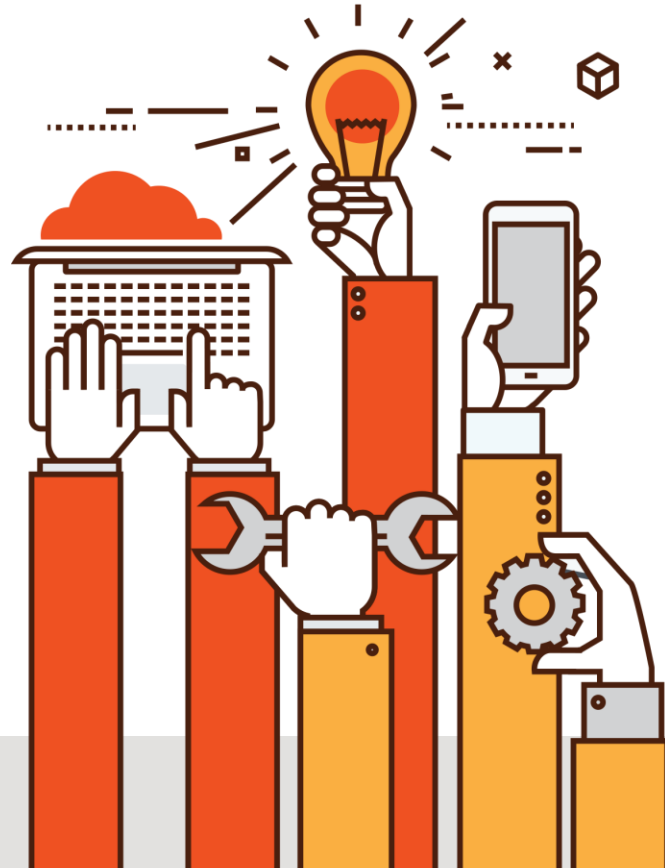+ Impact of customer feedback

+ Automatic updates

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How to Find a User-Friendly Product

Make sure the vendor is using customer feedback

> Direct feedback, focus groups/labs, online forums

They should tailor their innovations and product enhancements to actual on-the-ground needs.

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Stop following fads.
Find the best solution for you.

Make 2016 the year you select a project management software that is going to meet your needs today and evolve with your business to meet the needs of tomorrow.

Questions?

Thank you!

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