

EBOOK

HOW CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP AMID ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY



A TIME FOR TRANSFORMATION

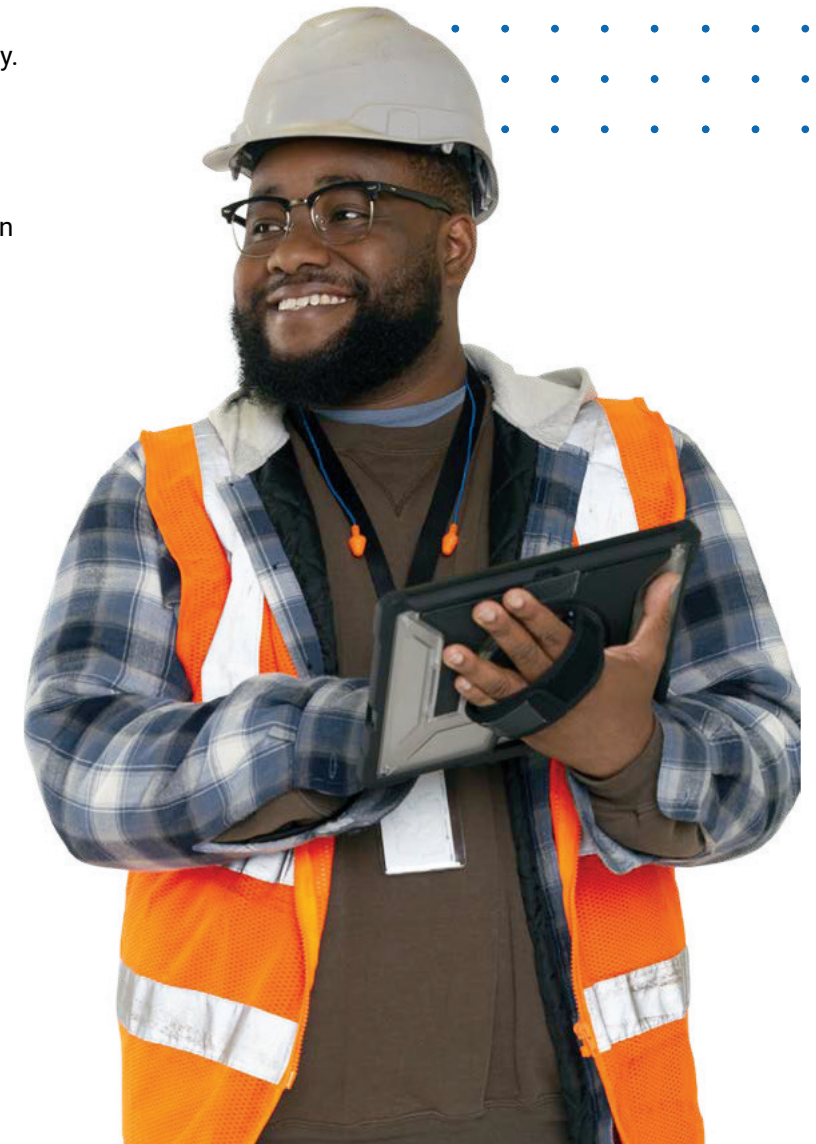
Many construction forecasts are predicting a [challenging 2023](#). The sector has been experiencing rising costs, labour shortages and [wavering demand](#) for many months. Businesses are looking at how they can weather the year ahead.

However, demand is [still there](#). Projects are still being committed to and the energy crisis is driving retrofit and maintenance activity.

In fact, like COVID-19 before it, the next few months offer construction businesses another opportunity to take stock and look for [better ways](#) to deliver their work. Investment in innovation and technology offers an answer, creating new opportunities within relatively short payback periods.

As we prepare for a new era of sustainable buildings, delivered with more efficient methods and better quality and safety, we will need technology to help us along the way.

In this brief guide, we share five ways that technology can transform your construction business and keep you effective and competitive through uncertain times.



FIVE WAYS THAT TECHNOLOGY CAN IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS THIS YEAR

1. IT AIDS SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

Making processes more efficient can remove large amounts of waste from construction businesses:

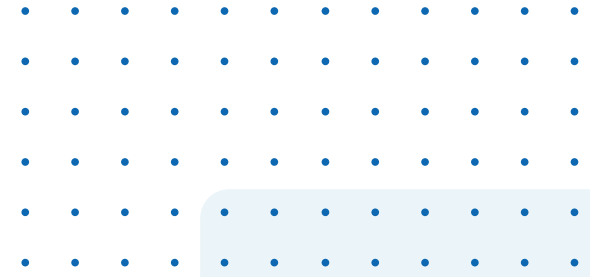
- ✔ Replacing paper workflows with digital tools reduces the impact of printing, speeds up processes and results in better data management, allowing for trend analysis, greater accuracy and less rework.
- ✔ Collaborative software allows people to work together regardless of location, connecting sites and offices remotely and effectively and reducing the need for commuting. This also drives early engagement throughout the team, making the likelihood of a more sustainable project greater.
- ✔ As the offsite sector continues to develop, new technologies and improved manufacturing processes will push greater use of sustainable materials, products and design solutions. Software is supported by its providers, who can offer input and assistance.

Software can also monitor energy usage and track lifecycle information, increasing users' understanding of the hidden costs of built assets and helping companies make effective financial decisions.



Bluebeam helped ARPRO save \$30,000 a year by reducing printing costs and optimise construction times by up to 40%.

Rodrigo Rubio Vollert, Development Manager at ARPRO



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2. IT IMPROVES COLLABORATION

Cloud technology makes it easier to empower real-time team collaboration helping companies to simplify project tasks and significantly reduce risk:

- ✔ Real-time data can be shared from multiple devices at any time, providing everyone with access to the latest information. This can help avoid unnecessary delays, saving time and resources.
- ✔ Data is accessible throughout the business, enabling better reporting and trend analysis.
- ✔ Virtual working environments with collaboration software facilitate better teamwork, with people able to communicate in real time, no matter where they are.
- ✔ Data is stored and available centrally, reducing complexity and making businesses more resilient.



You can be in different parts of the world or different parts of the country, and still review the drawing at the same time. That will generate cost savings not just for on-site, but consultant cost time as well.

Terry Arnold, Project Director, Ballymore



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3. IT STREAMLINES PROCESSES AND SAVES MONEY

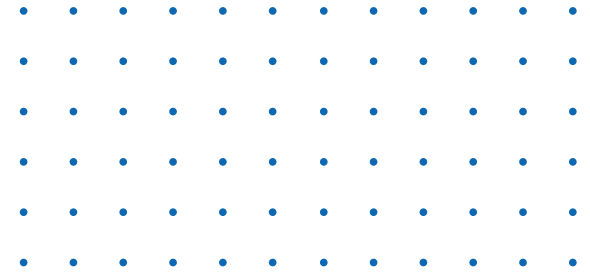
Technology boosts productivity by streamlining and automating processes. From payroll to project scheduling and construction management, there is a wide range of software out there that can help businesses save valuable time and money.

- ✔ Review how your business works and identify the pinch points or friction that cause unnecessary delay or additional cost. Small, simple tools can deliver significant improvements at relatively low cost.
- ✔ Choose highly rated off the shelf industry specific solutions that require minimal to no implementation work, whenever possible.
- ✔ If possible, try to utilise your existing solutions before overhauling the systems you currently have in place.
- ✔ Software often creates an audit trail as you work, a crucial requirement when it comes to quality and safety.



Bluebeam has replaced a piece of overhead in almost every single area of the business from estimating to sales; from project management to production in the field; as well as managing fabrication – all the way to acting as a marketing tool for us. It helps improve everything, from the revenue stream to the profit stream.

**Andy Hubner, Director of Business Development,
Premier Mechanical**



FIVE WAYS THAT TECHNOLOGY CAN IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS THIS YEAR

4. IT SUPPORTS STAFF RETENTION AND TRAINING

As organisations seek to retain and develop staff, technology can play its part. From onboarding through to continual development and ongoing competency checking, software can help:

- ✔ Technology can connect your teams and offer access to flexible, up-to-date training, all tailored at an individual level.
- ✔ Staff user profiles can track everything including timesheets, payment, accreditation and training.
- ✔ New job roles or development opportunities are often introduced alongside new solutions, creating more chances to attract and retain people within the sector.
- ✔ Many technology providers offer intensive onboarding and support to make sure that new solutions deliver a return on investment (ROI) as soon as possible.



Some of the digital transformations that we've been pushing have been incredibly helpful in attracting the kind of talent that we want at Arup. People that are hungry for more, that don't accept the way we're currently doing things is always the best, and they strive to try something new.

Russell Bunn, Regional CAD Lead, Arup



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5. IT MINIMISES REWORK

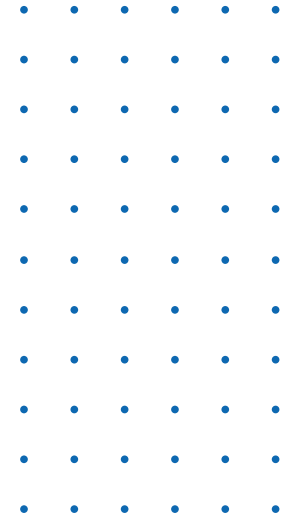
Rework is one of the most common reasons construction companies lose revenue during a project. Not only does it extend the project schedule and risk late delivery, but it also impacts the company's reputation, impacting the number of bids secured.

- ✔ Software can track progress, highlight issues, and bring the whole team together, reducing the risk of mistakes or problems.
- ✔ Barriers and delays to progress can be avoided by implementing solutions that are interoperable throughout the supply chain, including the use of common data formats.
- ✔ Estimates and supply ordering are more accurate and less costly when using technology to determine sizes and quantities.



We found an over \$50,000 mistake that I made because of the way I did the quantity estimation on a digitiser scale. The first job we did with Bluebeam, it paid for itself.

Don Peters, Sr. Estimator, Solid Earth Co-Founder





For more information, please visit cadsoftwaredirect.com/bluebeam or send any questions to contact@cadsoftwaredirect.com