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CONSTRUCTION IN THE CLOUD



Why Platforms Reign Supreme

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Why Platforms Reign Supreme

By / Tye Beazer

Life and business are complex. Everything is interconnected. Communication and sharing of information is how we manage the chaos. The better we are at it, the less stress we have in our lives and the more efficient we become. Modern technology is built on this principle, and tech companies figured out early on that to be efficient, and I mean really efficient, all the tools you need have to be in one place, feeding off the same base information.

What started out as a stand-alone Microsoft Word application in 1983 is now a platform of services, all working off the same information we create and share in real-time. Imagine going back to a world where you're running a big project and you have no easy way to communicate and share time-sensitive information. How much productivity, time, and material would be wasted every day? Nevermind the additional stress and anxiety added to your workday.

Platforms succeed because the benefits of using them are undeniable and the costs are extremely low in comparison to managing several unrelated, stand-alone technologies. The more features you use on a platform and the more users that use the platform, the higher the return on investment. After all, what good is investing in Microsoft Teams if everyone on the team uses Google Meets or Zoom?

While it's easy to look at Microsoft Office tools as an example of an office platform for the masses, in construction it's a bit different and more challenging, since most companies rely on different vendors for different solutions. Connecting these tools

can be an expensive and painful process but if done successfully, it can be a game-changer and this is where BuildCentrix comes in.

BuildCentrix provides MEP contractors the ultimate platform for creating and connecting information from design to installation on all projects, big and small, from inception to completion. Now tools like 3D design, fabrication, production management, shipping & logistics, and timekeeping all work hand in hand.

For large contractors, this means they enjoy the benefits of a fully agnostic Manufacture Resource Planning platform along with easy integration into complex ERP systems and seamless integration into Autodesk and Trimble. There is no longer a need to create and maintain internal workflow spreadsheets and programs, and there's no more trying to securely share them across multiple internal and external devices.

For smaller contractors, the BCX platform provides all the tools previously only available to large contractors with large technology budgets. Today, small contractors can design and build systems using the BCX 3D takeoff builder. They can also manage all their material orders, fabrication, shipping, and timekeeping in one place.

Platforms work best when all the data is created and securely shared in one spot, by all relevant users. BuildCentrix provides MEP contractors of all sizes an end-to-end economical workflow platform which allows them to focus on what they do best—build. ■

BuildCentrix at the Advancing MEP Prefab Conference:

A Powerful Week of Innovation, Insights, and Industry Connection

BuildCentrix was proud to exhibit at the Advancing Mechanical and Plumbing Prefabrication Conference in Denver in July. As one of the premier events focused on driving innovation in prefabrication, the conference brought together leading contractors, fabricators, and solution providers from across North America. The BuildCentrix team had the opportunity to exhibit at the show for two full days, during which they were able to connect face-to-face with many current clients and introduce BuildCentrix to a wide range of new contractors looking to modernize and scale their operations through prefabrication.

Having a booth on the show floor allowed BuildCentrix to engage in meaningful conversations with field leaders, project managers, BIM/VDC professionals, and company executives who are actively exploring ways to improve their prefabrication workflows. A consistent theme in these discussions was the growing demand for repeatable, high-quality work, improved coordination across departments, and better control over project schedules. These conversations reaffirmed what we've known for years: the industry is hungry for scalable digital solutions that help teams improve productivity metrics while also tackling tighter schedules and rising material costs through smarter, more connected software solutions.

The contractors we met shared goals that align closely with BuildCentrix's mission: to provide tools that enhance labor use, streamline project communication, and increase the overall efficiency of shop and field operations. Whether it was through better field ordering, improved visibility into shop production, or reducing bottlenecks between VDC and operations teams, contractors are actively seeking solutions that allow them to scale up their prefabrication capabilities while reducing friction across workflows.

One of the highlights of the event was hearing from speakers and industry thought leaders who shared real-world success stories of using technology, including software like BuildCentrix, to



make significant gains in prefab productivity, labor tracking, and cost reduction. These case studies not only validated the work BuildCentrix is doing, but they also sparked ideas for how the industry can continue to evolve by embracing the right digital tools at the right time.

Beyond the formal session and the exhibition hall, what stood out most was a strong spirit of collaboration and knowledge sharing throughout the conference. Everyone, from project managers and VDC leads to operations and technology teams, was there to learn. Whether it was over coffee, at breakout sessions, or during networking events, attendees were eager to discuss challenges, share best practices, and brainstorm ideas that could benefit the entire industry. It was clear that prefabrication is not just a trend but a permanent shift in how leading contractors are approaching project delivery.

This kind of collective momentum is exactly what's needed to push mechanical and plumbing prefabrication to the next level, and the BuildCentrix team was grateful to be part of it. Overall, the Advancing Mechanical and Plumbing Prefabrication Conference was a fantastic opportunity for BuildCentrix to listen, learn, and share the team's vision for how digital tools can improve the way contractors plan, build, and develop.

We are thankful to everyone who stopped by our booth, attended our demo sessions, or shared their stories. We look forward to continuing these conversations and helping mechanical and plumbing contractors transform how they can include smarter prefabrication processes.

To learn more about the trends discussed at the conference and how BuildCentrix can help accelerate your pre-fabrication strategies, connect with our team or visit buildcentrix.com to book a demo. We're excited to continue the conversation and partner with you on your journey towards smarter, more connected prefabrication. ■

Did you know the BCX Piping Library includes products from most major manufacturers?

From cast iron to PVC, BCX has an extensive library of popular piping and plumbing products that make it easy for users to create their own palettes of products from leading manufacturers including Nibco, Charlotte Pipe, Weldbend, Ward, Mueller, Bonny Forge, Victaulic, Crane, and more.

If you'd like more information about providing your team with access to the BCX Piping Library just email support@buildcentrix.com. ■



Did you know you can create a Custom Tab on your Work Order page?

With the launch of the new Work Order page this year, users can now create their own Custom Tabs. To create your Custom Tab, simply go to the Work Order page and select the gear on the top left by the page number controls. Type in the name of your Custom Tab, select the items you want displayed, and then hit the Save button. ■

Work Orders
View and manage details, production, fulfillment & shipping for all work orders.

Page 1 [Gear Icon]

Order Types: No Date Filtering

Shipping Types

Page Size: 15 25 50 75 100

Default Tabs:

- ☒ Details
- ☒ Production
- ☒ Fulfillment
- ☒ Shipping

Custom Tabs (max 3 tabs)

+ Add Custom Tab

Tab Columns

Manage Custom Tab Columns

Order # ↓ Ordered Date

Order #	Ordered Date	Job Name	Job Phase	Actions
229582	Aug 08, 2	280425	Default Phase	[Edit] [Delete] [Check]
229581	Aug 05, 2	ADMIN Sheet Metal		[Edit] [Delete] [Check]
229580	Aug 05, 2	ADMIN Sheet Metal		[Edit] [Delete] [Check]
229579	Aug 05, 2	ADMIN Sheet Metal		[Edit] [Delete] [Check]
229578	Aug 05, 2	ADMIN Sheet Metal		[Edit] [Delete] [Check]

BuildCentrix

BCX comprises the following modules. While there is no requirement to use them all, they are available for contractors to grow into.

- Field ordering of sheet metal and piping and plumbing
- Machine integration
- CAM integration (Trimble, PractiCAM, CAMduct)
- Watts orbital welder
- Field timecards
- Shop timecards
- Labor reporting
- Payroll integration (all applicable payroll packages for contractors)
- ERP/accounting integration for jobs and labor codes
- Revit® integration
- CAD integration
- Content generation (not dependent on old Windows databases)
- Labor and material costing and pricing
- 3D Blueprint takeoffs for duct, plumbing, and piping