In today’s competitive marketplace, project-driven companies must leverage the best possible tools to overcome key project challenges, including slow estimating, disorganized bidding and an inability to benchmark estimates.

With InEight® Estimate, estimators and business development managers can use a unified cost-estimation platform with proven features to quickly and easily create more accurate estimates.

Benchmark Against Historical Performance
Use an innovative benchmarking option that proactively risk-ranks estimates based on as-built data from similar past projects. Streamline estimate reviews by instantly spotting variances from previous performances. Centralize estimates and as-built data in cost libraries to create more accurate templates and reduce the time spent creating new estimates. Reference previous estimates by activity, resource type, location, geography, discipline or work package.

Integrate Leading Scheduling and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Solutions
Available integration with leading scheduling, takeoff and ERP solutions can help estimators create time-based cost estimates and resource-loaded schedules.

With this integration, estimators can quickly create cost-loaded schedules; run “what if” scenarios across budget and schedule; keep work plans, budgets and schedules in sync; and streamline analysis of cash flow, earned value and resource utilization.

Allocate Costs Throughout the Estimate
Create costs in one part of the estimate and spread those costs to other areas to create a more accurate cost-loaded view of a job. Quickly understand the impact of self-performing a portion of the work versus utilizing a subcontractor or supplier.

Estimate Top-Down or Bottom-Up
Quickly build conceptual estimates with high-level scope and norms data, or create a fully detailed estimate using a rich set of features and functionality to establish accurate resource rates, define crew compositions, establish productivity rates and factor production for job-specific reasons.

Create Period-Driven Cost Estimates
Estimate resource quantities based on schedule durations, production rates or both. Spread the quantity of a resource across the periods in which it will be consumed to drive cost-loaded schedules and generate more accurate cash-flow forecasts.

Import Takeoff Quantities
Quantity estimates can be created via connectivity with quantity takeoff systems, design systems and spreadsheet software. Available integration with leading takeoff systems can bring assemblies, quantities and components directly into new estimates.

Leverage Industry Data Libraries
InEight Estimate supports a wide range of norms data and includes, at no extra cost, the RSMeans industry standard construction cost library with more than 78,000 items and 5,800 assemblies. It also supports popular industry databases for mining cost estimating and can use other proprietary or industry-specific cost and productivity libraries.

Using InEight software has been a tremendous help … Since starting with InEight Estimate, we’ve won more quality bids.”

— Rod Brown, superintendent, Kemi Construction Co., Inc.
Create Alternate Scenarios
Estimators can evaluate and compare pricing for different base-plus-alternate scope combinations with just a few clicks. This feature can also be used to explore different approaches to work: Users can simply toggle between scenarios to activate or deactivate all the corresponding estimate items. Going one step further, estimators can use the functionality to toggle between different risk profiles or even different quantity or productivity assumptions.

Automate Resource Rate Updates
Keep your cost estimates accurate by maintaining a library of master resource rates and then updating any estimate with the information from that library while also maintaining the integrity of how those resources are employed in the estimate. Prevailing wage rates, union wage rates and a company’s own equipment charge rates are examples of the types of data that can be easily updated in any estimate.

Apply Attributes to Resource Rates
Simplify the process of categorizing resources by geographic areas, wage zones and organizational category. Simply change an attribute of the job, such as location, and automatically update the cost estimate with resource rates appropriate to that new area.

Manage Cash Flow
Run cash projections on a project to more clearly anticipate expenditures relative to revenue. Ensure cash flow is effectively managed throughout the execution of a project.

Standardize WBS
Create standard template projects with similar work types to establish a common work breakdown structure (WBS). Apply cost and productivity by factors, including geography, labor rates, rental rates, wage zones, tax zones, resource production factors, equipment rates or craft types, on top of established work types, to create detailed cost estimates.

Structure the Cost Estimate by WBS and Account Code
Structure an estimate based on the way an owner needs to see the WBS and then toggle the view to see the estimate organized by account codes. This permits the tracking of jobs across a consistent coding structure to more easily compare performance from one job to the next despite having work estimated in a variety of different WBS formats. Account codes also facilitate integration with various enterprise resource planning and accounting systems that require the use of a unified coding format.

Request and Manage Quotes
Analyze multiple quotes simultaneously to select and award vendors at the activity or resource level. Estimators can more effectively evaluate and compare subcontractor bids by identifying and quantifying inclusions and exclusions. Create requests for quotes from scope items in the estimate and automatically distribute to groups of vendors. Track minority participation goals to ensure targets are met. Review and compare received quotes and simply award to a supplier to update the cost estimate.

Overcoming key project challenges, including slow estimating, disorganized bidding and an inability to benchmark estimates, is simple with the right tools. InEight Estimate makes it easy to quickly create more accurate estimates, giving project-driven companies an advantage in today’s competitive marketplace.

Visit ineight.com to learn what other companies have discovered. InEight solutions make it easy to build project confidence from assessment to action.