5 ways a cloud ERP can streamline project costing

For service and project-based businesses, getting costing right is crucial to be able to **price more accurately and increase profitability.**

Accurate job costing allows businesses to carefully monitor the costs associated with various parts of a project. More importantly, it ensures that a business doesn't miss any hidden costs and has charged for all billable items.

Small and medium-sized businesses that rely on outdated or less reliable methods of job costing often end up spending more time tracking budgets and actuals across multiple jobs, managing approvals, and calculating WIPs than they should be.

An intelligent cloud-based ERP can help service and project-based businesses overcome these challenges. Keep reading to find out the 5 ways a cloud ERP can help you streamline your project costing.
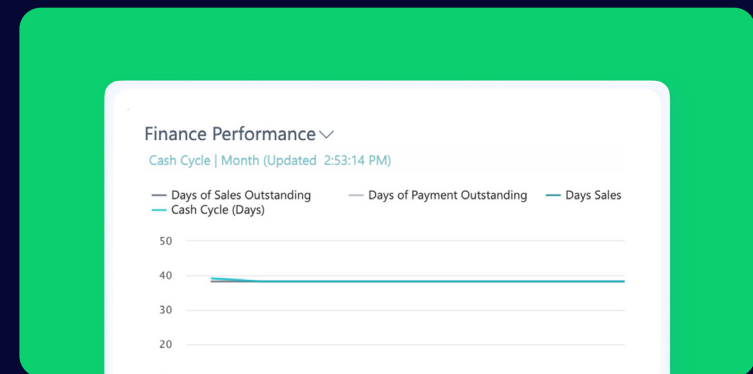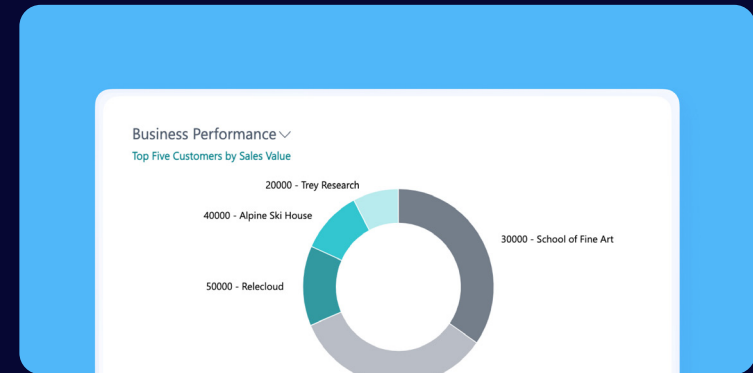
01

Manage project costing for all your projects, your way

Using spreadsheets might be letting you get project costing done, but switching to an ERP with strong project accouwnting capabilities allows you to be more in control of project costs. This means you have better visibility over your costs at all times as well as flexibility when setting up your projects.

You get to define important milestones and easily see what inventory, expenses, purchase orders and resources sit under various planning lines.

When you manage projects in a cloud ERP like Wiise, for instance, purchase orders for various planning lines can be linked back to the project. And because each planning line contains a price component as well as a cost component, you can use these planning lines to easily calculate work in progress (WIPs) as well as invoice customers progressively.

02

See how projects are tracking at a glance

Details are important, but having an overview, especially when managing multiple projects, can be really beneficial.

Using an ERP for project costing means you're managing projects in the same system as your accounting, inventory and payroll.

This allows you to see a dashboard view of your day-to-day tasks right on the home page. When you cost projects in an ERP system, with just one glance you'll see what tasks are outstanding and know when things needs your attention, such as:

- Upcoming invoices or invoices that may be due
- Workflows or timesheets that may need approval
- Status of jobs and pending task alerts

03

Accurate project costing, without the stress

Costing projects in an ERP allows you to easily toggle between the big picture and the fine details with ease.

Having a systematised view of all your costs means you can track invoices back to customers where project-specific purchases have been made.

Cloud-based ERP systems like Wiise are designed to streamline other elements of project costing, such as forecasting, WIP (work in progress) calculations, and job profitability.

Using a cloud ERP for project costing allows you to forecast with ease and accuracy, save time by calculating WIPs with a single click, and see real-time updates of budget versus actuals and job profitability in a dashboard format.

04

See hidden costs and avoid surprises

Hidden costs can have a significant impact on job profitability for a project-based business. This is why having a clear idea of all your costs is crucial before you quote.

Here are some of the ways using an ERP for job costing can ensure that unforeseen costs don't creep up on you.

- Track your outstanding orders
- Know what goods are received against what's been invoiced
- Know what your estimated amount will be at completion
- See the goods and purchases that haven't been delivered yet

05

Let your employees fill timesheets anytime, anywhere

Payroll costs often make up the biggest share of a project's cost. When projects involve staff working out of different locations or time zones, it's important to choose a business software that allows your employees to log their start and stop times and break times from wherever they may be.

Managing job costs within your ERP system offers the additional benefit of employee timesheets that are fully integrated with payroll.

Not only does this mean a lot less manual admin business-wide, it also ensures that the hours worked by your employees are accurate and always up to date.

Why choose a cloud ERP over job costing software?

Whether it's not for profits tracking grants or construction businesses costing large projects, the ability to cost projects and jobs accurately is key to delivering projects on time, while being profitable.

This may lead business owners to believe that investing in a standalone job costing solution is the answer. But there are two reasons why this only adds to their day-to-day complexity.

Calculating work in progress (WIPs) for projects spread over multiple accounting periods can be challenging if your job costing software doesn't talk to your accounting system. Updating data manually into systems can introduce errors that take time and resources to investigate and correct.

Considering every cost, including payroll and availability of resources, is essential before deciding on pricing for your projects or services. Managing different parts of your project on different systems can cause you to miss some details and underquote prices or overcommit to delivery timelines, ultimately damaging your reputation as a business.

Investing in a cloud ERP can help you avoid both scenarios.

✔ **A single view of all your project costs in one place**

✔ **See budget versus actuals in real time**

✔ **Auto-calculate WIPs with one click**

See what project costing in Wiise can do for your business

Job costing is at the crux of good project management and profitable pricing decisions. It can help reduce inefficiencies and play a key role in timely financial reporting. When you switch to Wiise, you manage your project costs in the same system as your finances, payroll, inventory which gives you better visibility into all your costs.

Wiise is a cloud-based ERP designed to bring together data from key business processes and gives project managers the ability to manage project costs with ease and accuracy.

- See detailed cost breakdown across projects

- Track budgeted costs versus actuals in real time

- Save time with automated WIP calculations

- Easily manage employees on multiple projects

- Reduce manual data entry and human error

Visit us at wiise.com **or call us on 1300 191 222 to speak to the team.**

Further reading...

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[Capital Transport Case Study](#)

[Outgrown Xero? The E-Book](#)

[Why Aussie Businesses Are Choosing Wiise](#)

[How To Future Proof Your Distribution Business](#)

[What To Look For In ERP Software For Multientities](#)

wiise

Get in touch today.

Wiise helps you see your business clearly so you can focus on what counts. Get Wiise and connect your people, processes, and data like never before.

Chat with us >

Email hello@wiise.com or call 1300 191 222