

Nodus, LLC

Architectural Firm Increases Efficiency of Core Operations

For architectural firms of all types and sizes, productivity is critical to success. Yet many are challenged to juggle a multitude of administrative tasks, without negatively impacting the creative aspect of the projects they take on. In order to ensure that assignments are completed on time, within budget, and according to the client's exact needs and specifications, companies must be able to efficiently and effectively schedule and monitor tasks, set milestones and deadlines, track costs, and more. This was the case for Nodus LLC, a four-year-old Georgia-based firm that takes a unique, service-oriented approach to its clients projects.

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In the past, the Nodus principals had worked for other architecture firms, where they experienced inefficiencies. When they started their own organization, they proactively sought out ways to streamline and improve those administrative tasks that architects typically find time-consuming and burdensome.

Nodus turned to ArchiOffice to improve the way it managed its projects from start to finish. "Immediately upon starting the firm, we sought out a project management solution to increase the efficiency of our core operations," said Gregory Mullin, a Principal at Nodus LLC, who continues:

"We evaluated a few packages from several different vendors, but chose ArchiOffice because it was the most complete, and it provided the wide range of capabilities we needed to more effectively run our office. Additionally, it was one of the few available solutions that could run on a Mac, which is our primary platform."

Today, ArchiOffice is used to organize and run all aspects of the company's business, from contact maintenance and project management, through internal collaboration and accounting. All Nodus employees involved in the management and execution of client projects – including company partners, an office manager, project managers, and architects – rely on ArchiOffice to plan, perform, and track their activities in a more timely, coordinated, and productive fashion.

Since implementing ArchiOffice, Nodus has noticed several benefits:

- More accurate timekeeping and reporting
- Accelerated invoicing and billing processes
- Greater insight into the profitability of each project it conducts
- Virtually eliminated resource conflicts by using the shared calendar that allows all project stakeholders to view schedules and assigned activities
- Dramatically improved contact management since all employees can now track all correspondence and files associated with each individual client and project



Project collaboration has also been significantly enhanced. ArchiOffice facilitates ongoing communication and informationsharing among all team members, giving them the ability to make notes, transmittals, meeting minutes, phone memorandums, and other vital project- related data readily available to other employees.

"ArchiOffice also helped us to automate an elaborate file system," added Mullin. "We used to maintain hard copy files, which wasted a lot of paper and took up valuable real estate. Now, we can scan all important documents, store them as PDF files, and link them to related projects and contacts. This has not only reduced overhead costs, it has freed up the office space previously used for file cabinets, and made it available for other, more important uses."

Employees at Nodus have also found the BQE support team to be extremely responsive. "They always answer our questions as quickly as possible. If we send them an email, we get a response immediately," Mullin stated.

All in all, Nodus has been thrilled with the results they've achieved with ArchiOffice. Mullin refers to the solution as "indispensable", while his partner Chuck Rogers claims that "without ArchiOffice, we'd be struggling to make it all come together. The value this solution has provided has been immeasurable."

About Nodus, LLC

Nodus LLC is a well-respected architecture firm that strives to promote the growth of both rural and urban areas, taking a proactive approach to the restoration and strengthening of the communities it serves by pursuing design and development opportunities that encourage thoughtful and responsible expansion. The company offers a full range of end-to-end services, from conceptual design and planning through construction administration. Among Nodus' many offerings are interior design, specialized consulting for building and/or site programming, project management, master planning, and documentation of buildings and systems to aid in facilities management. For more information, visit the Nodus LLC Web site at www.nodusllc.com.

To learn more about ArchiOffice and pricing, email us at info@bge.com or call us at (855) 687-1028.