Watts & Browning's project management needs were not unlike every engineering firm in this space. They were constantly looking for ways to speed up their cash flow, produce accurate and timely reports, keep projects on track, and simplify managing expenses. They relied on their project management solution for clear-cut performance metrics to save time and money where possible.

After all, managing reports and gaining better visibility into the company's financials is – and always will be – paramount to a project's success and client satisfaction.

After years of struggling with difficult project management software and cluttered manual processes, they decided to look for software that could make managing their operations simple, and preferably all on one dashboard.

About Watts & Browning Engineers

Watts & Browning is a Marietta, Georgia based engineering firm that formed in 1945. They use their creative and technical excellence in providing a comprehensive range of civil engineering, surveying and land planning services to clients based in Georgia.

Time-Consuming Reports and Strenuous Manual Processes

Watts & Browning's experience with the project management software they were using presented numerous challenges. Locating client reports was cumbersome and time-consuming. Trying to uncover a client's balance or where their accounts stood became a journey through layers of information.
The automated reporting feature is phenomenal

Frustration led to developing a fallback system of exporting client data into Excel spreadsheets to view the needed financials. Entering the engineer’s time on projects was difficult at best. The process was clunky and outdated. That’s when the team knew that if they wanted to stay on top of their projects and increase profitability, they would need to get a better back-office system in place so they could focus on doing what they loved most - their projects.

The Search for a New Platform

Watts & Browning decided it was time for a change. Their investigation into choosing a new project management solution was straightforward. They searched the Internet, read the reviews, and settled on a list of the Top Ten. From there, they narrowed their scope, did a deeper dive into these ten platforms, chose the best five, and then finally, the top three solutions that suited their needs.

Their criteria for determining their final candidates were simple, they wanted to:
- Eliminate the time-consuming headaches using their current system and looked toward producing the needed reports on time
- Manage expenses better
- Know where their client balances stood
- Track their engineer’s time more efficiently

Easy Implementation with BQE CORE

In the end, the positive reviews on YouTube and the free trial of the BQE CORE solution were the tipping points.

Change is never easy. Choosing a new software solution meant budget meetings and the needed approvals. Then there’s the vetting process, potential downtime, and buy-ins by end-users. Watts & Browning was pleasantly surprised working through the implementation process with BQE CORE’s team since the switch only took three or four weeks.

They started in January and were up and running by February.

The changeover could have gone even smoother if the current system had stored the information in a more manageable way. Watts & Browning took the recommended training classes, and BQE CORE’s support made a real difference, both by phone and email.
Advanced Reporting Made Simple

Once they were quickly up and running with BQE CORE, everything fell into place. Customized reporting was easy and felt as if it were designed specifically for their firm.

“The automated reporting feature is phenomenal, since reports now go out like clockwork every month, and there is a more standardized layout.” said Kim Lennon, Operations Manager at Watts & Browning Engineers.

BQE CORE’s reporting features allowed Watts & Browning to making smarter decisions at a glance by:
- Customizing dashboards to their own unique needs.
- Exporting reports to Excel, Word, or as PDFs.
- View breakdowns of utilization, realization, and billable work for employees and consultants.
- Automatically schedule and send reports to staff, clients, and other stakeholders.
- Quickly compare current income with last year’s statements with a permission-driven P&L comparison widget.
- Prevent loss by quickly viewing profitability, P&L, and other key financial insights.

Easy and Fast Invoicing

Invoicing was now faster than ever.

“When invoices were split between 2 companies, it used to take me close to 30 minutes to research. Now, it takes me less than 10.” said Lennon.

Pros of BQE CORE’s invoicing features include:
- Looking up client information, which took 30 to 45 minutes, now takes less than 5 minutes.
- Searching for a single invoice only takes a few minutes.
- Regular monthly reports are scheduled to go out automatically.
- Questions about expenses and profits on a particular client are answered immediately.
- The training videos continue to answer any questions.
- Their Operations Manager has regained two hours in her day.

Get Time Back in Your Day with BQE CORE

BQE is designed to help firms eliminate back-office headaches and replace them with accurate, actionable insights at every level and project stage that help drive better decisions — and with intuitive tools that your employees will want to use.

Try a free demo today to see how BQE CORE can help you save more time and streamline your processes.