

Software Integration Solutions: Should You Build or Buy?

To keep pace with the efficiency of digital-first tech giants, automating and seamlessly integrating software development lifecycle tools is crucial. Effective software integrations can eliminate the frustrating inefficiencies and waste in your delivery process, including manual data errors, miscommunications between teams, and functional siloes. This leads to increased employee satisfaction and stronger customer relations.

Deciding to integrate your toolchain is easy; the hard part is deciding how. Should you build your own solution or buy one out-of-the-box? Here are seven criteria to consider:

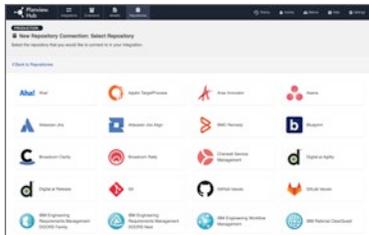
Criterion	Analysis
 Upfront costs	<p>Build: It costs very little to start, but hidden development and maintenance costs add up over time.</p> <p>Buy: Buying a solution can incur a higher initial cost. If you take this route, look for no-code solutions with low maintenance requirements to maximize your ROI.</p>
 Opportunity costs	<p>Build: Building an integration solution takes skilled, expensive talent. Whether it's a finance worker chasing and collating data or a developer writing code for an in-house offering, any solution that's slow to develop or involves manual data manipulation will carry a high opportunity cost.</p> <p>Buy: Opportunity costs are minimal when you buy a solution because the heavy lifting is done for you and automates integration.</p>
 Maintenance costs	<p>Build: When tools are updated or APIs change, your integration does, too. Changing an integration pattern or adding a new tool will consume hundreds of your developers' scarce and valuable hours.</p> <p>Buy: Maintenance costs vary by tool. Most tools proactively update connectors when APIs change. Planview Hub runs 500,000 tests per day to ensure all connectors are operational.</p>
 Quality	<p>Build: Effective, flexible integrations require sophisticated infrastructure. DIY integrations have limited configurability, and they tend to slow down your applications. You may struggle to transform data between heterogeneous systems.</p> <p>Buy: Purpose-built integration solutions like Planview Hub operate with a light touch, providing real-time synchronization without compromising toolchain performance. Hub includes conflict-resolution mechanisms and built-in traceability to ensure high-fidelity synchronizations.</p>
 Time-to-value	<p>Build: Integrating two applications could take months, assuming two senior developers work full-time on the project.</p> <p>Buy: Learning how to use a new solution can take time, but you could expect to have your entire toolchain integrated within a month.</p>
 Scalability	<p>Build: Every time you add a project, developers will have to re-map the integration or manually collate even more data for reports. This might work for small companies but needs to be more scalable in more complex environments with more than 10 projects or more than two tools.</p> <p>Buy: With a model-based solution like Planview Hub, a single administrator can manage integrations for hundreds of projects without coding. New tools or projects can easily be added to existing integrations.</p>
 Ease of use	<p>Build: Only the developers who build the integration can modify it. As more projects and tools get added, the code becomes unwieldy and more complex to navigate.</p> <p>Buy: Out-of-the-box solutions offer graphical UIs to help you manage and set up integrations.</p>

Unlock Capacity with Planview Hub

The purpose of integrations is to save time and unlock capacity. Developing custom integrations can counteract this objective. Planview Hub offers a comprehensive, scalable solution for software integration that is quick to implement and increases efficiency.

Collaborate in real-time immediately

Planview Hub offers pre-built, no-code connectors to over 60 tools. Real-time synchronization enables fast handovers and communication between developers, specialist teams, leaders, and partners.



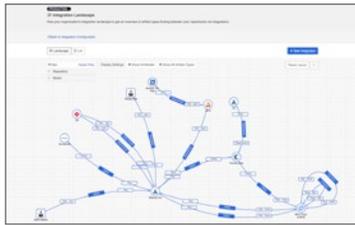
Tailor integrations to your needs

Planview Hub's highly configurable integrations can accommodate almost any use case. You can synchronize complex information between tools, including rich text fields, parent-child relationships, attachments, and folder structures.



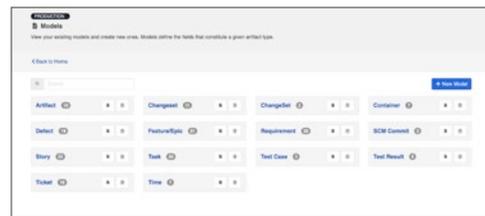
Manage integrations with ease

No technical expertise is needed to manage integrations in Planview Hub's easy-to-read UI. You can quickly visualize, manage, and navigate your network with Planview Hub's landscape view (pictured below).



Scale efficiently with model-based integration

Planview Hub's reusable models simplify cross-tool field mapping and reporting. They normalize data between all tools and can easily be applied to all participating projects.



Simplify audits with built-in traceability

With built-in traceability features, reports and audits have never been easier, even in highly regulated industries.



Preserve your peace of mind

Planview provides complimentary coaching to help you get up and running fast. Our dedicated customer care team is online 24/7 to solve any problems.



The Time to Integrate is Now

The question is not whether to integrate your toolchain but how to do it. Connecting your software delivery toolchain is a requirement to free up capacity, deliver predictably, and safeguard quality. But if you take the DIY route, you may lose more capacity than you gain, and the hidden costs will keep growing. If you value your money and your peace of mind, choose a purpose-built solution that does the hard work for you.

[Request a Demo of Planview Hub](#)