



Customer Success Story

Tron Corporation

Challenge: With expanding markets and larger complexity of projects, Tron Corporation needed to augment their industry expertise with a strong systems-based approach for managing their project costs, field tracking, billing, payroll and project procurement.

Solution: Tron implemented 4castplus as a unified platform for project controls, jobsite tracking and project procurement with integration to ERP and HRMS. This provides all project teams with deep visibility, collaboration, and control on construction projects.



About Tron Corporation

Tron Construction & Mining Limited Partnership (Tron) is an industry leading, 100% First Nations owned, Canadian General Contractor. Over the last 30 years, Tron has grown from a Saskatchewan-based general contractor to a national, all-purpose organization that can deliver a wide array of projects across multiple industries and market sectors.

Tron's four pillars of execution success are safety, quality, schedule, and cost. A client-centric approach allows the organization to build true partnerships by focusing on developing strategic long-term relationships with clients, suppliers, and contractors. Their First Nations roots provide them with an unparalleled understanding of how to



effectively build and sustain Indigenous relationships in impacted areas as well as build capacity.

Tron offers specialized work in the areas of:

- Mechanical & Piping Installation
- Electrical & Instrumentation Installation
- Infrastructure & Utilities Support
- Civil, Structural, Architectural and Building Services
- Vessel fabrication

The Situation

Over the past several years, Tron has experienced significant growth, winning more and more bids for larger projects. This has led to a reality that the entry-level job tracking system and Excel spreadsheets that were used to manage the business' projects, procurement, payroll and job costing were not going meet Tron's requirements moving forward. The company had invested in Sage 300 Online to be its enterprise accounting application but needed a robust Project Cost Management System to keep track of their portfolio of projects both large and small, that would at the same time offer the opportunity and capability to integrate with their financial and HRMS

As a result, the Tron Project Controls team decided to evaluate the marketplace for a project management solution fit for a contractor like Tron and invited 4castplus to propose a solution that would work for their growing business. "We needed to onboard a system that would match our growth plans, larger projects, and Tron's inherent desire to be an innovative leader in the industry." said Rick Fiedosiewich, Project Controls Manager at Tron. "It was clear that 4castplus checked all the boxes for the comprehensive list of requirements needed by a growing contractor like us."

The Challenge

Beyond the needs met by an accounting system like Sage 300, Tron's involvement in larger projects with companies like Cameco, Bruce Power, and SaskPower forced the Tron team to do significant manual work to provide management with a clear picture of the key fundamentals of their business on a day-to-day basis. Accessing correct vital information like margins, unbilled revenue, cash flow, and accruals, for example, was very time consuming. "We were spending far too much time wrestling with spreadsheets," confirms Fiedosiewich, "We wanted our project managers to do away with all that manual effort so that they could be more productive in their jobs."



To tackle these challenges and automate these processes, the team at Tron identified that they required a software platform to provide robust tools for procurement, project management, project cost controls, invoicing, and payroll. They additionally wanted robust reporting to ensure their internal and external stakeholders have real-time clarity into their projects. Another key requirement was that the solution must also be easy to use – they wanted to make sure their employees had no challenges with embracing the system and the changes that it brings.

An Integrated Solution: 4castplus and Sage 300

After settling on Sage 300 as their enterprise accounting application, Tron quickly realized the solution would not meet the depth of their software requirements for managing their larger projects. After lengthy evaluation, they confirmed that 4castplus would manage the layers of complexity required to manage a significant portfolio of projects.

Sage 300 would clearly meet their organizational financial management needs and 4castplus would be their enterprise-wide operational project management tool that, tightly integrated with Sage 300, would ensure their projects are brought successfully to completion and the right information will be available to key stakeholders at the right time. Combine this with a proven integration platform that exchanges critical information between Sage, 4castplus and Criterion (HRMS), Tron is rewarded with a seamless enterprise solution. The integration is designed to assign each integration point with an Owner and Recipient to standardize on a “Source-of-the-truth” for all shared data elements. The integration platform follows rigorous leading practices to ensure Tron benefits from the decades of financial experience of both 4castplus and Sage.

“Our finance team was very comfortable with Sage from an accounting perspective,” says Fiedosiewicz, “And then we saw how 4castplus would enable our project teams to closely manage their projects in a proactive rather than reactive manner. Offering these critical areas of our company the best product for purpose is going to benefit the entire process and improve the bottom line. The combination of 4castplus and Sage is truly a best-of-breed solution that works very well together.”



Implementation Eye Openers

As the 4castplus implementation played out, the team at Tron recognized that, to meet the challenges of their growth, they needed to evolve into a process and control-oriented organization. New policies, standardizations, and definition of controls, as a few examples, were put into place and applied to the software implementation. While this was a demanding exercise, it was ultimately a rewarding process for the company, engaging the various team members and disciplines to work collaboratively to build this model that will reap significant benefits for years to come.

Successful Outcomes

Moving out of spreadsheets and into 4castplus as a centralized platform for managing their construction projects, Tron is now able to successfully deliver projects on budget and on time. More than just project management, 4castplus brings the full suite of tools for the careful oversight of Tron's projects including:

- Project cost controls including EVM
- Complete project procurement and subcontracting
- Real-time project tracking
- Budgeting and forecasting
- Accruals management
- Rates management
- Customer billing

Throughout the entire lifecycle of a project, the Tron project development team is empowered with robust tools for monitoring budgets, forecasting outcomes, and identifying issues early on to take corrective action and minimize any material impact. The Tron team can now not only dive into the details of any phase of a project, but they can also view multiple projects together in an aggregated portfolio view to assess cash flow and make critical informed decisions.

As project teams plan, track, report and manage their projects, Sage is seamlessly being updated in the background with key information to reconcile information between systems. With a bi-directional flow of information, both systems are continuously in sync to make certain everyone across the enterprise is on the same page.



Team Collaboration and Real-Time Project Visibility

More than just onboarding their teams on powerful tools to streamline their business operations, the Tron team now has a centralized platform where their multi-discipline teams collaborate in the same solution rather than having to manually share spreadsheets, re-key data, and struggle with formula errors and outdated information. "Most of our work is self-performed, so we have a large footprint of crews at all our jobsites." Fiedosiewicz asserts. "4castplus gives us the comprehensive suite of field tracking tools that can easily handle our complex labour rate structures, shifts, etc. and the project management team is updated on costs, revenues, progress, equipment and payroll hours in real-time."

Learn More

If your company is in need of cloud-based project cost management software as a unified platform for your project teams to successfully deliver projects, we'd love to hear from you! Contact us today at the following:

[Click here to contact us](#) or

[Click here to sign up for a live demo](#)

