

# BQE CORE vs. Unanet

## Why CORE Wins



### Lead With Clarity, Not Complexity

As a leader of an architecture or engineering firm, you need software that supports your team, not slows them down. Yet many firms using Unanet find themselves frustrated by a system that was never truly built for A&E. Its desktop-first infrastructure, clunky interface, and scattered modules make even simple tasks feel tedious. What looks like a complete solution on paper quickly becomes a maze of complexity, slow performance, and poor firm-wide adoption. When your software is hard to use, your team avoids it—and your visibility suffers.

BQE CORE was purpose-built for firms like yours. It's a fully cloud-based, modern platform that brings time tracking, billing, project accounting, resource planning, financial management, and CRM together in one cohesive system. From designers and project managers to principals and finance directors, everyone can access what they need, on any device, from anywhere. With intuitive navigation and thoughtful design, CORE makes it easy for your team to stay aligned, productive, and focused on the work that matters most. It's not just easier to use, it's easier to run your firm.



## Key Differentiators

		
<b>Purpose-Built for A/E</b>	BQE CORE was designed by an architect and engineer specifically for architecture and engineering firms, with features that align with how your projects, people, and finances actually work.	Unanet A/E is a scaled-down rebuild of the legacy Clearview desktop product, offering only a fraction of CORE's functionality and leaving A&E firms with a fragmented, limited experience. The browser based product doesn't even offer the full toolset.
<b>All-In-One, Not Pieced Together</b>	BQE CORE delivers fully integrated project management, accounting, time tracking, billing, CRM, and reporting in one seamless platform. Data flows across the app so you have the information you need at your fingertips.	Unanet requires bolt-on tools and relies heavily on third-party integrations just to give you the basic tools you need to run a business. This creates a fragmented experience. Data doesn't flow, meaning you still need to manually update separate spreadsheets.
<b>Faster Adoption, Less Overhead</b>	Intuitive and easy to adopt across your entire team. No steep learning curves or heavy and expensive IT lift required. Manage the software internally to cut down on consultant costs, and BQE's excellent support services are an excellent value.	Unanet requires lengthy implementations and complex training just to begin. Necessary extensive customization and ongoing support is billed by the hour, and the need for outside consultants to make the software work makes it extremely expensive.










[CORE is] more of a speed boat than a cargo ship. The information's always there. It's always live. We can run reports and see where AR is. We can see if we're going up or down. CORE has ... allowed us to make decisions much quicker then in the past.

**Scott Roselius, AIA**  
Heights Venture Architecture + Design

# Customer wins moving from Unanet to BQE CORE:

- 1. Simplified Operations:** CORE seamlessly brings time tracking, project management, billing, and CRM into one intuitive platform. No more jumping between tools or systems.
- 2. Faster Financial Insights:** With real-time dashboards and 200+ A/E-specific reports, firms get instant visibility into budgets, profitability, and performance, without custom development.
- 3. Higher Team Adoption:** CORE's user-friendly interface makes it easy for everyone—not just finance—to engage with the platform daily, improving data accuracy and collaboration.
- 4. Lower Total Cost of Ownership:** No expensive consultants, no third-party integrations to maintain, and no bolt-on tools. Just one streamlined, cloud-based system purpose-built for A&E success.

[Learn More About BQE CORE](#)

		
All-in-One Platform	 Yes. Integrated project, CRM, time, billing, accounting & reporting tools	 No. Requires on external tools & add-ons. Most features limited to desktop
Modern, Intuitive UI	 Yes. Clean, user-friendly design built for daily use by all roles	 Outdated, “clunky” interface. Slow UI Performance results in latency issues
Cloud-Based Platform	 Yes. 100% cloud-native with full access from anywhere	 Primarily desktop-based, limiting flexibility and remote access
Project Profitability Tracking	 Yes. Real-time project profitability at every phase and task	 No. Data lives in separate reports, with limited real-time profitability visibility
Firm-Wide User Adoption	 Yes. Intuitive for all roles, from PMs to finance, minimal training required.	 No. Complex interface limits adoption outside of accounting & admin staff
Real-Time Dashboards	 Yes. Instant access to project and financial dashboards with live data	 No. The limited dashboards need costly customization to show meaningful data.
Contract and Fee Flexibility	 Yes. Supports multi-phase or hybrid contracts and fee planning	 No. Rigid contract structures lack flexibility for common types used in A&E.
Retainers and Pre-Payments	 Yes. Apply to projects, phases, or clients, for precise revenue application.	 No support for managing prepayments, retainers, or deposits tied to a contract.
Customizable Billing Rules	 Yes. Including T&M, Fixed Fee, Recurring, Milestone, % Complete, Unit-based.	 No scalable billing rule automation. Must manage billing manually each cycle
Resource Planning	 Yes. Integrated and tied directly to projects and financials	 Poor interface is not intuitive for PMs or team leads and it's costly to customize.
Consultant Management	 Yes. Automated report scheduling, billing workflows, & timecard reminders	 No centralized vendor data tied to projects, contracts, or invoices.
CRM Built-in	 Yes. Built-in, seamless CRM fully tied to project and financial data	 No. CRM (Cosential) is an external solution, that requires an intergration.
Customizable Reports	 Yes. Easy customization of reports and dashboards by users	 No. Customizations require expensive additional services or developer skills
Report Scheduling	 Yes. Schedule report delivery to internal and external stakeholders	 No robust built-in report automation. Users must run reports manually.



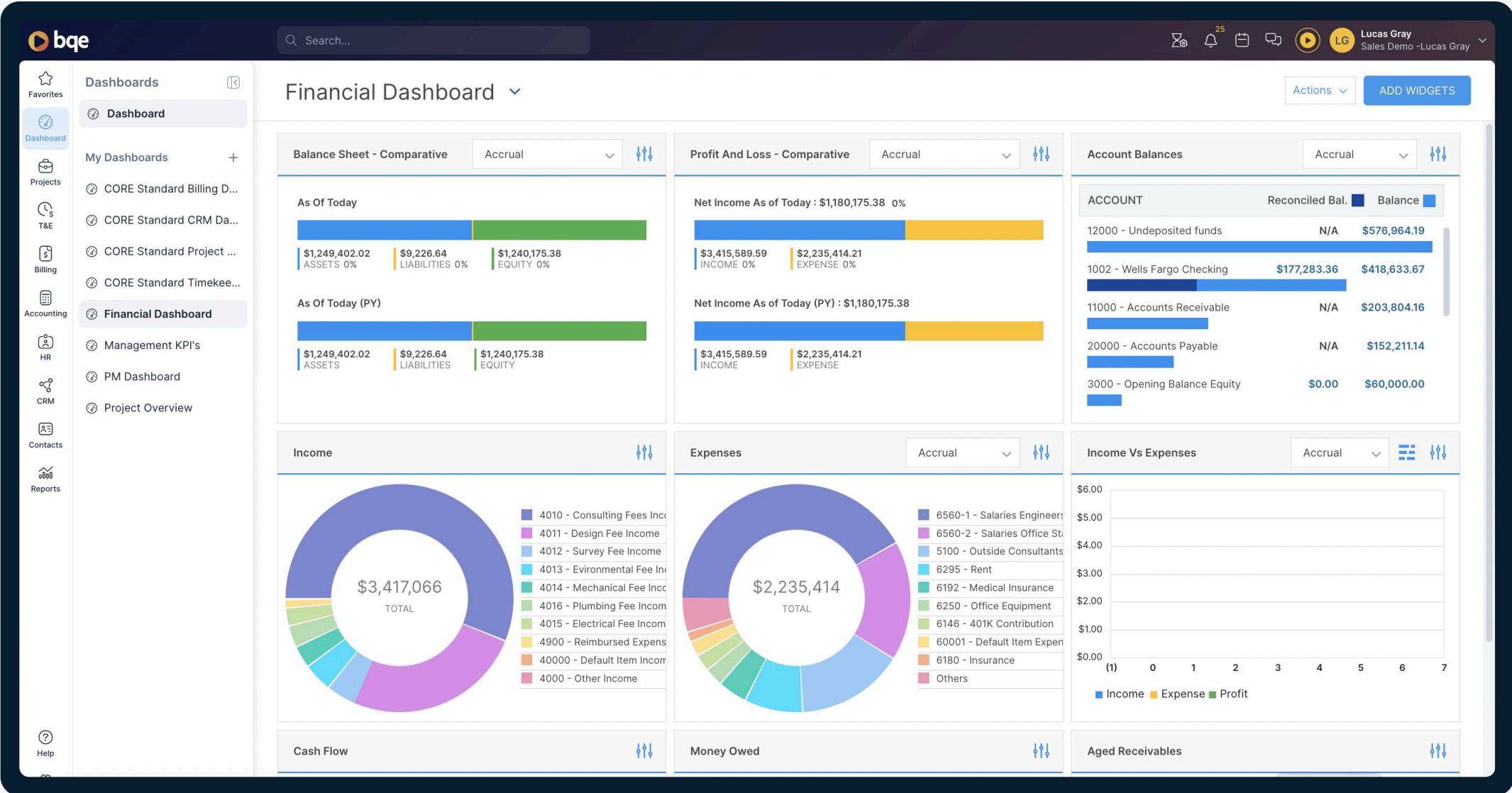
# Built Beautifully. Works Brilliantly.

When it comes to running an architecture or engineering firm, the complexity of your firm management software shouldn't distract you from your project work. BQE CORE simplifies your entire operation by bringing project management, time and expense tracking, full project-based accounting, billing, CRM, resource planning, and reporting into one seamless platform that is beautifully designed to put the information you need at your fingertips.

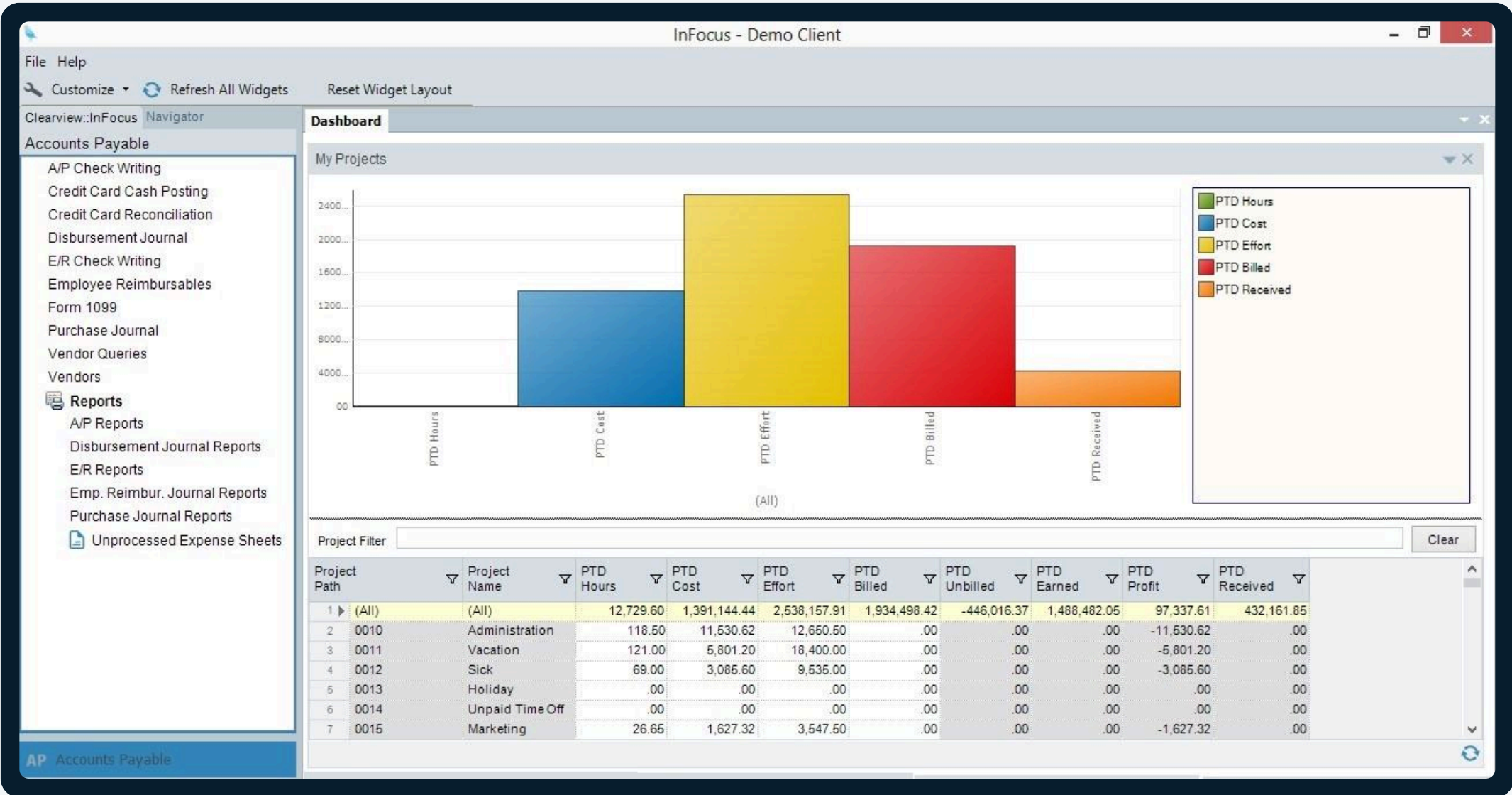
Contrasting the smooth usability of CORE, with Unanet, you're forced to adapt to a system that wasn't made for you. It's heavy, over-engineered, and originally built for government contractors, not creative, fast-moving A/E firms. From its poorly designed and dated interface to its long implementation cycles and low adoption, Unanet can leave your team frustrated, underutilized, and relying on manually updating spreadsheets just to get answers.

CORE is different. It's modern, intuitive, and designed for architects and engineers by an architect and engineer who built the platform to help them run their own firms. When your whole team can actually use the software, trust the data, and move faster together, you don't just run your firm—you lead it. That's the CORE difference. And once you see it, you won't settle for anything less.

Get a Customized Live Demo



BQE CORE Financial Dashboard Screenshot



Unanet Financial Dashboard Screenshot