

Moving to Aktion's Cloud Gives Drake Construction Anywhere, Anytime Access.



Drake Construction Co.

Drake Construction Company opened its doors in 1954, serving Cleveland and surrounding areas of Ohio. While they were originally an independent general contractor, Drake is now an industry-leading employee-owned company. The craftsmanship that has become the hallmark of Drake Construction is evident throughout the beautiful city of Cleveland.

Terry Holden is a Project Manager and Estimator at Drake Construction, where he has worked since graduating from Ohio State University in 2013. He spearheaded the company's cloud migration project to allow for a streamlined, faster and completely mobile Drake Construction workforce.

Prior to the move to the cloud, employees were only able to log into the on-premise Sage software when in the office. Anything from power outages to inclement weather would mean that any Drake employees working remotely could not perform their necessary job functions. As Terry explained, "We were locked into working at the office. If power was lost or there was a situation where we couldn't access the office, we didn't have the ability to log into Sage at all."

As the warranty for the aging server that housed Drake's Sage construction software was near expiration, it seemed like a good time to think about moving to the cloud. Drake Construction's relationship with Aktion Associates offered Terry access to a wide range of IT recommendations. With Aktion as an IT partner, he was able to explore whether a cloud migration would be the best fit for his company. He was also able to get some suggestions for what to do with their existing infrastructure.

When the decision was made to begin moving their Sage solution to Aktion's cloud, Drake also updated their workstations. This gave employees the ability to work effectively with Microsoft 365 from anywhere. Aktion used their proprietary Lean Implementation sequence steps to frame a fully developed project plan for Drake, including regular touchpoints and well-defined timelines and milestones.

Regarding Aktion's execution during the migration process, Terry said that everything went according to plan. "The overall experience was fantastic. The setup meetings were informative and detailed. The training portion meant our users felt as though nothing had changed."

When anyone at Drake Construction needs additional IT support, they have the Aktion Network Operations Center (NOC) staff readily available to them. "The NOC team is professional and has been quick and effective. It's made us feel as if Aktion is an extended part of our overall IT support."

Terry and his team have been very happy with the Aktion Associates partnership. In moving to Aktion's cloud hosting environment, Drake Construction was able to avoid an expensive server replacement, move past some of the challenges of housing software on-premise, and provide employees with remote access to their Sage construction software. And the team has gained the streamlined, faster and completely mobile environment they were looking for.

Moving to the cloud has opened options for the Drake Construction office staff. The move created a sustained, uninterrupted, and productive work environment in the midst of issues that would have previously stopped work. "We've lost power to the office and still been able to make payroll, which would not have been possible prior. Our staff is now able to work efficiently from home."

About Aktion Associates

In business since 1979, Aktion Associates Inc., is a national ERP software reseller and IT system integrator focused on the Construction, Distribution and Manufacturing industries. We partner with innovative technology providers to deliver vertical specific business ERP applications. Company-owned data centers provide secure cloud hosting, disaster recovery and back up services, and the Network Operations Center (NOC) monitors managed services clients.

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