

# 5 CONSIDERATIONS FOR INTEGRATION PERFECTION



**Bits In Glass**  
Unlock Your Potential

When planning and working through an integration project there are a number of important things to keep in mind to take to make sure your implementation is successful. Luckily, we've got you covered!

Here are 5 considerations to ensure your integration project stays on track:

## 1 ALIGN WITH YOUR BUSINESS OUTCOMES

We know that systems integration makes sense to you. It reduces errors, streamlines operations, unlocks your organization's data, and increases efficiencies. However, outlining specific business outcomes isn't always as easy. But it's an important consideration to help others understand the reason why you're taking on your integration projects.

By clearly identifying the desired business outcomes you want to achieve with an integration project, your teams can continually refer back to them throughout the implementation to make sure you're on track to achieve those outcomes.

### **BIG tip:**

Think of your business outcomes as the benefits your business, end-users, and clients will enjoy as a result of your integration project. Our BIG Experts can help you determine what these are.

## 2 DON'T SKIP OVER DESIGN

When working through your integration project, take time to plan your existing and future integrations and how they can be architected for ease of re-use. Engage both your business and development teams to understand their challenges and roadblocks.

As well, take a look at existing projects or your organization's C4E (Centre for Enablement) for any reusable reference projects or patterns. A little bit of effort upfront will go a long way in the end!

Design is an important step in any integration implementation. Just like any technology, systems integrations need to be effectively thought out or else you'll end up with a lot of point-to-point integrations that won't be maintainable long term.

### **BIG tip:**

Make sure to keep this best practice top of mind for all your projects. Not only will it increase your delivery cadence but it'll also keep your developers and architects engaged.

### 3 HAVE A CLEAR PROJECT PLAN

Outlining a clear, actionable, and measurable project plan is essential to a successful integration project. Why? So everyone involved in the project can see and understand the journey in its entirety.

A project plan should include the project steps, timeline, and deadlines, resources required, responsible parties, expectations, and contingencies. Throughout the project, you should set a cadence for regularly checking in and reviewing your project plan.

#### **BIG tip:**

Project status reports are an important part of following a project plan to help you understand if you're on track and what steps need to be taken if not.

Our BIG Delivery Managers can help manage this aspect of your integration project, managing the implementation and reporting on its progress and success.

### 4 TEST, TEST, TEST

Integration projects are powered by software, and as much as we all don't want to admit it, bugs happen. They're inevitable, but it is manageable! How? By ensuring you have a good testing process in place.

Regression testing, for example, ensures your integration system runs tests every time a change, addition, or feature is added to your integration flows. This gives you the peace of mind that your flows are working properly and effectively, and when they're not, you'll be notified so you can get in and fix it.

#### **BIG tip:**

Our BIG developers are pros at regression testing and can help you set up regression test suites to help improve your implementation process.



## 5

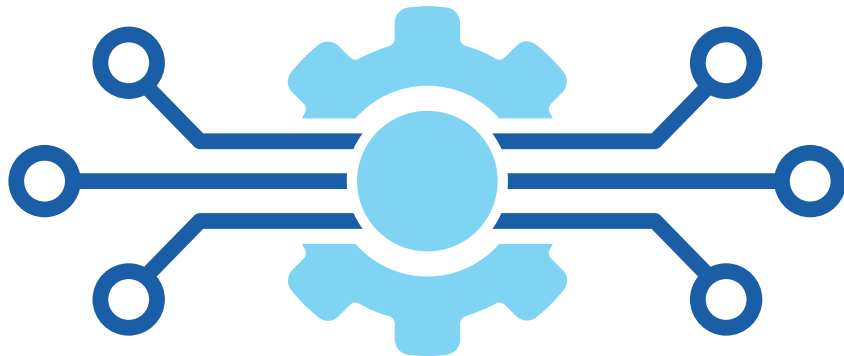
## KEEP DETAILED DOCUMENTATION

When working through an integration project, you don't want to forget about documenting how to use and integrate with your APIs. In addition to increased awareness and adoption of your APIs, good documentation also decreases the amount of time onboarding new developers and users. You'll also save a lot of time responding to support requests!

But wait, there's more! Good API documentation also leads to better and stronger project and product maintenance. It helps your teams understand your resources and methods to make maintenance and updates faster and more efficient.

### **BIG tip:**

If you do it right, the integrations you create will have a very long life span. You need to make sure your integrations get the care and detail they need long after you move on to other challenges (both internally and externally).



## GET BIG ON YOUR TEAM!

To help you with all of the above we have an exciting try and buy offer! What's that mean?

We're offering four weeks of certified MuleSoft developer time for FREE if you commit to a three-month project. If you aren't happy with our developers, you can cancel at any time with no repercussions.

Take advantage of this free offer to kick your integration project into high gear and save thousands of dollars.

**The last day to claim this offer is June 1, 2020 and we're serving on a first-come, first-served basis with limited availability, so act fast.**

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