



When is it time to move away from Spreadsheets?

A guide for software buyers

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When importers are first starting out the most critical thing is selling product and getting it for a good price. When you are only moving a container or two a month, keeping track of your warehouse and/or in transit inventory is fairly simple and a few spreadsheets will do the trick and take very little set up or training to get started. As long as the importer is using QuickBooks or a similar accounting application, these are generally all the tools that are required to operate.

However, as the importer grows they quickly recognize the down side to this system:

- Wasting time due to entering the same information over and over again into multiple systems
- Costly human error related to entering the same information over and over
- Lost time and revenue because employees are not sharing data through one central system

This is typically referred to as the “Hodge Podge” method