



Get your systems talking, so your people can stop retyping.

Integration means getting your separate work apps to pass details to each other by themselves, in a way each one understands, so people don't have to copy the same thing from screen to screen.

Say it once. Everyone who needs it can hear it.

The story, decoded. Trains are your work apps, the parcel is an order and Mr. Feathers is anyone copying details between screens. The junction is all your apps together, and each line is one link between them. The plug is an API, the board is where news is announced (events), the shelf is where news waits (a message queue), and the partner's line is another company's system.

SOUNDS FAMILIAR?

We type the same order or address into more than one screen.

An order went missing while one system was down, and nobody noticed for a while.

The website says it's in stock; the stockroom says otherwise.

A customer was charged twice, or a parcel went to an old address.

THE IDEA IN PLAIN WORDS

The same kind of plug for each app

Each app gets the same kind of plug: one agreed, written way to ask it for things, saying how to ask and what it answers. The shop can ask the stockroom what's left and get a reply. A new app gets a plug of its own, so the others aren't rewired to fit it. In the film, "the same plug" means the same kind of plug: each app gets its own.

Experts call this: APIs and API contracts

Worth knowing

What each plug offers is agreed between the apps that use it, and helps only if both sides keep to it, so we add checks that test each side against the agreement. A new app still needs setting up and testing on its side, and the apps that want to use it still need setting up to ask it.

Say it once, on one shared board

When something happens, like a new order, it is announced once. Every app that needs it reads the board and gets on with its part; the others carry on.

Experts call this: events, publish and subscribe

Worth knowing

Apps that hear the news catch up shortly after, not all at the same moment. Announcements make it easy to add listeners and harder to follow one order from start to end, so we add a way to trace each one. A shared board is one more thing to look after. It needs an owner and a plan for when it is busy or down.

News waits, repeats get skipped

If an app is busy, the news waits on its shelf until it's ready. If the same news turns up twice, the app checks whether it already acted and skips the repeat. Stuck items go to a lost-and-found shelf, not the bin.

Experts call this: message queues, dead-letter queues, safe repeats (idempotency)

Worth knowing

A waiting shelf holds news until an app is ready and keeps stuck items on a lost-and-found shelf instead of dropping them. It can sometimes hand over the same news twice, so each app is set up to spot repeats, and someone still watches the lost-and-found shelf.

Each keeps its own app, and they understand each other

Every team runs its own app its own way, and so can a partner company. They share the board, and details are written so both sides read them the same way.

Experts call this: federation, interoperability, data mapping

Worth knowing

A converter changes how details are written, not the facts. If details are wrong at the start, they arrive wrong, so we check them at the source too. Each team keeps its own system. A shared view (one screen where teams see the same order) shows only what each side agrees to share, and someone has to keep that agreement current.

HOW WE WORK WITH YOU

STEP 01

Listen

Talk to the people who retype, chase and fix mix-ups; pick one journey.

STEP 02

Trace

Draw every app, link and hand-off on that journey.

STEP 03

Agree

Agree the plugs, the announcements and one way of writing details.

STEP 04

Connect

Build that journey end to end with one team, then move the next links over.

STEP 05

Your team runs it

Your people own the plugs, the announcements and the check-ups.

Start small with one of these: **Trace one order**, **First agreed plug** or **Fix one failed hand-off**.

WHAT WE HELP WITH

Trace one order through your apps

A clear picture of how your apps really pass details, and which links to fix first.

One shared board for news

New apps can start listening without anyone changing the sender.

The same kind of plug for each app

Changing one app is less likely to break the others.

Details both sides read the same way

Fewer mix-ups when details cross from one app, or company, to another.

Still copying by hand?

Email contact@algoshred.com with the apps one order passes through and where people retype.

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WATCH THE FILM

algoshred.com/integration-interoperability