The Accela Advantage for EnvisionConnect Users

Leading a successful transition to Accela Environmental Health

To help the EnvisionConnect user community upgrade and modernize, Accela has created a proprietary technology refresh program for our Decade customers with a modern cloud-based solution, Accela Environmental Health. This program minimizes business interruption, guarantees data retention and configuration, significantly shortens the upgrade project cycle, and provides a wide range of newly introduced features that will benefit both your staff and the constituents you serve.

Accela's EnvisionConnect Upgrade Program

Accela's EnvisionConnect Upgrade Program provides a smooth path from EnvisionConnect to Accela Environmental Health. The program delivers the core functionality presently utilized by Decade customers and introduces additional capabilities to optimize environmental health and hazmat programs. Dynamic conversion and data mapping tools carry forward existing data, reports, and configurations.

The EnvisionConnect Upgrade Program includes:

1. **Data Conversion Tools:** Data models have been pre-mapped to preserve data from EnvisionConnect to Accela Environmental Health. This enables dynamic creation of your existing EnvisionConnect configurations and record types into the Accela Civic Application for Environmental Health. These tools drastically reduce the hours needed for field-by-field data mapping and migration planning, thereby saving your agency time and project costs and reducing the risk potential for data integrity errors.
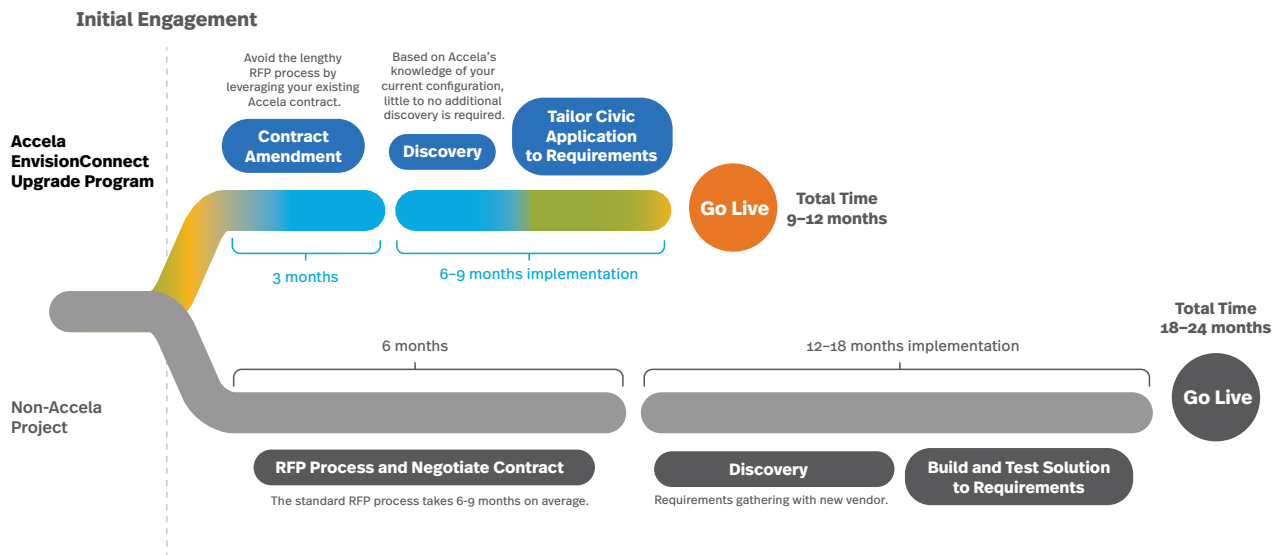
2. **Report Migration:** The toolset for EnvisionConnect upgrades includes a rich report conversion capability to migrate Crystal and SRSS reports from EnvisionConnect to Accela Environmental Health. Utilizing input from Decade employees who are now with Accela, these automated report conversion tools save hundreds of hours of report rewriting work and guarantee that crucial forms and analytics functions are maintained. To add value, Accela Environmental Health includes access to built-in Power BI dashboards.

3. **Combined License:** Billing for EnvisionConnect is eliminated while upgrading to Accela. Your agency will continue to have access to EnvisionConnect and conduct business as usual during the refresh process. This minimizes risk to you and provides two systems for one fee, resulting in substantial savings.

4. **Access to Historical Data:** The program includes an option to retain and use a read-only copy of EnvisionConnect for historical reference. This option can supplement your data retention needs. You may rest assured that any data your agency needs will be available electronically.

5. **Experienced Experts:** Accela staff have decades of experience in environmental health and hazmat programs and are highly skilled in both Decade and Accela software environments and will provide valuable guidance throughout the project. Additional benefits include a strong user community and training resources, including live classroom and on-demand learning via Accela University.

Initial Engagement

Accela EnvisionConnect Upgrade Program

Avoid the lengthy RFP process by leveraging your existing Accela contract.

Based on Accela's knowledge of your current configuration, little to no additional discovery is required.

Contract Amendment

Discovery

Tailor Civic Application to Requirements

Go Live

Total Time 9–12 months

3 months

6–9 months implementation

Non-Accela Project

6 months

12–18 months implementation

Total Time 18–24 months

Go Live

RFP Process and Negotiate Contract

The standard RFP process takes 6-9 months on average.

Discovery

Requirements gathering with new vendor.

Build and Test Solution to Requirements

Accela's Environmental Health Software

A central element of the EnvisionConnect Upgrade Program is the Civic Application for Environmental Health, built on the Accela Civic Platform, which provides the essential foundation (security, search, workflow, reporting, etc.). This solution, built specifically for environmental health agencies, modernizes the application submission, plan review, inspection, payment, permit issuance, invoicing, and renewal processes. For Decade customers, an upgrade to Accela delivers benchmark EnvisionConnect capabilities while introducing transformative features, including:

A public web portal

The public portal, Accela Citizen Access, is included and is a configurable web interface that empowers customers to submit applications and plan reviews, upload documents, make payments, and receive status updates 24/7.
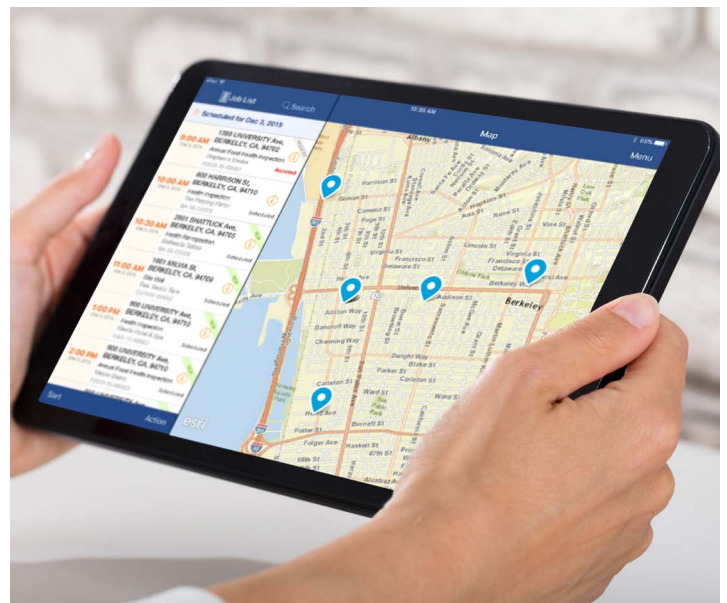
Rich workflow engine

Behind the scenes, Accela's workflow engine can be configured to automate steps in the permitting process traditionally bogged down by manual coordination. Agency staff can easily see what information is still pending, or has already been collected and when, so that services can be delivered within mandated time frames, and with increased accuracy.
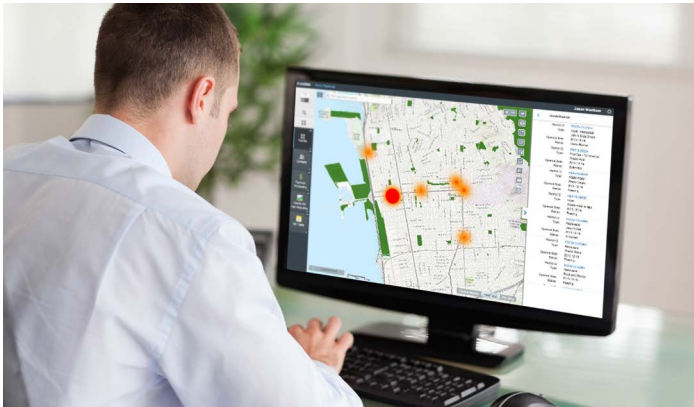
Automatic notifications

Also included are automatic notifications, so back-office staff no longer need to manually create notes and send emails about upcoming permit renewals, permit expiration dates, or corrective action notices – they can be configured to be delivered electronically. Notifications are stored in the system, not hidden in individual mailboxes.

An intuitive field inspection app

On the field inspection side, Accela Mobile drives the inspectors' workday via an intuitive mobile interface, consolidating paper files and checklists into the mobile platform of choice. Offline syncing is built in for areas with limited connectivity.

GIS integration

Deep GIS integration facilitates inspection assignments with optimized scheduling and routing and enables staff to see filtered views of facilities. Regulatory data can be visualized geographically, offering new insights not available before.

Reports and dashboards

Extending these analytics capabilities, Accela Insights, powered by Microsoft Power BI, offers integrated dashboards and reporting. Management can measure, track, and analyze productivity to make more informed strategic decisions about staffing, fees, and health code violation trends.

Enterprise approach for cross-department integration

For 20+ years, Accela has specialized in developing and supporting software for regulatory compliance for governmental agencies. As a result, Accela is uniquely positioned with our purpose-built environmental health application to integrate and collaborate across departmental boundaries (Planning, Building, Fire, etc.), as well as across jurisdictions. This enables agencies to work cross-functionally and easily share workflows and data with other Accela users if desired.

While purpose-built to manage the core functions of environmental health departments and support a variety of programs, from retail food to hazardous materials, Accela Environmental Health is extremely flexible, and can be modified and configured to other functions and programs as required.

For more information, see the **Accela Environmental Health Solution Overview**.

Get Started

Reach out to your Accela Account Executive with questions and schedule a meeting with our subject matter experts. They can provide additional details on the unique migration tools and automation Accela has created specifically for Decade customers and will create an upgrade plan and a timeline that works best for your agency and the constituents you serve. For more information visit: **accela.com/eh.**

About Accela

Accela provides market-leading SaaS solutions that empower governments worldwide to build thriving communities, grow businesses, and protect citizens. Powered by Microsoft Azure, Accela's open and flexible technology helps agencies accelerate efficiency and transparency today, while ensuring they are prepared for any emergency or complex challenge in the future.