

Regulated Buyers: What to Prioritize (and Avoid) in a CMMS

Too many manufacturers learn the hard way that not all CMMS platforms are built to handle the complexity of compliance-focused operations.

Here are the **critical categories to assess**:

Work Order Management and Traceability

LOOK FOR

Systems that track task completion and technician identity, part usage, and linked asset history. This is essential for root cause analysis and proving compliance during audits.

AVOID

Systems that capture minimal data or allow edits without logging changes. These gaps undermine data integrity and make compliance validation difficult.

Preventive Maintenance Scheduling

LOOK FOR

Automation based on time, usage, or condition to ensure equipment is maintained proactively.

AVOID

Static PM schedules that don't adjust to actual operating conditions or rely on manual input.

Digital Audit Trails and Signatures

LOOK FOR

Built-in timestamping, role-based signatures, and change history for every action taken in the system.

AVOID

CMMS platforms that treat audit trails as an add-on or require external validation tools.

Mobile-Friendly, Technician-First Interface

LOOK FOR

Intuitive mobile access that allows technicians to log work, scan assets, and access instructions in real time.

AVOID

Desktop-only tools that delay data entry and reduce adoption on the floor.

System Integration (ERP, MES, SCADA)

LOOK FOR

Out-of-the-box or configurable integrations with the systems your operations and IT teams rely on.

AVOID

CMMS platforms that force duplicate data entry or require custom development for basic connections.

Access Control and Deployment Flexibility

LOOK FOR

Role-based access permissions and deployment models that fit your IT and regulatory requirements—on-prem, cloud, or hybrid.

AVOID

Systems with rigid hosting options or limited security configuration.