Open-Loop Fare Collection:

System Integrator vs Modular Approach



System Integration

A custom-built solution that handles the entire process from design to maintenance but requires high upfront investment.



Modular Approach

A flexible, plug-and-play model that is API-driven and more cost-efficient, ideal for agencies of all sizes.

	System Integrator	Modular Approach
Minimum Scale	500+ vehicles	1+ vehicle
Build Model	Design, build, operate, & maintain	Plug-and-play
Design & Development	CUSTON MADE Bespoke & highly specified	Standardized, API-based
Upfront Cost	\$ Millions	\$ Thousands
Hardware Choice	Single vendor lock-in	Multiple compatible vendors
Hardware Cost	Lack of competition inflates prices	Competition drives prices down
Software Upgrades	LOADING Infrequent & costly	Continual & free
Speed to Market	2+ years	2-3 months



Key Takeaways

System Integration

- *High costs* due to bespoke design and vendor lock-in
- Long implementation timeline
- *Limited flexibility* and higher long-term maintenance costs

Modular Approach

- Low up-front costs and competitive pricing through vendor variety
- *Rapid deployment*, scalable even for small agencies
- Continual updates and future-proof through API-based system



