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Organizational structure is crucial for helping leaders and employees understand the makeup of teams, reporting relationships, and how to align people with growth and expansion plans. According to a global survey of over 7,000 senior executives, organizational structure and design was the named the most important human capital issue by 92 percent of respondents.[1]

Given the importance of organizational structure in achieving company goals, it's necessary to carefully assess the many solutions available for addressing employee and organizational planning needs. However, rather than choosing just any org chart platform, it's important to identify a solution that aligns with corporate strategic goals and any other HR or IT platforms already used within the organization. As outlined in this vendor comparison chart, Pingboard offers a broad array of live org chart functionality, serving the informational and planning needs of both employees and organizational leaders.

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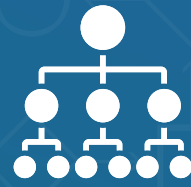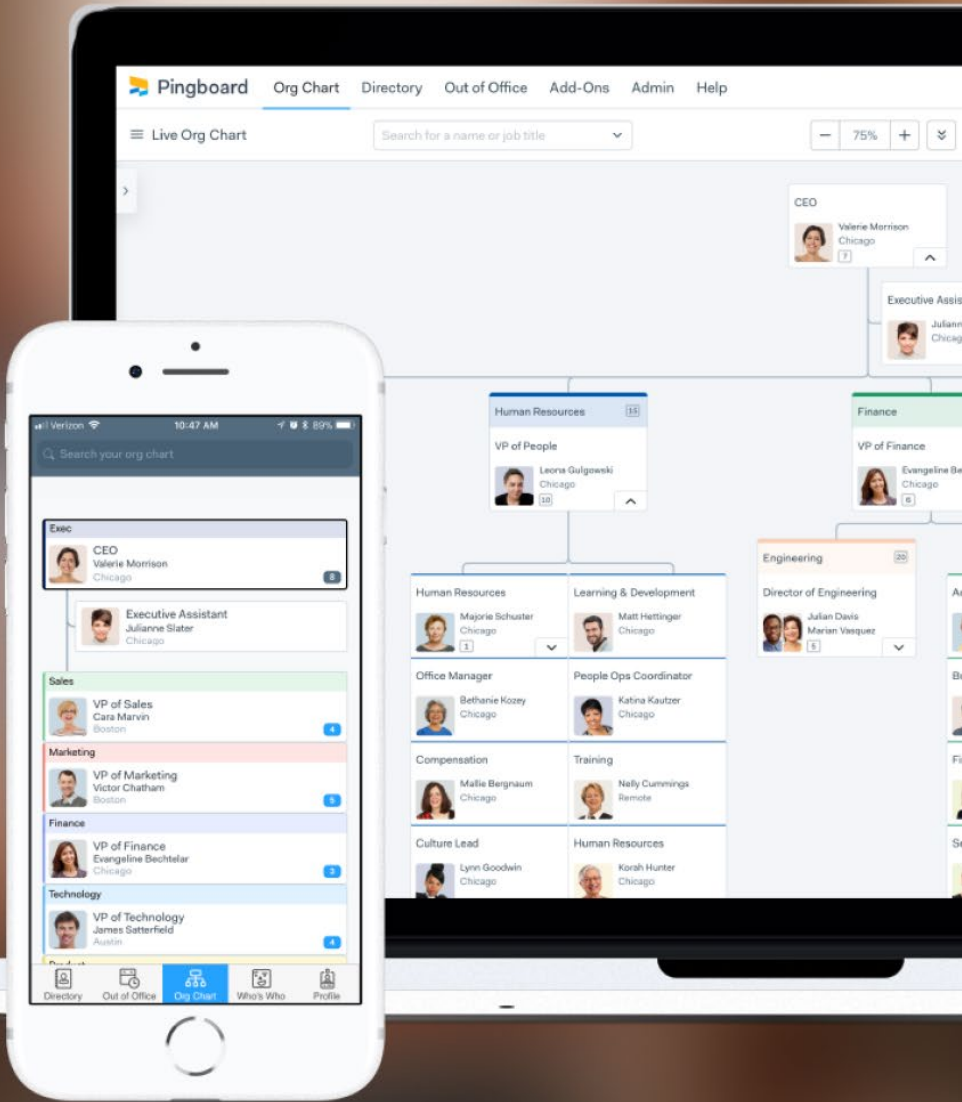
The Benefits of Live Org Charts

There are many ways to create an org chart, but an org chart will only be effective if it addresses the real talent management challenges that your organization faces. Live org charts help drive organizational efficiency and bring clarity to roles and team accountabilities. In addition, the interactive functionality of live org charts helps shape a culture where employees and teams are aligned and understand how they fit into the broader organization. Here are some of the ways a live org chart can make a difference in your organization:

Providing a Clear View of the Whole Organization

In an age where organizations are more complex and have employees located in different locations, an org chart helps bring order to the chaos, providing leaders and employees with a complete and accurate view of the organization. Your team will have instant access to know who's who and who does what. Live org charts show the organization as it is structured in real time, and they can help managers identify and address leadership gaps and structural flaws that might not be evident otherwise.

According to the McKinsey Organizational Health Index, organizations with clear and accountable roles are 76 percent more likely to possess top-quartile organizational health.[2] Live org charts help clarify reporting relationships and accountabilities, allowing employees to quickly put a name to a face and know who does what.

Creating Efficiencies

When employees know where to go or who to ask for information, they waste less time searching. One study found that an employee can spend nearly 20 percent of the workweek trying to figure out who to go to for certain information, and that a searchable record of knowledge can reduce the time spent searching by as much as 35 percent.[3] With live org charts, employees have an easy way to find coworkers who have the information they may be looking for, including who else to talk to when the primary person is unavailable.

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Supporting Employee Onboarding

When a new hire comes on board, it's important for them to learn how their role and those of other employees fit into the organization. Giving a new hire access to a live org chart before or on their hire date will radically decrease their time to ramp up and will help them learn more about their colleagues and team.

New employees also need to be able to trust the data they see in the org chart, and static org charts can quickly become outdated. In contrast, live org charts allow employees to see organizational changes in real time, ensuring that their organizational knowledge stays relevant.

Supporting Workforce Planning

When an organization is growing, the org chart needs to grow with it. Live org charts help organizational leaders collaborate on key hiring plans, reorganization scenarios, and succession plans, all with the benefit of being able to create and share private org charts with specific individuals before the charts are made public. A live org chart also helps illustrate and compare current and future organization structures, allowing leaders to visualize the company's growth at different stages.

"One study found that an employee can spend nearly 20 percent of the workweek trying to figure out who to go to for certain information, and that a searchable record of knowledge can reduce the time spent searching by as much as 35 percent."

NEW HIRE

WORKER

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

VICE PR
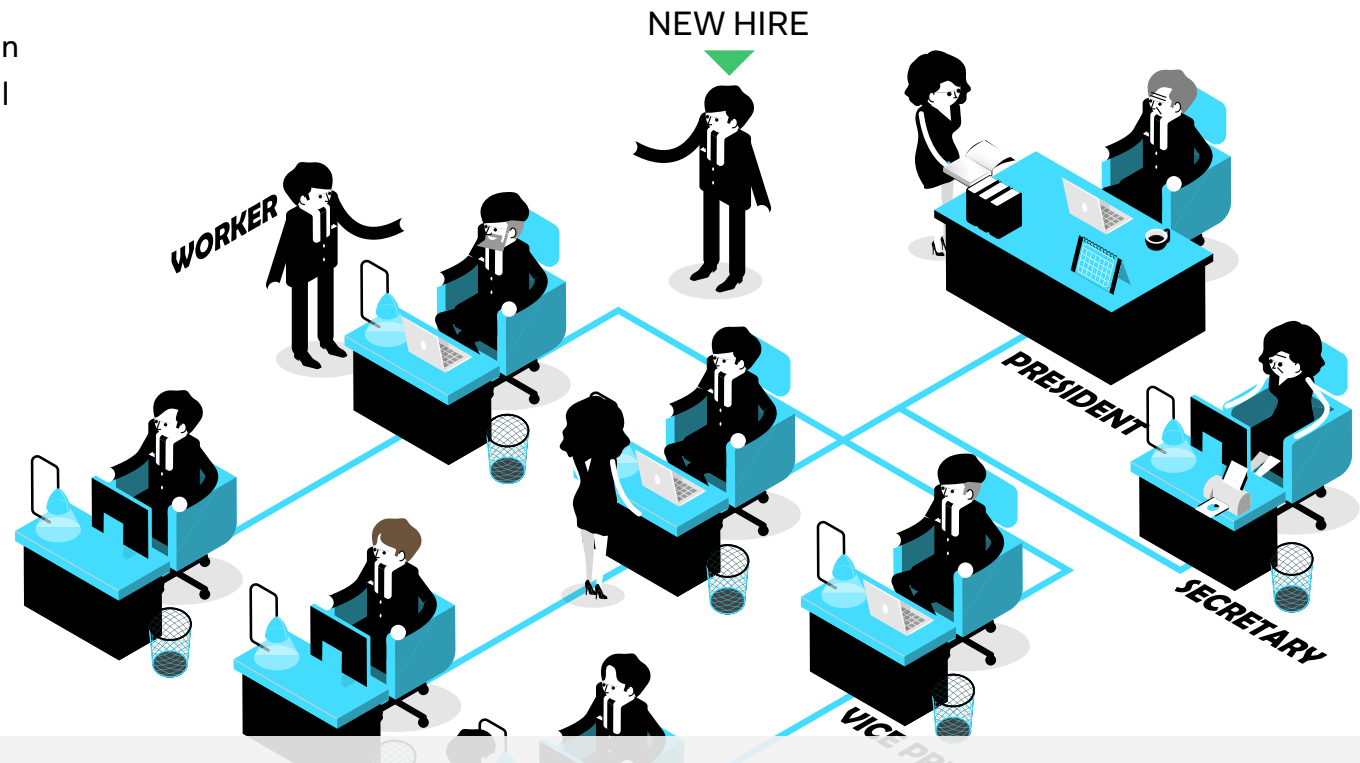
Enhancing Company Culture

Pairing faces with names is one of the simplest ways to help employees feel more connected. Live org charts provide more than a name in a box. They can help bridge the gaps between teams by offering the ability to view coworker profiles, photos, favorite foods, and much more. In addition, a live org chart supports a culture of transparency and collaboration by providing new ways for employees to connect and communicate regarding shared interests.

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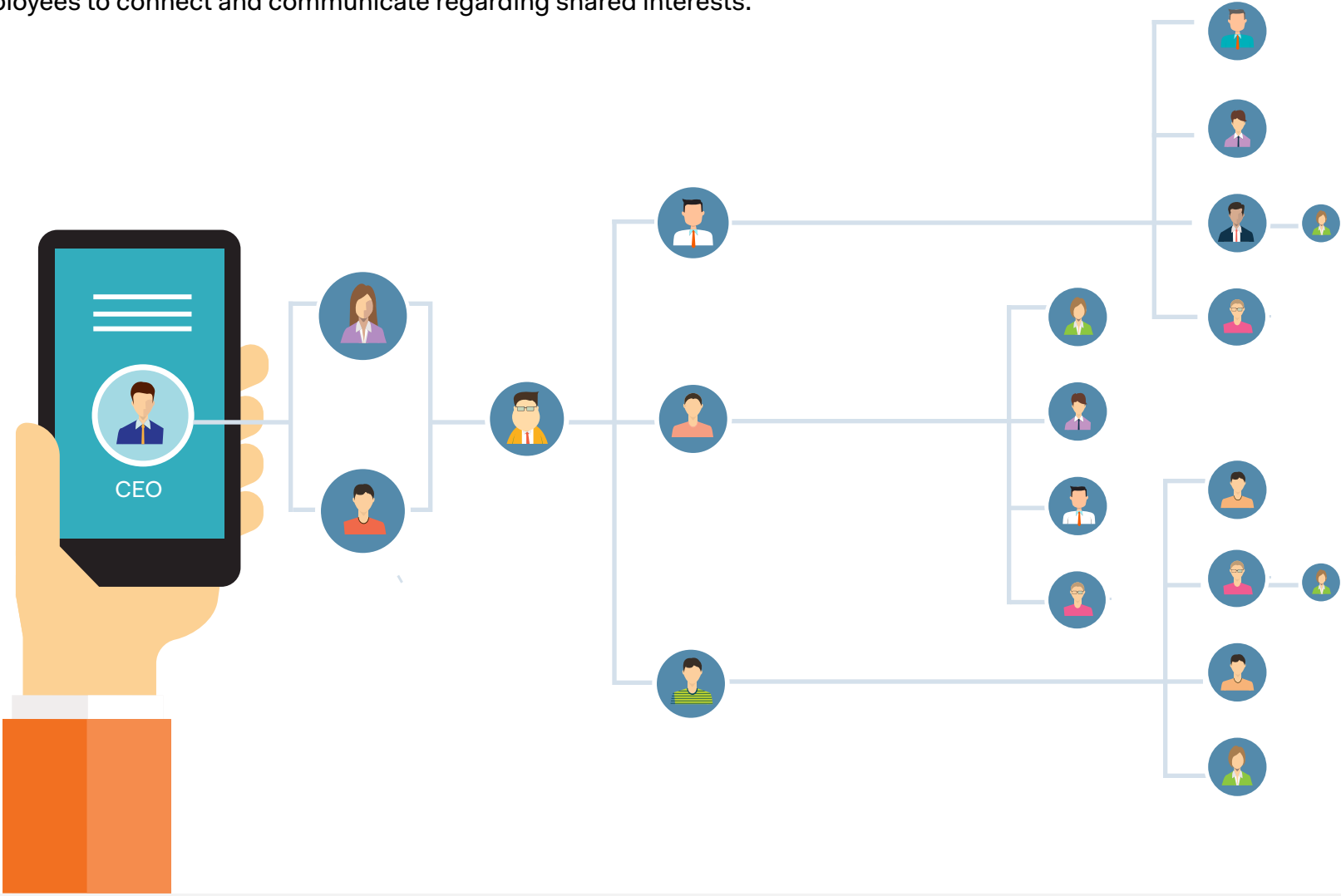
# Align Organizational Goals with the Ideal Org Chart Solution

When choosing from a myriad of org chart software tools, it's important to consider your immediate and long-term strategic goals and how an org chart solution can help you achieve them. To get started, ask the following questions:

- How important is it for your employees to know who's who and who does what? How will that knowledge help the business achieve its goals?

- Do employees derive value from digital workplace tools and internal information-sharing technology?

- What tools and software do you currently use to keep your organization aligned?

- Do you have a way to plan and illustrate future reorganization or hiring scenarios?

- Could you benefit from having new ways to create and share succession plans?

"A live org chart also helps illustrate and compare current and future organization structures, allowing leaders to visualize the company's growth at different stages."
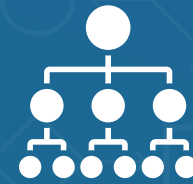
Vendor Selection: Align Your Goals with the Right Partner

When considering partners to bring your organizational structure alive, you want great support and the ability to integrate with other systems, not just a list of features that may or may not address your needs. In addition to key features, make sure you consider the following factors:

- Alignment with organizational goals and existing HR or IT platforms
- Support and onboarding/training
- Immediate and long-term costs and fees—are there any hidden costs, required contracts, or required time commitments from employees?
- Scalability of the solution and its related features
- Security

"Pairing faces with names is one of the simplest ways to help employees feel more connected. Live org charts provide more than a name in a box."
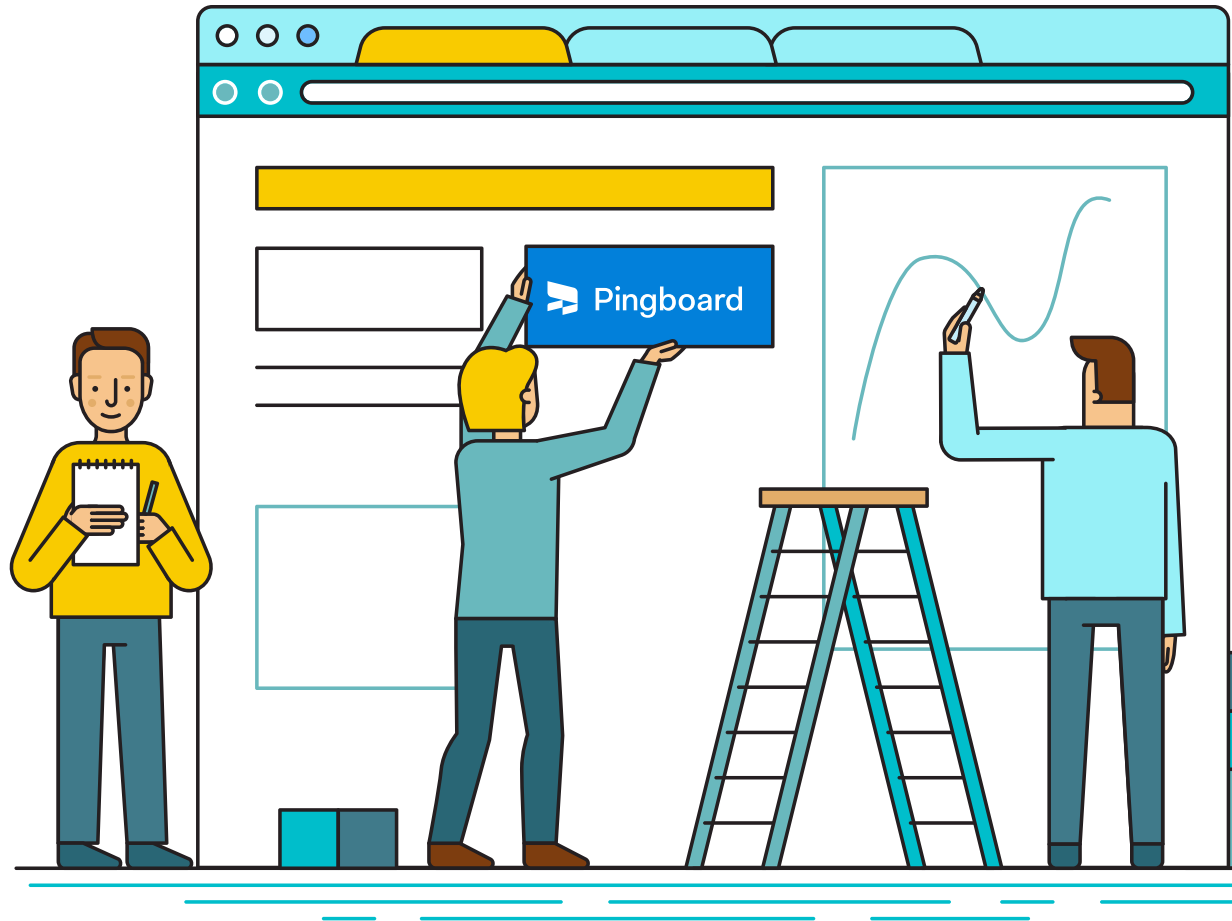
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Comparing Pingboard with Other Org Chart Solutions

We've compiled a comprehensive comparison of the Pingboard live org chart solution with a range of org chart software vendors. See the difference for yourself.
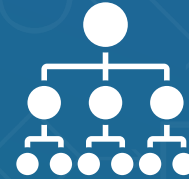
FEATURES

Vendor Comparison Chart

Vendor	Employee Directory	Interactive Org Chart	Automatic updating with HR/IT data	Mobile Apps	Advanced Search	Gamification	Printing	Multiple Org Charts	Dotted Line Reporting	Shared Roles	Assistant Role	Workforce Planning	Out of Office Tracking	Email Support	Knowlege Base	1:1 Onboarding/Training	Money Back Guarantee	Custom Terms & Payment Options	Free Trial on Paid Plans
	KEY CAPABILITIES													**SUPPORT**			**PRICING**		
Pingboard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Microsoft Visio								✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
LucidChart				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
Airtable				✓					✓	✓				✓	✓	$			✓
OrgWeaver	✓	✓			✓			✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Organimi	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	
OrgPlus	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	$		✓	✓
OrgWiki			✓	✓	✓							✓			✓				✓
OrgChart Pro	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

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DICTIONARY

EMPLOYEE DIRECTORY	Everything about your teams in one place: photos, bios, contact information, skills, interests, team information, and custom fields.
INTERACTIVE ORG CHART	Fully interactive org chart, allowing employees to control what they see and how its displayed
MOBILE APPS	Download an app for your Android or iPhone and stay connected to your team's information wherever you are
AUTOMATIC UPDATING WITH HR/IT DATA	Integrate with your HR or IT software to keep your org chart up to date automatically.
ADVANCED SEARCH	Search across several attributes at once – for instance when you need to find a teammate, who is an Illustrator, who also knows how to use Photoshop
GAMIFICATION	Learn names and faces with the Who's Who flashcard game.
PRINTING	Full printing capability
MULTIPLE ORG CHARTS	Create multiple org charts, including private org charts that can be promoted publicly on demand
DOTTED LINE REPORTING	Dotted Lines are the perfect way to represent complex or secondary relationships on your Org Chart.
SHARED ROLES	Shared Roles represent positions shared by two people on your Org Chart.
ASSISTANT ROLE	Add an employee as an assistant in your org chart.
WORKFORCE PLANNING	Show placeholder roles for positions that are "to be hired." Develop versions of the Org Chart to be used in reorgs. Organize people into departments and office locations
OUT OF OFFICE TRACKING	Track time off by sharing a status update from your phone. When your team enters time off, automatically keep everyone in the loop with smart notifications.

DICTIONARY

EMAIL SUPPORT	Full-time email and phone support
KNOWLEDGE BASE	Extensive, searchable knowledge base
1:1 ONBOARDING/TRAINING	A Customer Success team will help you customize your org chart, integrate with your source for employee data, and roll out successfully to your employees.
MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE	90-day Money - Back Guarantee on all plans
CUSTOM TERMS AND PAYMENT OPTIONS	Multiple plans and special pricing for large organizations
FREE TRIAL ON PAID PLANS	Free 7-day trial on all paid plans

Select the Best Org Chart Solution to Meet Your Needs:

Consider Pingboard

Choosing the right org chart solution involves much more than the number of features or total price, especially if the solution doesn't meet your organizational goals or doesn't integrate well with the HR or IT platforms you're already using. You now have the information to determine which org chart solution will support your organization's workforce planning activities and bring your organizational structure alive.

With our live org chart technology, Pingboard has helped a variety of organizations create over 13,500 org charts, covering nearly every kind of company structure out there. With rich features and integrations that help you use your org chart across a range of IT or HR platforms, we make it easy to plan for growth and help employees learn how they fit into the broader organization. We help build org charts with superpowers. Request a demo to see how Pingboard can help transform your organizational structure.

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Pingboard

Pingboard is the real-time, collaborative org chart software that makes it easy to organize teams, plan for growth, and keep everyone informed.

GET STARTED FOR FREE

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