Importing Estimates from Cubit

Bring a Buildsoft Cubit estimate straight into your BOQ — both export styles, no column copy-paste

Deep Space Horizon · Preconstruction · Estimation · September 2026

1. What this does

Cubit is where a lot of estimates are built — but getting one into Horizon used to mean copying columns into a template by hand. The **Cubit Import** tab reads a raw Cubit export *directly*: it fills in the fields Deep Space needs, matches your cost codes, keeps deductions signed, and drops every line into the review step ready to fine-tune.

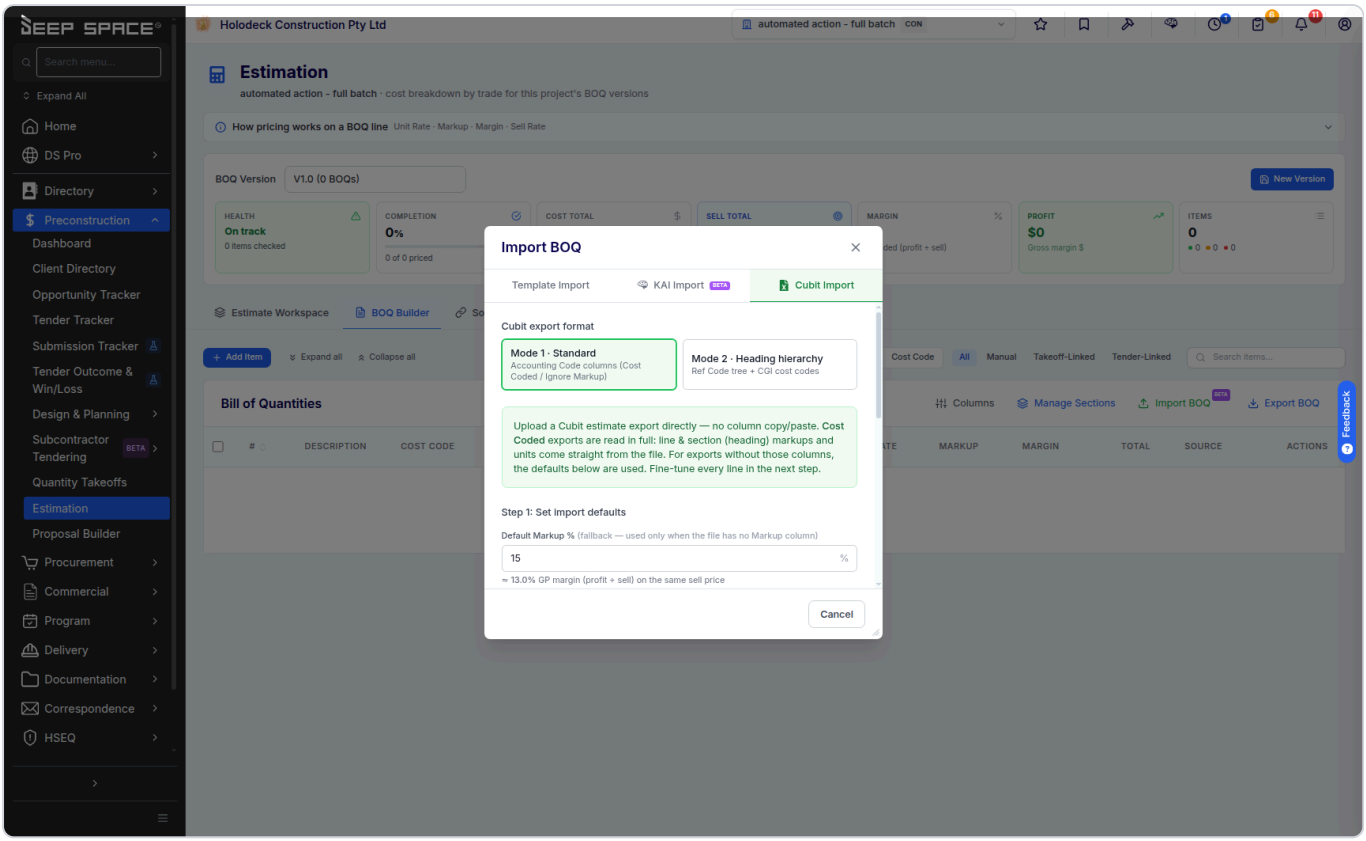
Cubit doesn't export the same way for everyone, so the tab supports **two export styles**, chosen with a toggle at the top:

- **Mode 1 · Standard** — the common *Accounting Code* layout (both the flat "Ignore Markup" export and the hierarchical "Cost Coded" export).
- **Mode 2 · Heading hierarchy** — the "Format 2" export whose rows carry a *Heading Ref Code* / *Ref Code* tree and a *CGI COST C* code column.

> Both modes flow into the **same review step** and the same create pipeline — so whichever style you upload, nothing lands on the BOQ until you've checked it and pressed **Create**.

2. Where to find it

Open **Preconstruction → Estimation → BOQ Builder**, choose (or create) the **BOQ Version** you want to import into, then click **Import BOQ** and select the **Cubit Import** tab.



BOQ Builder → Import BOQ → Cubit Import. The **Cubit export format** toggle sits at the top — here Mode 1 · Standard is selected.

3. Choosing the export format

Pick the format that matches your file. Open the export in Excel and look at the column headers:

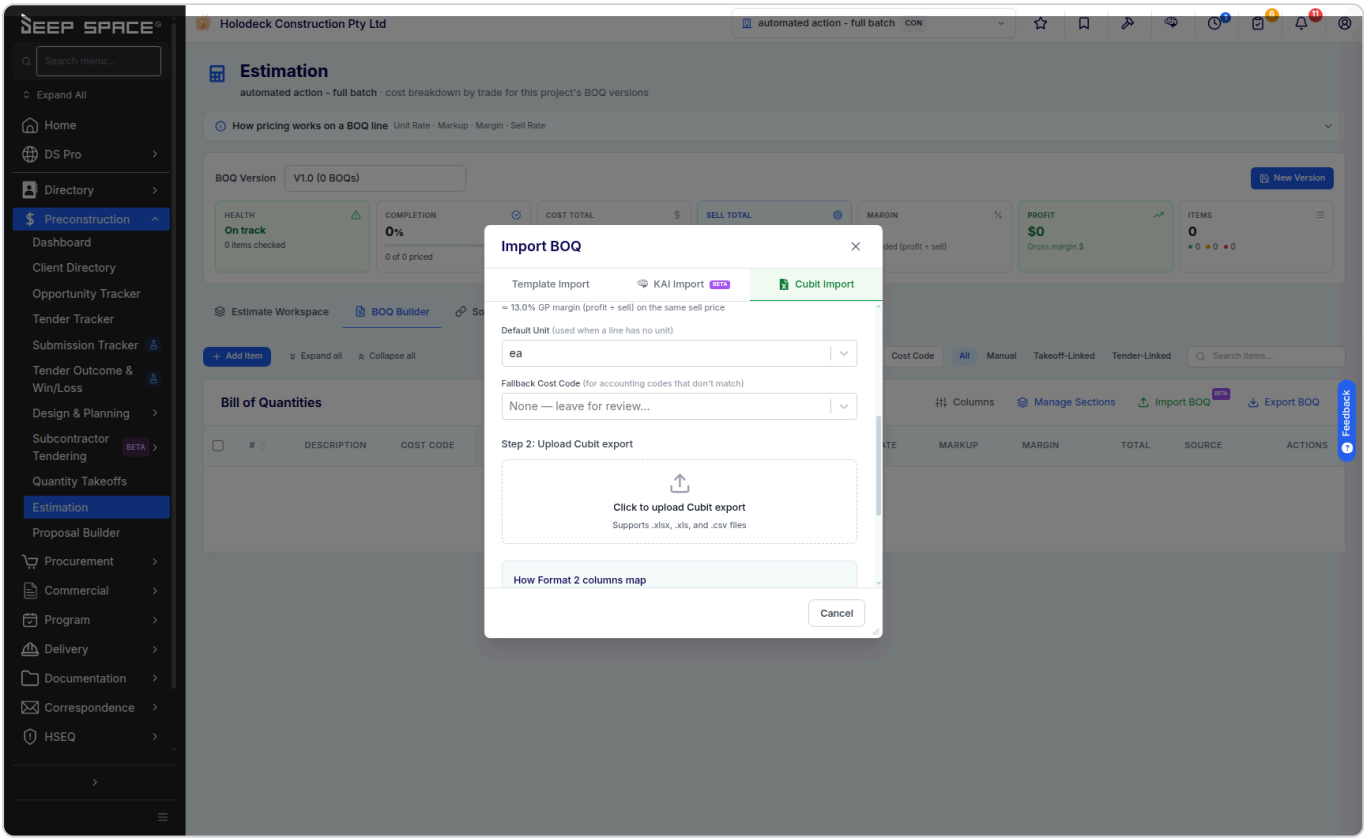
Your Cubit export's columns	Choose	Looks like
Accounting Code, Description, Quantity, Unit Price / Rate, Amount — a flat list, or a *Cost Coded* export that also has Markup, Factor and "Marked up Rate * Factor" columns	**Mode 1 · Standard**	The first column is your own cost / accounting code.
Heading Ref Code, Ref Code, Description, Quantity, Unit, Marked up Rate * Factor, Total, CGI COST C	**Mode 2 · Heading hierarchy**	Section headings sit inline; a separate CGI COST C column holds the cost code.

If you choose the wrong one, the upload gives a clear message telling you to switch — it won't import garbage.

4. Set the import defaults

Cubit exports don’t always carry everything Deep Space stores, so three defaults (shared by both modes) fill the gaps. You can still fine-tune every line in the review step.

Default	What it does
Default Markup %	Turns a line’s cost into its **sell** rate: `Sell = Cost × (1 + Markup%)`. The live hint shows the equivalent GP margin. In Mode 2 (and the flat Mode 1 export) it applies to every line; in a Mode 1 *Cost Coded* export it’s only a fallback — the file’s own markups win.
Default Unit	Used for any line whose export has no unit of measure (e.g. lump-sum “Item” lines).
Fallback Cost Code	Optional. Any line whose code doesn’t match a workspace cost code is assigned this one. Leave it blank to handle unmatched lines individually in the review step.



Step 1 sets the defaults (Markup %, Default Unit, Fallback Cost Code); Step 2 is the upload. A reference card below shows exactly how the file’s columns map.

5. Mode 1 · Standard export

Mode 1 reads the classic Cubit layout — both the flat “Ignore Markup” export and the hierarchical “Cost Coded” export.

Cubit column	Becomes in Deep Space
Cost Code (first column)	Matched to a workspace cost code (falls back to the default)
Description	BOQ Name
Quantity / Unit	Qty / Unit
Rate + line Markup	Cost Rate = Rate × (1 + line markup)
Section (heading) Markup	Sell = Cost Rate × (1 + section markup)

Section headings are **not** imported as line items — in a Cost Coded export, a heading’s Markup % is the margin applied to every line beneath it, and nested headings compound correctly. Deductions and omits keep their sign, so a negative line reduces the total instead of inflating it.

> If your export has **no Markup column** (the “Ignore Markup” flat export), the **Default Markup %** from Step 1 is used to produce the sell rate.

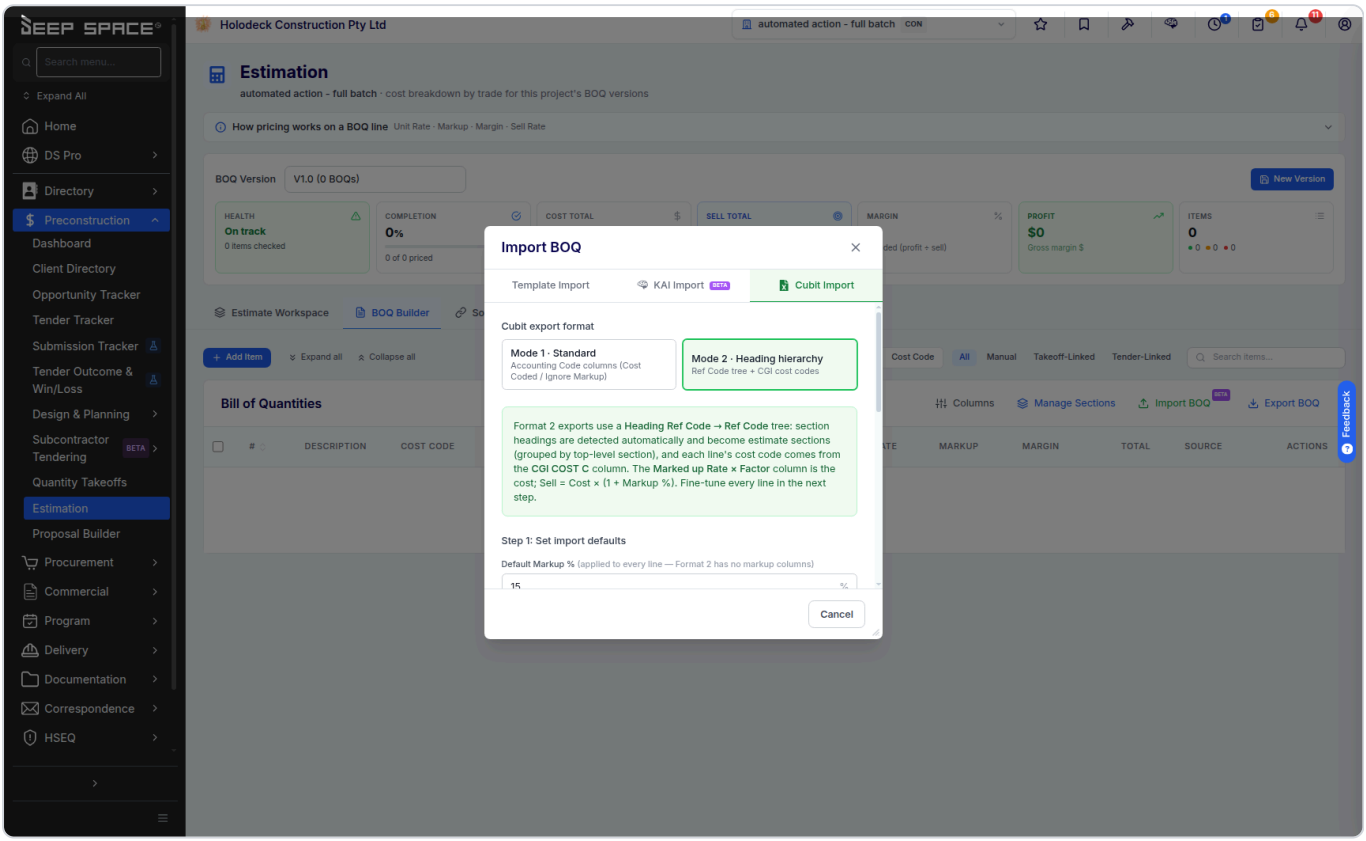
6. Mode 2 · Heading hierarchy (Format 2)

Format 2 encodes structure as a tree: each row carries its own **Ref Code** and its parent heading’s code in **Heading Ref Code**. Horizon uses that to work out, automatically, which rows are section headings and which are line items — a heading is any row that another row points to as its parent (top-level sections have a blank Heading Ref Code).

Cubit column	Becomes in Deep Space
Heading Ref Code / Ref Code	Section hierarchy (headings are not imported as lines)
Description	BOQ Name
Quantity / Unit	Qty / Unit
Marked up Rate * Factor	Cost Rate (signed — deductions kept)
CGI COST C	Cost Code (matched to a workspace cost code; falls back to the default)

Sell = Cost Rate × (1 + Default Markup %) · every line grouped under its top-level section

- The cost code comes from **CGI COST C** — not the Ref Code, which is Cubit's internal id.
- Format 2 has no markup columns, so **Sell** comes from your Default Markup % (set it to `0` if the rate is already your sell price).
- Each line is filed under its **top-level** section (e.g. *Preliminaries*, *Architectural*); those sections are created for you on import.
- Lines marked *INCL* / *EXCL* import as $0 scope lines; blank placeholder rows are skipped; negative lines keep their sign.

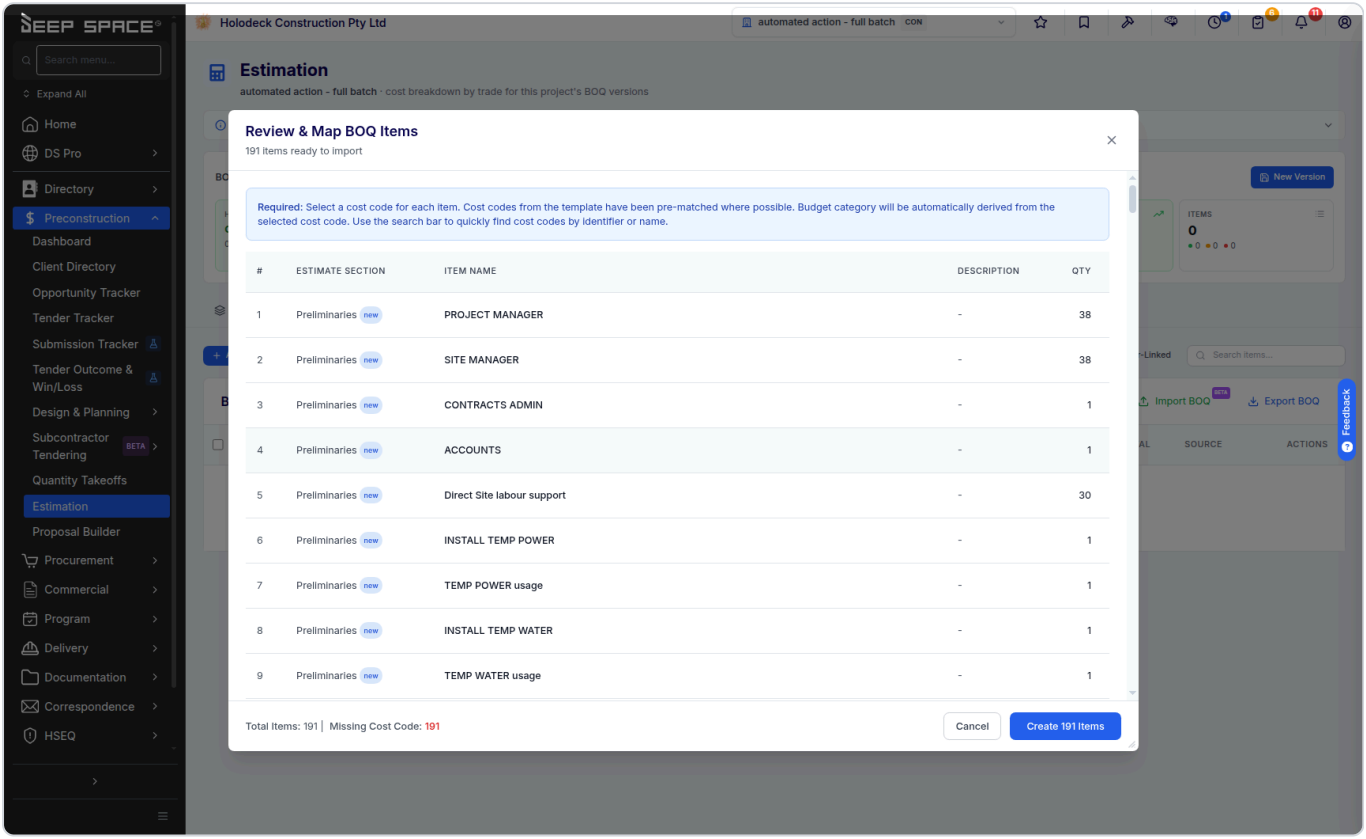


Mode 2 · Heading hierarchy selected. The green note summarises how Format 2 is read; the column-map reference and defaults update to match the mode.

7. Review and create

Uploading doesn't change your BOQ — it opens the **Review & Map BOQ Items** step. Here you can:

- See every parsed line with its quantity, and (for Mode 2) the **estimate section** it will sit under — sections that don't exist yet are marked new and created on import.
- Confirm or set the **cost code** for each line. Lines whose code didn't match are flagged so you can pick one (or rely on the fallback you set in Step 1).
- Edit any figure before committing — nothing is written until you press **Create**.



The review step after a Format 2 import: 191 line items ready, each grouped under its top-level estimate section (shown here under *Preliminaries*, flagged *new* to be created). The footer tallies items and any lines still needing a cost code.

8. Good to know

- **Pick your BOQ version first.** The import lands in whichever version is selected.
- **Deductions are safe.** Negative quantities, rates and omit lines keep their sign in both modes, so the imported total matches the estimate.
- **Nothing is auto-committed.** Review is always the last gate — cancel and re-upload as often as you like.
- **Just deployed?** If the format toggle isn't showing, refresh the browser tab to pick up the latest version.