Rescuing Collections Teams from the Email Abyss: A Human-Centered Approach to Automation

By: Amanda Wilson, SVP Sales, Billtrust

Originally published in the Credit Research Foundation's publication, Perspective by CRF (Q3 2025)

Collections professionals are facing a quiet crisis. Not one of capability, but of capacity. The daily grind of managing accounts receivable has become increasingly unsustainable, with inboxes overflowing and burnout rising. The problem isn't just operational, it's strategic. When collectors are buried in administrative tasks, the financial health of the organization is at risk.

At the heart of the issue is email. According to industry data, collectors spend an average of eight minutes per email. This time isn't spent on high-value activities like negotiating payments or resolving disputes. Instead, it's consumed by context-switching: locating account details, parsing long email threads, extracting relevant information, and manually updating systems. Multiply that by hundreds of emails per week, and the cost, in both human and financial terms, becomes staggering.

The Hidden Cost of Inefficiency

Busywork in collections is more than a morale killer – it's a direct threat to working capital. When collectors are overwhelmed, accounts go...

This article is only available to members of the Credit Research Foundation (CRF).

Interested in reading more? Join CRF to gain access to this and hundreds of other resources! **CLICK HERE** for membership information.

About the Author



Amanda Wilson, Senior Vice President, Sales at Billtrust, is a SaaS subject matter expert and sales executive with over 15 years of experience in building relationships and driving tangible results for her clients in the accounts receivable space.