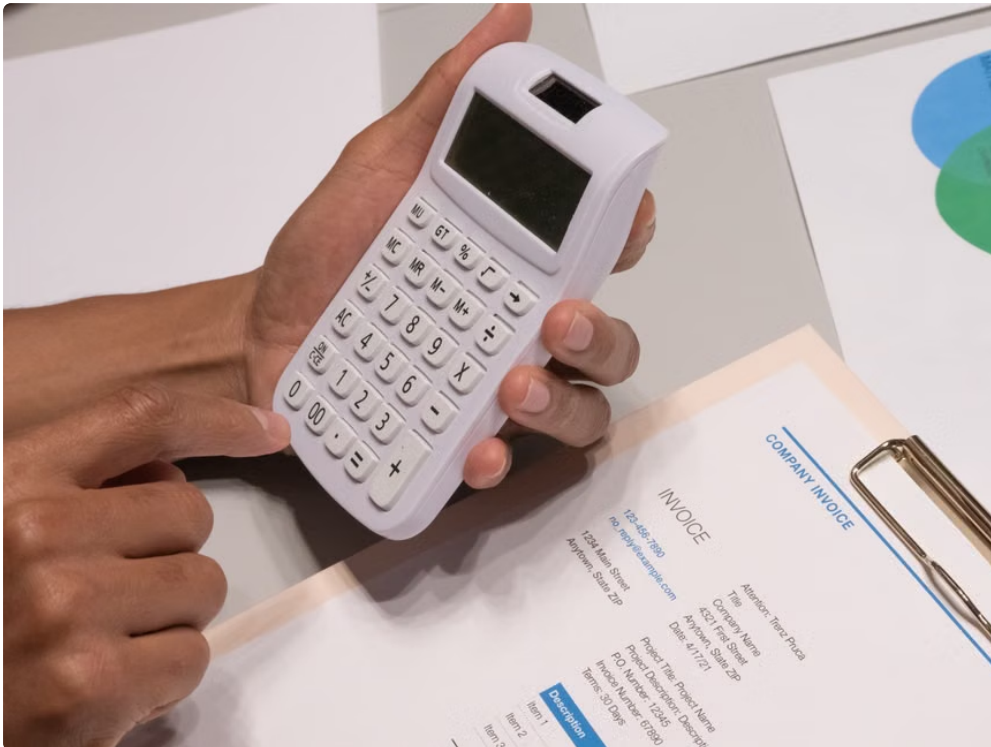


In the evolving world of corporate spend management and banking platforms, startups and growing companies face a complex decision: which platform delivers not just treasury yield on idle operating cash, but also offers broader tooling that can scale—and crucially, won't trip companies up during month-end close? Among the rising players, Rho and Arc stand out. Both pitch "all-in-one" solutions, but let's be clear: an all-in-one doesn't mean one layer. Instead, it often means stitching together multiple layers that each come with their own compromises and risks.. Pretty simple.

We'll also look at **Every** briefly, which exemplifies what a true accounting-native platform looks like, providing important context on how native accounting compares to the more common bank-platform-to-accounting integration approach.



The Challenges of Treasury Yield in Corporate Banking Platforms

Before diving into vendor comparisons, let's get the fundamental theme right: how treasury yield on idle operating cash is delivered. Many startups and small finance teams expect their ontpinvest.com banking platform to help them earn interest on cash sitting idle, which is common during normal business cycles. But the "how" behind the yield is often obscured by marketing glosses calling every platform "high yield."



Treasury Yield Delivery Mechanisms

- **Actual Yield vs Headline Rate:** Some platforms embed your cash in money market funds or sweep accounts which yield modest returns but with regulatory and liquidity constraints.
- **Yield Source:** Where exactly does the yield come from? Is it from bank sweep programs, investment funds, or promise of future earnings?
- **Control & Liquidity:** Does earning yield tie up your cash longer? Can you access it instantly if a big AP payment hits?

When evaluating Rho vs Arc on treasury yield, it's crucial to ask, "What happens when headcount doubles and cash management complexity explodes?" The solution must scale without surprises at month-end reconciliation.

All-in-One Means Five Layers, Not Just Checking

Both Rho and Arc market themselves as all-in-one spend platforms providing business banking, corporate cards, AP automation, and accounting sync. But from my 12 years of operator-analyst experience helping companies untangle messy stacks after growth spurts, "all-in-one" rarely means a single monolith replacing all finance tools.

Usually, it means layering multiple products or modules that each co-exist with their own data schemas, sync delays, or reconciliation challenges:

1. **Banking Layer:** Checking accounts, yield-bearing accounts
2. **Card Issuance and Management:** Physical & virtual cards tied to accounts
3. **AP & Bill Pay Automation:** Vendor onboarding, approvals workflow
4. **Accounting Integration:** Syncing transactions to general ledger systems
5. **Expense Management:** Capturing employee spend and receipts

This layering often means hidden complexity—and hidden per-seat or per-module pricing. Marketing claims blur these layers, and often conflate banking with spend management tools.

Native Accounting vs Integration Sync Risk

One key difference across these platforms is the approach to accounting. There is a spectrum here:

- **Native Accounting:** The platform is built with accounting principles baked in, enabling real-time ledger updates.
- **Integration Sync:** The platform syncs transactional data to external accounting software (like QuickBooks, Xero, NetSuite) on a schedule, often daily.

Rho and Arc's Positioning on Accounting

Rho leans on integrations: their platform provides syncs to popular accounting tools, but the accounting system remains external. This means transaction matching, reconciliation, and ledger updates still require finance team oversight—and often manual fixes when syncs miss edge cases. The risk compounds at month-end close, when finance teams rely on up-to-date, accurate ledger data to finalize financial statements.

Arc offers tighter integrations with key accounting software but remains an integration rather than a native accounting platform. Its strength lies in how card and payment activities sync, but reconciliation still falls partially on the finance team's workflow.

Contrast these with **Every**, a platform built as native accounting software with embedded banking and card functions. Every's model reduces manual reconciliation risk and provides a smoother month-end close, but it may not offer as deep banking features or yield optimization.

Deep Dive: Treasury Yield on Idle Operating Cash

Platform	Yield Mechanism	Yield Rate	Range	Liquidity Impact
Rho	Cash sweep into FDIC-insured accounts via partner banks	0.50% to 1.00% (variable)	Funds accessible same-day; no lock-ups	
Arc	Yield offered via cash sweep to partner institutions	0.25% to 0.75%	Similar same-day liquidity; some tiered caps	
Every	Not focused on treasury yield; prioritizes accounting over yield	N/A	N/A	

While both Rho and Arc provide yield, Rho generally markets a slightly higher rate with fewer liquidity restrictions. But the devil is in the details: check if your daily operating cash can be fully swept or if large balances require manual handling. This matters heavily when your company scales.

AP Automation Depth vs Simple Bill Pay

Spend management is more than just issuing cards or paying bills. How deep is AP automation? How much manual intervention do you need? This directly impacts how clean your accounting data is during month-end close.

- **Rho:** Offers a robust AP automation module supporting invoice capture, automated approvals, vendor onboarding, and integrated payment workflows. This depth helps reduce manual errors, supports controls, and syncs payment status well into accounting software.
- **Arc:** Strong on straightforward bill pay and card management, but AP automation depth is shallower. It's more suited for early-stage companies with less complex vendors and invoice volume.
- **Every:** By nature, robust AP automation is core since it is an accounting-native tool. But it doesn't compete on banking features or yield directly.

In practice, Rho's deeper AP capabilities mean fewer vendor payment errors and reduced reconciliation headaches, which finance teams appreciate as operations grow.

Platform Breadth and Support: What Happens When Headcount Doubles?

When you choose a platform that promises all-in-one, ask yourself what happens when your team grows and operations become more complex. Can the platform scale with you without adding downstream friction?

Rho Pros and Cons

- **Pros:** Comprehensive banking with treasury yield, solid AP automation, broad integrations with accounting software.
- **Cons:** Native accounting is absent; syncs rely on external software, potential reconciliation delays at month-end; pricing can layer up with multiple modules.
- **Support:** Generally responsive; support load can spike with sync troubleshooting during growth phases.

Arc Pros and Cons

- **Pros:** Simple user experience, solid corporate cards, straightforward bill pay, competitive treasury yield.
- **Cons:** Less deep AP automation; accounting remains sync-based integration; can feel like a layer rather than end-to-end solution.
- **Support:** Strong onboarding, but complexity can overwhelm if volume and headcount double quickly.

Every in Context

Although not a direct competitor on banking or yield, Every's native accounting approach highlights the pain points finance teams face when reconciliation depends on syncs or batch updates. Fewer sync failures—especially in month-end close weeks—translate into fewer late nights for finance.

Summary & Recommendations

If treasury yield is your top priority, and you want solid banking along with AP automation depth, Rho's approach offers a compelling balance. Its yield delivery via cash sweeps is relatively transparent and you get depth in AP workflows that reduce reconciliation friction.

If your focus is straightforward spend management with a strong card program and you have lighter AP needs, Arc provides a clean user experience with competitive treasury yield. But prepare for the fact that your accounting will remain sync-based, so month-end close diligence is required.

Here's what kills me: meanwhile, platforms like every show the advantage of native accounting combined with spend tools—but currently lack deep banking or treasury yield features. This is a critical tradeoff: do you prioritize smooth month-end closure and ledger accuracy, or maximize yield and banking breadth?

Questions to Ask Before You Commit

1. How exactly is treasury yield earned and credited? What liquidity constraints apply?
2. Is the accounting component native or integrated? What does reconciliation look like at month-end close?
3. How deep is AP automation? Does it support invoice capture, approvals, vendor onboarding, and integrated payment tracking?
4. What hidden per-seat or per-module pricing can cause costs to balloon as headcount doubles?
5. What kind of support will you get during your first busy month-end close cycle?

Getting these answers can save your finance team painful surprises later.

Final Thought

“All-in-one” platforms are never truly one tool. They are layers that must work seamlessly to avoid breaking your month-end close and piling on reconciliation tasks. Rho and Arc represent two strong but distinct approaches to combining treasury yield with spend and accounting tooling. Knowing your company’s current needs—and where you want to be when headcount doubles—is the best way to choose between them.