

Numerous types of data are captured from a construction site each day. Quantity executed, visual evidence of work, safety and quality issues, work issues, etc. are just a few.

Yet one of the critical details they all share every day is time capture of resources — both human and equipment. We all have heard the saying “time is money.” It especially holds true for construction projects. Keeping a record of construction time is not only a challenge but also one of the greatest risks to project schedule and budget.

Accurate time records of labor and equipment are one of the important functions of construction management. At the same time, it is one of the hardest parts of the job to keep site records. Imagine being in the thick of a concrete pour and at the same time keeping track of the number of hours worked or number of trucks or other equipment utilized.

What follows are some best practices for digitalizing (and

Every construction project has a planning and an execution phase. Both are equally important. A good plan would not be successful unless the execution is managed as per the plan.

Time-related data is extremely valuable for successful project management. It not only provides the necessary information to payroll systems to calculate wages and distribute salaries but also provides the fundamental data to construction managers to track labor and equipment productivity and monitor expenditures. It also enables companies to track their equipment mileage for planned or breakdown maintenance.

Timecards are the most classic way of capturing time on construction sites. These timecards are either physical paper-based cards or PDF and Excel formats of the same physical cards. These cards are usually completed by a supervisor towards the end of a workday. There are several shortcomings to this method.

For one, there is the adding to the administrative burden on being captured in a non-standardized manner.


This data is then shared with construction managers and payroll clerks via email. As a result, data needs to be handled multiple times before it becomes useful which keeps stealing valuable time from critical resources and increases the turnover time as well. The inaccuracies created are then

Decision-making and corrective actions may also be delayed

of delay in the action and capture. Data is not available at the right time to the right person.

For construction contractors and owners, it is always a big decision to shift from paper to digital, especially when it comes to time capture. To have a better chance of getting it right the

a digital time capture solution:

- » parameters to consider include the connected nature of
- » Make sure your employees are comfortable with the solution. A solution which is intuitive and easy to use has more chance of a successful adoption.
- » that you get maximum value out of your investment, and your people can use the solution correctly. 



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Umer Lone is a senior solutions engineer for InEight, with more than 10 years of experience in the core construction industry. He has a deep understanding of the construction process and the challenges facing the industry. Umer is

of construction projects and believes that digital transformation has the

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