

THE REAL WORLD SIGNIFICANCE OF **LIVE FIELD DATA**

By Mike Merrill, COO,
WorkMax by AboutTime Technologis

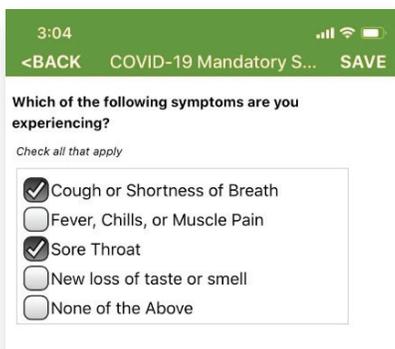
The construction industry is in the middle of a seismic shift in the way we do business, and the only way through requires harnessing the power of new technology. Some fear diving headfirst into technological upgrades is a fool's errand, worried the solutions will cause more headaches to implement than the problems they aim to solve. But the reality is that new construction technology has never been easier or more intuitive to use, and by embracing it sooner rather than later, contractors can relieve themselves of hassles that have plagued them for years.

Think about the headaches involved with payroll, budgets and equipment maintenance. That's in addition to the safety challenges we face, such as continuous COVID screenings and on-site reportings. There's just no room for error. Luckily, this is where cloud-based technologies come into play. They offer live employee labor time, equipment and mobile form tracking so you can track progress effectively and give clients insights into their project from anywhere in the world. The best part? New cloud-based solutions are as easy as using an ATM and a smartphone camera.

With many in the industry waiting to see how the shift to utilize technology plays out, WorkMax conducted a survey of construction leaders. The survey focused on field data types that impact key project performance indicators, including employee labor hours, safety checklists and reports, daily log reports, tool and equipment inventory, production and job cost allocations. Here's what they found:

LIVE FIELD DATA IMPROVES WORKER SAFETY

Tracking of time, safety forms and assets can be submitted live from job sites, faster than ever before, and all from one app. Construction leaders know that



3:04 COVID-19 Mandatory S... SAVE

Which of the following symptoms are you experiencing?

Check all that apply

- Cough or Shortness of Breath
- Fever, Chills, or Muscle Pain
- Sore Throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- None of the Above

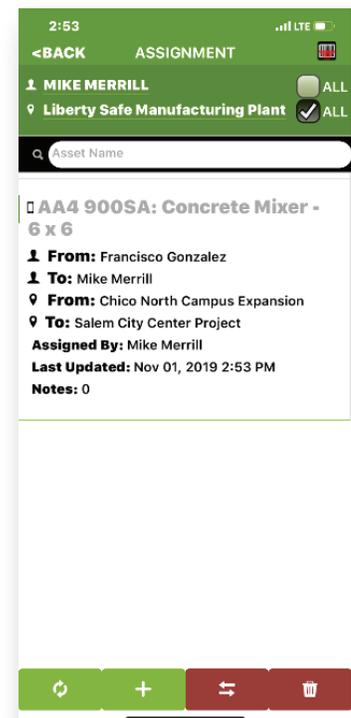
requiring safety report completion and submission before starting or clocking out of work increases the overall safety of the job site. This technology existed before

the onset of COVID-19 and has really shown its value by allowing safety managers to receive instant safety survey reports with real-time screening results, protecting your company and employees from otherwise undetected risks at nearly 100 percent completion. On top of that, timeliness is everything. Companies can no longer wait until the end of the week, the end of the month or the end of the quarter to see this critical data from the field. Especially in the midst of COVID-19, this data needs to be available at a moment's notice.

Cloud-based safety forms allow employees to easily share health and safety data in real-time with photos and videos as a means to decrease exposure on site. Live field data also gives managers the ability to share field safety training and videos to individual employees on their mobile devices, while watch rates are reported immediately to managers so they can stay in the know. The report found that 34 percent of respondents actively utilize live safety reporting, showing there's still opportunity for the industry to dramatically improve the safety of workers across the board as more people adopt this important practice.

LIVE EQUIPMENT & TOOL TRACKING SIMPLIFIES USAGE AND LOSS

A whopping 95 percent of companies surveyed by WorkMax recognize the importance of equipment tracking -- they report using live field reporting, spreadsheets or paper to keep track of these expensive resources. Still, it appears burdensome to keep track of. According to the report, only 21 percent use live data from an app to track it. This means the vast majority of



2:53 ASSIGNMENT

<BACK MIKE MERRILL ALL

Liberty Safe Manufacturing Plant ALL

Asset Name

AA4 900SA: Concrete Mixer - 6 x 6

From: Francisco Gonzalez

To: Mike Merrill

From: Chico North Campus Expansion

To: Salem City Center Project

Assigned By: Mike Merrill

Last Updated: Nov 01, 2019 2:53 PM

Notes: 0

companies surveyed have opportunities to improve their processes.

The benefits of instant equipment tracking is undeniable, giving managers a window into who uses what, when and for how long. It allows them to track when maintenance is needed, which projects require the most support, and keeps tracks of lost or stolen items. There's no question that live field reporting allows leadership to easily plan the best use and maintenance of equipment, keep workers accountable and delivers insights without the burdensome paper and spreadsheet collection methods of the past.

KEY REPORT TAKEAWAYS

- **The success of the technology can be placed into your employees' hands.** When app-based data collection becomes a part of company culture, employees are the key to its success and will be empowered to use it. This means accurate data, driven by onsite workers, ensures your projects are more likely to be completed on time and within budget.
- **Analog collection methods are damaging to the bottom line.** Live field data collection delivers fast and accurate data from the field to you in an instant. Technological shortcomings from analog collection methods can lead to wasted time, numerous job cost reallocations, and inaccurate billing. The right tech solutions will streamline administrative efforts, collect and highlight key data and improve your bottom line.
- **Integration is the rule, not the exception.** Having multiple software platforms for different areas of your business is a huge waste of time and resources, especially if they aren't talking to one another. That's why integration is so important. The data seamlessly is transferred from WorkMax into Sage 100 Contractor or Sage 300 CRE without anyone having to manually key in any data. That efficiency is maximized when everyone in your organization has instant access to all project data from your accounting system, whether they're in the field or in the front office. To see how easy it is to set up an integration with Sage 100 Contractor, [click here](#) to see the video, or Sage 300 CRE users can [click here](#). Check out how easy it is to keep your Sage data in

sync with your resource management app for your field employees with automated permission profiles. See how permission profiles honor your accounting system's project cost and organizational structure to get the right data, to the right people, at the right time by automating permissions, [click here](#).

- An all-in-one platform further increases efficiency. When workers are given one app and one login to report all required data, it will centralize the data into one easy to use platform. The project cost structure from the accounting system stays in sync with the time tracking app to save employees time with time entry and allocation. The project-restricted cost codes in the time tracking app are based on the actual scope of work for a specific project instead of just a full list of all cost codes. Job cost accountants also spend less time reallocating job costs. This results in more accurate and timely job costs, increased efficiency and productivity. An all-in-one platform also leads to increased project control and profits.

LIVE FIELD DATA ANALYSIS IS NECESSARY

The WorkMax report makes it clear that live field data is among the most valuable benefits new construction technology delivers. No matter the size of the operation, analog data collection leads to unnecessary errors and delays. Without the right technology at your fingertips, key data from employees in the field is time-consuming and difficult to fill-out, collect and format. Even once collected, it still must be tabulated, organized and analyzed to turn into meaningful and actionable data.

These days, accurate data analysis is a requirement to stay competitive. Integrated data that is collected through live field reporting is seamless to analyze. It gives decision-makers the ability to pick up on trends or potential issues or roadblocks ahead of time. Study respondents said live field data improved their profitability, productivity, and helped keep them on time and within budget.

Find out what other construction leaders are doing to embrace Live Field Data along with additional insights into safety reporting, labor and equipment tracking and more. Download the WorkMax Live Field Data Usage Report [today](#). ■