



An integral part of any new building is the framework set in place to hold the entire structure together. Colt Builders is a nationwide commercial wood framing subcontractor with a proven record for large scale, multi-family projects. With offices in Rhode Island, Maryland, Texas, Arizona, Utah, and California, they can handle high-density wood framing jobs from coast to coast with ease. They have over 400 employees and approximately twice as many other subs working for them, so their ability to manage complex multi-family housing projects has never been in doubt as they've continued to grow their business for over a decade.

"Preconstruction is step one. When estimating is complete, we include instructions and upload anything that's going to be used out on the job site, such as plans, RFIs, and any communication documents," says Blake. "We use Fieldwire to set up everything beforehand, and once we hand things off to the construction team, they have everything available to them while on-site and can keep it up-to-date in the field."

Colt Builders

Tasking and Quality Control

The chief form of their efforts takes shape in Fieldwire's task management system, which allows them to identify the location and nature of every punch item throughout the job site. These tasks can then be assigned to the appropriate employees and monitored as they get addressed. The immediate nature of the notifications that accompany task updates ensures that the Colt team stays abreast of on-site activity.

"One of the biggest benefits for me is the task management system - being able to assign tasks to the team and see all documentation as it takes place," says Blake. "That's the main strength that Fieldwire has, and having the calendar view for tasks allows me to look ahead as many months as I need to in order to get perspective on project progress. It eliminates a bunch of handwritten notes, phone calls, and emails."

"Initially, a lot of the company was using PlanGrid. But as we expanded to Arizona, we hired a lot of people who adopted Fieldwire quite quickly since they didn't have to unlearn PlanGrid. The same is true for the people out in California and Texas. I'll also be spending some time on the east coast training them. Colt wants to provide all of our customers across the country with the same quality service, and that extends to our use of Fieldwire. Fieldwire is a big part of getting all of our people behind the same process, and an integral part of conducting our quality control process."





Improving Communication

Many of Colt's employees became familiar with the app quite quickly due to its intuitive interface; for the rest, Blake himself leads training sessions with teams across the country to get everyone onboard.

"Nine times out of ten, our team is equipped with better information than anyone else on the job site, and we find ourselves basically helping everyone out there - plumbers, electricians, the general contractor, you name it. Fieldwire helps us be more valuable to our customers since we've developed the reputation of being more tech-savvy and up-to-date than others in the industry."

Phil Blake and Colt Builders are setting an example for all other firms on their project sites by taking control of their task and file management in smart, efficient ways.

"Fieldwire has helped us be more transparent throughout our projects. The app is helping us bridge the gap between our estimating team and construction team, and helps us quickly move information and make everything clearer to both. Delegation and task-oriented procedures all run very efficiently in Fieldwire thanks to the really visual dashboard. The biggest value it's added for us is the transparency."

A Framework for Success

With such a reliable framework in place, there are no limits to the great results they can create.

"I absolutely recommend Fieldwire. The reporting is strong, the task system is really helping us out each day, and we can keep up-to-date plans with us at all times. You get a lot of good things from Fieldwire, so it's definitely a worthwhile investment."

"We did use PlanGrid for a while, but we found we needed more functionality to run projects the way we wanted to. Fieldwire is really good taking our feedback and acting on it. The many updates to the software have made it not only more familiar to what we were used to, but surpassed PlanGrid in terms of the tools we need. As we continue to use Fieldwire and give feedback, we've seen our requests actually be included in the software. That receptive attitude and the constant updates are what set Fieldwire apart."



Fieldwire is a mobile and desktop software platform that combines plan versioning, communication, issue tracking, and task management into a single easy-to-use app. Find out why over 50,000 projects are running on Fieldwire.

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