How Air Analysis of Atlanta streamlined inspections with PlanGrid on University of Georgia's Correll Hall.

Air Analysis of Atlanta, Inc. (AAI) is an independent, third-party Commissioning (Cx) and Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing firm performing services on even the most complex building systems. AAI has worked with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Wellstar Hospitals, Emory University, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the University of Georgia, and AT&T.

Tackling project complexity with PlanGrid

Since 2013, Dane Richards, the Cx and Business Operations manager of Air Analysis of Atlanta, has relied on PlanGrid. He has successfully used it on multiple higher education projects, including the University of Georgia, Terry College of Business, Correll Hall.

"The UGA Correll Hall project was the first time we implemented PlanGrid during construction and not simply during system checkout. It couldn't have come at a better time because the mechanical systems had some unique challenges. There was complexity across the 75,000 SF building," Dane explained.

"The building is served by three fan-array style Air Handling Units which are manifolded together on the supply, return, and outside air ductwork. Additionally, the chilled and hot water systems are fed from an existing campus loop instead of chillers and boilers dedicated for the building." Dane elaborated and explained that there were equally as complex documents that came with the equipment. "Before PlanGrid, keep tracking of all of the documents was a challenge, let alone tracking the progress of it all."

Leveraging PlanGrid for a Robust Audit Trail

"The university had specific requirements that they wanted us to verify throughout construction. PlanGrid enabled us to document and communicate our findings for these requirements in a way we had never been able to before. Not only did we have images of items that needed to be resolved, it linked these images to their specific locations on the project drawings to facilitate resolution. Our reports provided all the necessary details and streamlined communication for everyone involved in the project."

Before using PlanGrid, Dane's issue tracking process included taking photos on site, and then going back to the office, trying to remember where the photos were taken, then spending hours trying to format everything in a report. Using PlanGrid, a report linking photos to physical locations on the plans can be generated in minutes.

Having everything on his device meant having two free hands available for testing and inspections. There was never any need to carry notepads, plans, or cameras. PlanGrid allowed Dane to safely, more effectively focus on the task at hand.

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— Dane Richards
Cx & Business Operations Manager,
Air Analysis of Atlanta Inc

With PlanGrid, a real return on Investment

When reflecting on PlanGrid's value, Dane recounts, "I can confidently say that we would have spent 10-20% more time if we had not used PlanGrid issue tracking on this project." Richards estimates he saved an average of 15 hours per month for the 10 months he was performing on site inspections for the project (for a total of 150 hours saved). This translates to $1,500 in billable hours per month, totaling $15,000. By using PlanGrid on this project, AAI achieved an ROI of 7,400%.

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Real Savings

- **$15,000** of avoided labor costs (billable hours)

- **10-20%** reduction in project timeline

- **7,400%** AAI's ROI from PlanGrid