

# How LPR sped up building their biggest project.

**Structural** | LPR Construction | Case Study



*LPR Construction is an industry leader in steel erection and mechanical work for complex structures. Actively managing \$110 million in construction projects, this nationally-recognized subcontractor has standardized on PlanGrid for almost every project. The company has now replaced most of their paper workflows with PlanGrid, resulting in close to \$2 million in savings each year.*

## Problem

Before the switch to PlanGrid, LPR relied upon paper blueprints for every project. As an organization, they decided to look into their inefficiencies and found that the field team was wasting hours trying to locate up-to-date drawings.

LPR also had no experience using tablets. Instead, they maintained multiple copies of drawings onsite. Whenever a revision was made, they would reissue the new file to a local print shop, and reprint every single copy. When they decided to switch to using both digital and mobile, they had ambitious demands for a new solution.

*“Speed is of the essence. I required that we have quick and responsive rendering. You can waste a ton of time waiting for an image to refresh.”*

–**Thad Lutgens**, Director of Equipment and IT

## Solution and implementation

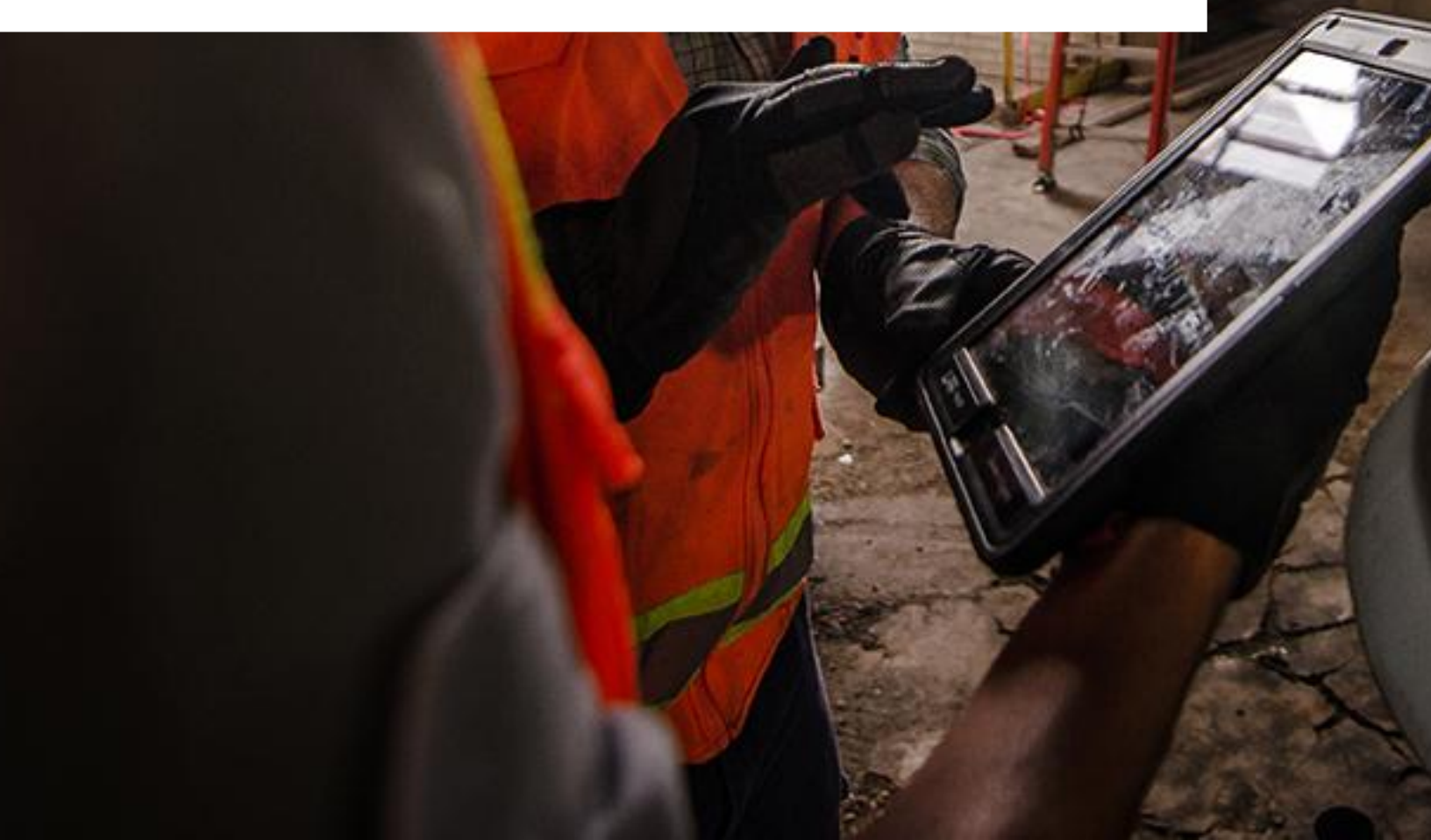
The executive team looked at four vendors for mobile plan collaboration. During their multi-vendor analysis, PlanGrid stood out because of its sheet rendering speed, ease of use, and its suite of field tools, including photos, issue tracking, markups, punchlists, and document attachments. After whittling their choices down, LPR began a pilot to test PlanGrid’s field adoption.

LPR tested PlanGrid on a community college job in Wyoming. They brought the field crew into the office for their first formal training, and bought iPads for their superintendents and foremen. It was an instant hit, and one PlanGrid project grew to 18 PlanGrid projects within 3 months. Speed and efficiency were key reasons for growth.



*“We use PlanGrid on all of our projects, except some which have high security restricting devices with cameras, like iPads.”*

–**Thad Lutgens**, Director of Equipment and IT



“People love the ability to zoom in to see details. Initially, many thought the screen would be so small that the iPads could not be effective. They quickly found this was not the case. In fact, it is a strength.” –Thad Lutgens, Director of Equipment and IT, LPR Construction

By January of 2016, 95% of their projects were being managed with PlanGrid, since they quickly found that, for maximum efficiency, they needed to distribute iPads to their entire field team. Today, more than 35 LPR projects have collaborated using PlanGrid. Foremen and superintendents are the most consistent mobile users, but project managers who carry Microsoft Surfaces use PlanGrid’s Windows app for quick drawing access.

*“PlanGrid has dramatically improved communication between the QC and field teams. There’s less questions throughout the project—they have answers at their fingertips and communicate better together.”*

– **Christina Byers**, Operations Project Coordinator

## PlanGrid on the Greenville ACC

LPR is currently working on their largest project to date, building an 80-cell Air Cooled Condenser—a large industrial cooling system that evaporates moisture as it cools—for a \$1.3 billion power station in Emporia, VA. They’ll be on the job until early 2018, and almost every LPR employee onsite is using PlanGrid. Their 38 users include foremen, superintendents, engineers, QA staff, the materials manager, and the project coordinator.

Before this project, the team was new to PlanGrid. Now, four months in, they use progress photos to address questions quickly, without needing to travel to meet with a foreman or engineer. Other key features being used on this job include issue tracking, markups, and punchlists, as well as getting instant access to drawings from their GC and manufacturers. Christina Byers, the operations project coordinator, also uses attachments so that everybody has immediate access to documents—production reports, welding procedures, installation manuals, spec sheets, parts lists, and more.

LPR is the primary user of PlanGrid on the jobsite. As a result, their field work is dramatically sped up through faster and more relevant communication across the team. They also benefit from maintaining a digital record of everything they do onsite. With such a massive team working together, they're also able to better handle the increased complexity of coordination throughout this project with the aid of PlanGrid.

*“Without PlanGrid on a project of this size, document management and quality control would be a full-time job. It would be horrible.”*

– **Christina Byers**, Operations Project Coordinator