ProjecTools Case Study

Pipeline Project

The Pipeline Contractor used ProjecTools application to manage engineering/design and cost for the 1500+ mile pipeline. The engagement began when the contractor acknowledged that a key to maintaining profitability in this competitively priced project was to outsource much of the Engineering to more cost-effective labor markets and keeping a close eye on the project cost. Choosing to manage the cost and engineering/design in ProjecTools cloud application:

- Allowed the contractor to effectively integrate the global engineering team
- Allowed complete visibility into the remote engineering/design team's performance
- Ensured each team member, regardless of physical location, was working from the latest approved revision
- Allowed the contractor to improve cash flows by tracking document progress and status to bill for completed work sooner.
- Allowed the cost control team to regularly report on project cost at discipline level, keeping the project in control

Functional Uses of ProjecTools on this Project

Documents

The Contractor needed a way to manage deliverables of the remote engineering subcontractors. To do this they employed ProjecTools Documents to house all engineering and technical documents for the pipeline. The remote engineering companies would log into ProjecTools application and execute revisions that came to each engineer as tasks. In these tasks the engineers could download, markup, comment and upload the revised file(s), and submit the task. ProjecTools application returned the work to the document controller who sent the new revision to the appropriate engineering supervisor or manager for review comment and approval. This automated cycle continued until the documents were approved for construction.

Throughout this iterative engineering/design process, managers and supervisors at the contractor company had visibility into the progress and status of each document. They could also pull late action reports from the application to identify the highest performing remote engineers. This reporting allowed them to keep the engineering/design on track and maintain personal accountability for the work that was done.

Cost Control

The contractor needed a way to manage project cost and log actuals, commitments, and forecasted costs against the appropriate WBS. ProjecTools cost control allowed the contractor to define a WBS that made sense for the project and track project costs against the budget baseline. This process improved accuracy, resource allocation, and reporting for project costs which the contractor identified as issues they faced in the past.

ProjecTools application also allowed the cost control team to track document progress and feed the progress back to ProjecTools Cost Control. With a click of a button, the progress in document manager would sync over to Cost Control, allowing Cost Control to notify Accounts Receivable that billable progress had been made. This simple automation step reduced time spent in progress and status meetings by 70% compared to similar projects by eliminating the use of disjointed spreadsheets, which meant consistently impressing the client with real time progress and status of the project.