



TITLE: Closing the gap – advancements in real-time field reporting

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ABSTRACT:

Project controls and overall project outcomes can be dramatically improved through faster and better access to field data. Web and mobile technology have led advancements in field data capture and, in-turn, the quality of schedule, progress, change and cost reports.

The majority of large construction projects in Australia are not yet realising the full benefits of modern web and mobile technology for real-time electronic capture of field-based data. Many still work across paper-based systems or excel spreadsheets with unreliable document and version control and extensive requirements for manual administration.

Using the best-practice integrated construction management software, Envision, we will demonstrate how the technology already exists to streamline data capture into a single-source system that integrates with other programs, offering a central visualisation of key project metrics.

Our presentation will discuss the latest advancements in change (unplanned event) management, field-based collaboration (comments, photos etc) and real-time reporting, including enabling functions such as docket capture, field progress and tailored data visualisations. Drawing on client case studies in resource and infrastructure project delivery, we will show how these teams have gained better insight into the real-time health and status of their projects, improving decision-making and performance. We will use these to also show learnings in Envision's development regarding core differences in project controls between resource and infrastructure projects. The case studies will cover end-to-end capture and reporting of field data; the significant advantages available when the common reporting 'blackout' (the lag between data inputs and reporting) is removed; an assessment of improvements and savings; and the gains possible through multi-system integration with BIM, GIS and other platforms.

KEYWORDS: field data, field applications, real-time reporting, change management, construction management software