Safety Orientation IDs

Construction ID cards can play an important role in securing construction sites, identifying workers, and protecting valuable materials and equipment from intruders. With today's technology, they can also list all of an individual's qualifications and certifications when scanned.

Individuals on the job are faced every day with situations that require prior training, quick decisions and proper actions. In order to insure that everyone is prepared for these situations it is a common practice for general contractors to conduct a required generic contractor orientation that takes hours away from productivity. When you consider the number of hours spent by skilled labor listening to an orientation that they have heard over and over the dollars wasted add up.

Through a collaboration effort between members of the ABC, AGC and CASF an initiative, headed up by Clint Glass and Chris Diaz of Balfour Beatty Construction, has begun to develop an industry-wide certification program that will provide a way to identify the safety skills necessary to prevent hazards on South Florida construction sites and save subcontractors thousands of dollars. ID cards help to secure sites by ensuring that only certified individuals gain access to the area and the equipment within it.

ID cards will allow construction sites to:
- Identify levels of Safety Training
- Certify drug screens and criminal background checks
- Control access to the construction zone
- Keep accurate records of all individuals who enter and leave the construction site
- Ensure that only qualified individuals are working in the area
- Provide a safe and secure working environment

Working in the construction industry brings with it many challenges and dangers. It has always been a priority of the construction industry to make sure people on the job make it home safe and sound at the end of the work day.

With your help we can change the industry for the better. For more detailed information contact Chris Diaz at 954/585-4347 or cdiaz@balfourbeattyus.com.

Member News

Hollywood Woodwork announced the promotion of Dave Bolt as Chief Operating Officer. A 35-year veteran of the architectural woodworking industry, Bolt previously served as Vice President of Operations and has been an integral member of the Hollywood Woodwork organization since he joined in 2010. He assumes responsibilities from outgoing President, Robert Perrotti, who has been with Hollywood Woodwork for 15 years and is retiring to return to the art and architecture world with his wife Virginia.

Also, Sebastien DesMarais, Chief Financial Officer, expands his role to include contract review and execution.

Link Construction Group has been contracted by the City of Parkland for the new construction of the Western Fire Station, located at 100 Hillsboro Blvd in Parkland. The groundbreaking of the Fire Station was held January 8th and attendees included Mayor Michael Udine, Commissioner Mark Weissman, City Manager Caryn Gardner Young and many others.

Dash Door recently installed the automatic doors for the Adrienne Arscht Center in Miami and continues to provide service and preventative maintenance on all door hardware throughout the building.

Night at the Panthers Game Pictures
ABC Concrete Cutting, Inc. was founded in 1971 by Larry McCoy. After moving from California, Larry worked hard to convince the South Florida industry that cutting concrete was a faster and more efficient solution than that of a jackhammer. For 30 years, his attentiveness and his employees helped build the company into a South Florida mainstay. Larry passed away in July of 2004 and the business was purchased by Ohio Concrete Sawing & Drilling in July of 2010, who continues to maintain the long term relationships with their customers.

The company recognizes there are many options and competitors out there, so it is extremely important they meet or exceed their expectations by always showing up at the scheduled time, providing quality and well-maintained equipment, providing well-trained courteous and productive personnel and completing all work correctly the first time and of course fair prices. Keeping the employees happy and safe is also extremely important. Concerns and ideas from the employees are always welcomed since management wants them to take pride in being a part of the company.

The company currently employs 40 people and continues to grow. Some key employees include General Manager Joseph Bland, Sales Manager Darlene Quinones, Operations Manager Mike Reynolds, and Office Manager Lori Giusti. “Some of the best things about working for ABC Concrete is the family atmosphere, the great teamwork, and the opportunity to always learn something new,” states Quinones, who has been with the company for 4 years.

ABC provides the construction industry with many services, some of which include: Electric and Gas Flat Sawing, Core Drilling up to 60' Deep, Wire Sawing, Bollard Installation, Concrete Pour Back, Ground Penetrating, Radar, Wall Sawing, Polishing, Concrete Treatments and Corrections, and Specialty Installations. They stand out from their competitors by providing 24 hour service and having special equipment that allows them to take on any job no matter how difficult. Some recent projects they were involved with include the wire sawing for the sunken pier in the Bahamas, the Marlins parking garage and the Airport to Port of Miami Tunnel Project.

Having just joined CASF last year, ABC has definitely been taking advantage of the many networking opportunities. “CASF has great, outgoing members who help you feel welcome and it has allowed us to get out and meet new people,” expresses Quinones.

ABC Concrete Cutting, Inc.’s office is located at 2251 Hammondville Road, Pompano Beach, FL 33069. For more information call 954-523-4848 or visit www.abcconcretecutting.com.
Benjamin Franklin was once quoted saying, “In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” It is obvious that Franklin was not a construction expert; otherwise he would have included project changes in his famous quote. Most projects have changes that impact scope, cost, or schedule – it’s how the changes are managed that determines project success.

An effective change management process includes:

- Identification of the change
- Notification of the change as required under the contract
- Documentation of the impact of the change
- Preparation of the change order proposal
- Resolution of the change order proposal

Provided is a step-by-step guide for change management best practices that, if consistently followed, can maximize your ability to successfully manage your project through changes.

Identification

Identification of a change is often the hardest part of change management. In general terms, a change can be defined as any anticipated or actual deviation from the contract, scope of work, cost, or schedule. Easy changes to identify include owner-directed additional work. However, more subtle changes can include:

- Construction means and methods (e.g., requiring hand excavation when the plan was to use heavy machinery)
- Late and defective material supply
- Late and insufficient engineering and construction drawings
- Work stoppage or disruption
- Schedule acceleration or delays
- Over-inspection
- Site congestion or trade interference
- Out-of-sequence work
- Regulatory compliance, risk, or health and safety requirements

All key project team members should be familiar with the contract scope, estimate basis, and schedule in order to enable them to more quickly identify variances from the contract.

Notification

Most contracts have change notice provisions that require a contractor to provide notice to the owner of potential changes within a fixed period of time, such as within seven days of when the change is first identified. Construction disputes often result from a failure to provide timely and written notice of a change.

Documentation

The next step is to document the change and its impacts, including cost and schedule. To the extent possible or required, at least the following documents should be kept current with each potential change:

- Marked-up drawings or specifications illustrating the change
- Schedules showing the impact of the changed work
- Photographs and videos before and after the change
- Cost records and timesheets, including segregating time and costs spent on the changed work
- Meeting minutes
- Drawing logs showing submittals, client approvals, and relevant correspondence
- Periodic progress reports, summarizing all approved, pending, and rejected change orders, and any issues and concerns resulting thereof.

In addition, confirm in writing all relevant oral directives and changes.

Change Order Preparation

The change order proposal and estimate should be prepared as soon as possible, keeping in mind any contractual time limits. The estimate should be based on the best available data using the contractual unit rates and mark-ups or other contract requirements, where applicable.

Care should be taken to ensure that the change order proposal includes, as appropriate, all direct costs (i.e., labor, material, equipment, subcontractors, utilities, and other direct costs) and indirect costs (i.e., management and supervision, site overhead, home office overhead, insurance, bonds, overhead, profit, and other indirect costs).

Resolution

Parties are encouraged to settle changes as quickly as possible, as the cost of changes made earlier are often less expensive and less disruptive than the same change made later in the project. A properly documented and prepared change order proposal stands a much higher chance of resolution when it is based on factual information.
Construction Night at the Panthers Game

Thursday, January 16