

# About Time Technologies and eCMS Integrated Applications Case Study



**Company:** Trinity Drywall and Plastering Systems

**Industry:** Specialty Contractor

**Construction Services:** Metal framing, sheetrock installation, plaster and simulated stone work

**Corporate Headquarters:** Ft. Worth, TX

**Territory / Locations:** Work performed in the states of Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana

**Client Information:** Trinity Drywall and Plastering Systems is a specialty subcontractor specializing in drywall, acoustical ceilings, light gauge structural framing, light gauge structural framing, trusses, acoustical sound panels, FRP, thin masonry, EIFS stucco and restoration, and veneer plaster. Trinity works with more than 40 different general contractors in the state of Texas and the Midwest region.

- Founded in 2006
- Annual Revenues of \$10-15M
- 200 employees
- Up to 250 payroll checks processed weekly

**Software Applications:** eCMS and About Time Technologies (combined 26 desktop users and 8 mobile device users)

**Technology Environment:** IBM System i



**Challenge:** While having an accurate and timely payroll process is critical for any enterprise, for the specialty contractor, payroll issues can have far reaching consequences that impact the ability to invoice general contractors for work performed and can ultimately put a project in serious jeopardy. Of primary concern was the inconsistent submission process where the jobsite foremen were submitting information by fax, phone and e-mail. While payroll data was being captured into Microsoft Excel, the worksheets were being printed and faxed or scanned for submittal. This resulted in the need for a full-time payroll admin who would spend hours validating the information, often calling field personnel to ensure the data received was correct, and then manually entering the information into eCMS. Even so, there was no way to ensure the accuracy of the information—that employees were at the jobsite when they claimed—nor was there a way to accurately determine the number of employees on site at any given time. For Trinity Drywall and Plastering Systems, the inconsistencies in the process for collecting payroll data along with questionable accuracy of the information received quickly came to a head and they set about finding a better way to do things.

**Solution:** Trinity Drywall and Plastering Systems took the time to evaluate several different remote time solutions and eventually implemented About Time Technologies Mobile Time and Attendance. The About Time solution facilitated the collection of information, but still required duplicate entry to capture the data in eCMS for processing. After working with both About Time and Computer Guidance to find a better solution, a process for a semi-automated upload of the data was developed and implemented over the course of a year to create a fully integrated solution. Information from Mobile Time and Attendance is output into a format that is recognizable to eCMS, which then captures the files and updates the database accordingly. With the upload in place, Trinity Drywall can now produce accurate and timely reports, such as budgeted vs. actual time spent per job, and review near real-time performance for each job and whether the job is over or under budget. While there was initial resistance from field personnel, this was easily overcome by demonstrating the benefits of the solution.

**Results:** With the integrated About Time/eCMS solution in place, validation of information is quicker and payroll checks can be immediately ordered and processed upon receipt of the data from the field. This has resulted in shorter payroll cycles and everyone benefiting from the implementation. Further, management was able to discover many discrepancies that were translated into savings and better control for ongoing projects. The management team, and the general contractors for whom the work was performed, were assured that hours billed were accurate and the information was available on-time to meet project requirements. For the payroll admin, less time needed to be spent collecting, verifying and entering data, reducing time spent on payroll to less than 10 hours weekly as opposed to 35 hours weekly without the solution. This resulted in greater job satisfaction and freed the payroll admin to take on additional duties for the company. Overall, the investments made in the implementation of About Time Technologies, including the devices required in the field to capture the information, were quickly made back following the implementation.

*“About Time Technologies solution exceeded our expectations of what could be achieved by implementing the solution and the eCMS integration made it an invaluable solution for the organization, resulting in greater productivity, reduced payroll cycles, better financial controls and overall savings for the company.”*

— Brack St.Clair, Warehouse/IT Manager, Trinity Drywall and Plastering Systems



Fiori at Vitruvian Park, Addison, TX



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