

Mobile eCMS Application



“Mobile eCMS has driven new efficiency into what were once very labor-intensive processes that bogged down our field operations. The app allows supervisors and on-site workers to focus all of their efforts on priority number one... our customer’s projects.”

— Kim Richmond, M.I.S. Director, Tri-City Electrical Contractors

Company: Tri-City Electrical Contractors

Industry: Electrical Contractor

Construction Services: Full Service Electrical Construction Services

Corporate Headquarters:

Altamonte Springs, FL

Territory / Locations: South Florida, Central Florida and Tampa, Florida

Client Information: Tri-City Electrical Contractors delivers electrical construction services for commercial, health care, entertainment, office buildings, hotels, government, schools, retail, special projects, industrial, multi-family, residential projects and more. Based on sound business practices and management, Tri-City provides vast bonding capacity and human resources for projects of all sizes.

- Founded in 1958
- 1,000+ employees
- Bi-weekly payroll processing for 1,000+ employees
- 1,000+ invoices per month

Software Applications: eCMS, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, General Ledger, Purchasing, Order Processing, Equipment Accounting, Job Cost, Payroll, Business Intelligence and Analytics, Content Management, Workflow, Project Collaborator, Time & Material Billing, Human Resources, Service Management and Mobile eCMS

Technology Environment:

Private Cloud

Challenge: For many years, Tri-City Electrical Contractors used paper timecards for collecting labor information from projects in the field. Not only was the data critical for payroll, but it was just as important for job costing calculations. So, their paper-based manual process was a challenge for the company in terms of the time and effort it took to acquire the information, as well as the delay in being able to do anything with it.

As part of the weekly process, superintendents would physically meet on site with the crew working on each project, acquire their time information and then return it to the office. At the office, payroll personnel would key timecard information into the payroll application for paycheck processing, which also finally made the data visible in the job costing app for evaluation of cost and performance per job, crew and budget.

Tri-City Electrical processed more than 600 timecards in this manner every week. Timecards had to be in the office each Wednesday by 5:00 P.M. or payroll and job costing would be delayed. When information was missing, payroll personnel had to call superintendents, who often had to call field workers, for corrections. Inaccurate information, such as incorrect job codes, was another considerable problem, not to mention the labor-intensive printing, copying, sending and filing workflow that went along with all of the company’s documentation.

With just once-a-week availability, significant concerns arose regarding the accuracy and timeliness of this data which was relied upon heavily across all facets of the organization. Tighter budgets and timelines, and the growing demands of an increasingly competitive industry, meant that now more than ever, Tri-City Electrical’s ability to leverage real-time data for mission-critical decision making was paramount.

Solution: Tri-City Electrical implemented Mobile eCMS from Computer Guidance Corporation to alleviate the time and manual effort associated with collecting labor information from the field. The company’s superintendents were already using iPads for other activities, so adding the Mobile eCMS app was easy and seamless. The module was installed on all devices, allowing field information to be entered in the field. Even in areas where there was limited/no internet coverage, the Mobile app accepted labor data and then automatically synced to the ERP once a connection was established.

Tri-City Electrical pre-loaded the Mobile eCMS app with the pertinent information, including job numbers, employee-crew relationships and more, so all the superintendents have to do is simply enter field worker labor time. The app also provides an electronic timecard solution that the employee signs on the spot.

Superintendents can perform their portion of the payroll/job costing process on a daily or weekly, without driving to the field and office or juggling paper timecards on the way. Tri-City Electrical also eliminated paper copying and record keeping for auditing. And, best of all, there is no more delay in decision-making information because accurate job costing data is already setup in the system for use by any employee or manager who needs it.

Results:

Estimated Cost Savings:

- Elimination of manual labor and drive time associated with paper-based processes
- Elimination of printing, copying, sending and filing payroll documentation
- Refocusing of company resources on mission-critical tasks
- Enhanced decision making based on accurate, real-time data availability
- Faster onboarding of employees with automatic syncing between eCMS and the Mobile app for new field workers
- Improved cost management through easily accessible job data