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WorkplaceUSA

Autodesk Buzzsaw Moves Projects into the Fast Lane

Based in Dallas, Texas, WorkPlaceUSA was trying to complete a multi-phase project for Worldcom as quickly as possible. They tried an online application that fell short of their expectations. Next they turned to **Autodesk® Buzzsaw™** and found all the capabilities and flexibility they needed. The teams post all project documents on the site. With the help of a web camera linked to the site, team members can even view the construction site in real time. The most current documents are readily available to project teams, no matter where they are or when they need them, which translates to a dramatic reduction in errors and gives the company what they wanted most—the ability to save time.



Buzzsaw definitely reduces mistakes, and when your objective is to complete projects quickly, avoiding mistakes is crucial.

John Stampes,
Senior Vice President,
WorkPlaceUSA, Inc.

The Situation

WorkPlaceUSA, based in Dallas, Texas, offers clients in a wide range of industries a variety of development project services. From site selection to design and construction project management, WorkPlaceUSA helps clients build and move into much-needed workspaces faster. “WorkPlaceUSA reduces the life cycle of projects,” says John Stampes, Senior Vice President of WorkPlaceUSA. “Typically our clients want to move tomorrow—if not yesterday. We serve them by exploiting opportunities to save time in every phase of a project.” Currently, WorkPlaceUSA is using its expertise to expedite the completion of a 2-million-square-foot multiphase project in Virginia for technology and communications leader Worldcom.

The Challenge

The core goal for WorkPlaceUSA on the Worldcom project—and on all WorkPlaceUSA projects—is to meet the client’s needs in as short a time as possible. To achieve this goal, WorkPlaceUSA has made use of online project management applications. The first online application they tried facilitated the construction phase of development projects but failed to provide the tools they needed to manage the entire process from start to finish. According to Stampes, “The system we originally used was designed for use after the planning stage was already completed. At WorkPlaceUSA, we conceive of projects as a whole, and we needed an application that was flexible enough to adapt to our pursuit of time savings throughout the life of our projects.” Realizing that the Internet potentially offered advantages that could dramatically change their business, WorkPlaceUSA searched for a more comprehensive solution.

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The Solution

After evaluating its needs, WorkPlaceUSA decided to switch to Autodesk Buzzsaw. "Buzzsaw allowed us to organize projects in a way that suited our processes," says Stampes. "The system is easy to manipulate and set up, and we've found that uploading and downloading documents is very quick." The architects, engineers, construction team, and even the clients use the Autodesk Buzzsaw site to exchange documents and communicate.

From partial to completed sets of project drawings to meeting minutes and schedules, WorkPlaceUSA requires that team members post all project documents on the Autodesk Buzzsaw site. They are also using the RFI (request for information) feature of the Autodesk® Construction Manager module to get contractor questions answered as quickly as possible. And to help them monitor construction at the Worldcom project, they have linked a web camera into one of their Autodesk Buzzsaw folders. By watching the web camera, team members can view the construction site in real time.

The Result: Executing Projects Quickly and Effectively

WorkPlaceUSA has reaped numerous benefits using Autodesk Buzzsaw. According to Stampes, "We used to fax or mail out meeting minutes, and we don't need to do that any longer. So from an administrative and delivery perspective we have certainly seen cost savings." However, Stampes feels that WorkPlaceUSA has benefited most tangibly in the area of time savings: "The Buzzsaw service is extremely flexible and helps us to achieve our goal of executing projects quickly and effectively. Having all our critical project documents in one place is a huge advantage. No one needs to spend time wondering where to find the correct information, and it's always clear which set of documents is most current. Buzzsaw definitely reduces mistakes, and when your objective is to complete projects quickly, avoiding mistakes is crucial."

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