Walsh Electric Improves Project Management Efficiency and Change Order Approval Success

BACKGROUND

Yorktown, Virginia–based Walsh Electric Company, Inc., specializes in the installation and service of power distribution systems, emergency generator and transfer systems, fire and smoke detection systems, full data and networking systems, horizontal boring, and exterior site lighting.
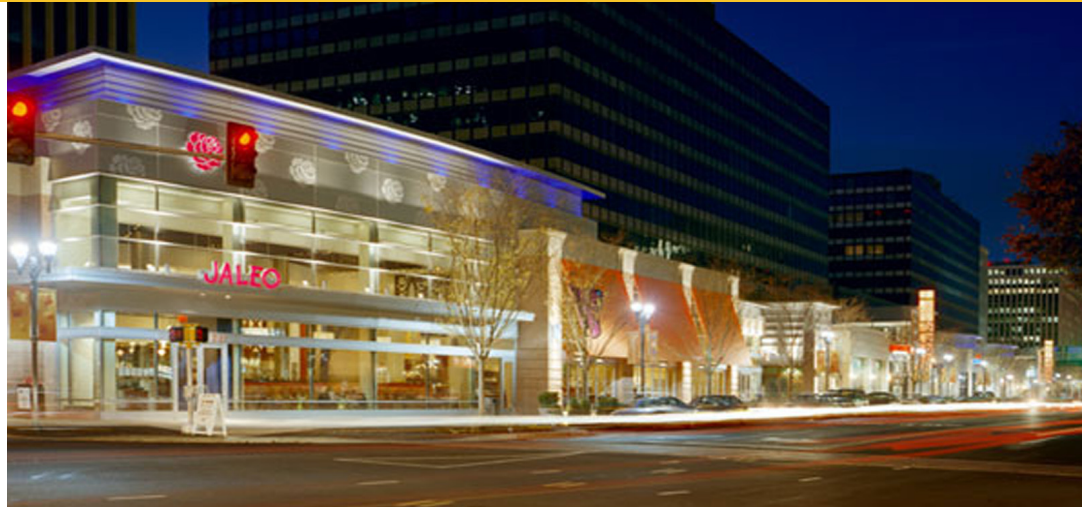
THE CHALLENGE

As the company began to experience rapid growth, staying on top of project documentation became a challenge. To create and track documents, project teams were using spreadsheets and the company's accounting system. But it soon became obvious that this approach was both cumbersome and inadequate.

THE SOLUTION

After looking into a number of options, Walsh Electric implemented Project DocControl, a document management software solution built for specialty contractors. Project DocControl replaces stacks of three-ring binders, spreadsheets and file folders, storing all project information and documentation—everything from RFIs to submittals, transmittals, correspondence, change order requests, payment applications and more—in a secure centralized database.

THE RESULT

According to Walsh, since implementing this easy-to-use system, he and his team have been able to document projects much faster while greatly improving the quality and depth of their documentation. This has enabled the company to continue to grow and to confidently tackle large, complex projects.

"Knowing that our project documentation is complete, centralized and easy to find—that's a huge burden off our shoulders," said Walsh. "It means that we can respond faster to questions from the architect, engineer or GC. It allows us to more easily justify change order requests. And it helps us stay on top of submittals and other outstanding items so we can avoid costly delays and problems."

To illustrate the impact of having this level of project control, Walsh pointed to a large hospital project his company is currently working on. "We're now up to about $500,000 in change orders in this project," he explained. "Had we not had complete, centralized and easy-to-access documentation, there's just no way we could have been successful explaining and justifying these changes."

Every time there's a question on a change order, Walsh's team can find all related items to that issue within minutes. That's because Project DocControl provides a means to create documentation more easily. Plus, the system allows for easy linking of all items related to a specific issue, making it easier to produce a clear audit trail and to justify the company's actions.

When asked about the impact the Project DocControl solution has had on project performance, Walsh replied, "This system is not a luxury; it's a must-have in today's environment—especially if you're a small or midsize electrical contractor. In fact, Project DocControl has been one of the best software investments we've ever made."

CONTACT INFORMATION

To learn more about how Project DocControl can help your business succeed, visit us at **www.ProjectDocControl.com or call 813.903.9446**.

"Project DocControl has been one of the best software investments we've ever made."

— David T. Walsh Jr.
    Director of Project Administration
    Walsh Electric

Project DocControl