



**Fast, Secure,
Wireless Time-Tracking Software**

CASE STUDY

Mirage Plastering

Company Sees Profitable Results from mJobTime software

Tucson exterior finish sub-contractor eliminates duplicated efforts with user friendly software

Mirage Plastering is anything but an optical illusion in the commercial construction industry. Their exterior plastering artistry is visible throughout Arizona in projects built by some of the country's most successful general contractors, including The Weitz Company, DPR Construction, DL Withers Construction, W.E. O'Neil Construction, Okland Construction and Sundt Construction.

Mirage's workforce has more than doubled in the past two years. Controller, Paul Zapf says the priority is to keep employees working to complete jobs on time. To stay on top of the company's busy project schedule, control costs and work at maximum efficiency, Mirage launched the mJobTime™ wireless GPS-enabled employee time and equipment tracking system in 2007.

"We have about 150 field employees, and as many as 170 during our busiest weeks. Before we implemented mJobTime, our foremen had to fill out a daily paper time sheet for every crew member," said Zapf. "The foremen faxed the time sheets to the office where payroll staff would manually input the information into the accounting system, but things didn't always work as well as they should."

Zapf said the foremen were sometimes too busy to send the time sheets in daily, and often the faxed

copies were hard to read or the fax machines did not work. In addition to manually entering time and activity data for each employee, the accounting staff spent hours searching for missing information.

After shopping for a time tracking system that would allow foremen to input employee hours and track activities quickly and easily, the company selected mJobTime, which requires minimal manual entry and features extremely fast synchronizations that can be done directly from the job site.

"We looked for a time tracking system that interfaced with our QuickBooks Enterprise Solutions accounting and management software," Zapf explained. "We needed to eliminate the duplicate efforts and have an input process that the foremen would find easy to use." We also needed to generate daily time and cost reports that were not available in Quick Books, but were available in mJobTime™."

Now, 15 foremen track hours worked for individual crewmembers using mJobTime and handheld Windows-based HP iPAQs. They also record information about what each employee is doing.

"We can track what individual crew members are doing by activity codes," Zapf said. "That enables us to analyze job progress and determine if we have the right resources to complete the job on time. We also use that information to help us plan and bid more accurately on future jobs."

According to Zapf a few foremen initially resisted using the new technology, but since mJobTime went live, peer influence has worked to allay concerns. The ease-of-use and ultra-fast syncs have made mJobTime a popular timesaving job site tool.



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The payroll staff no longer spends hours trying to read fuzzy faxes and searching for missing information. With mJobTime, payroll data can be transferred and reviewed daily and overtime is automatically calculated.

“It used to be a scramble to input time sheet data into the payroll system in time to cut pay checks on Wednesdays. Now, the payroll staff has the job done on Monday afternoon.”
