

Calamar Construction Efficiently Collaborates with its Subcontractors Using Soonr Workplace



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– Jennifer DeFalco, Calamar Construction

The Company

Calamar Construction is a major full service real estate organization that specializes in the development, construction, management and financing of large senior housing properties. With projects under construction and management in Nebraska, New York and Canada, the company unites the synergies of its fully integrated approach with advanced construction, development and financing techniques to add value for its clients, tenants and investment partners.

The Challenge

Calamar Construction has multiple construction projects underway at any given time. This creates literally volumes of large documents that need to be shared both internally and externally with construction partners and subcontractors. With each construction project comes multiple blueprints, drawings, instructions from architects, project manuals, as well as numerous addendums and changes. Each set of detailed materials needs to be shared with the hundreds of subcontractors that make each development possible.

Historically, the construction company used email to share these vital files with its subcontractor partners. But the process was slow, complex and riddled with failure. It also didn't deliver the security the busy construction firm needed.

“Because our project files are so large they are difficult to email,” said Jennifer DeFalco of Calamar Construction. “To send drawings to multiple subcontractors we would have to use numbered sets of emails, such as ‘email 1 of 5.’ You could never be certain that all the emails had been received by everyone you sent them to. Then when changes were made, it was nearly impossible to get the latest material to each subcontractor without version control confusion. It was a real drain on our productivity. We needed a much better solution.”



Industry

Construction

Challenges

- Sharing large construction drawings and blueprints with hundreds of subcontractors
- Efficiently managing current files without version control confusion
- Ensuring secure file access without risk of unwanted changes or deletion

Results

- 90% improvement in office productivity
- Efficient collaboration with external subcontractors - without fail
- Exponential increase in upload speeds

The Soonr Workplace Solution

That's when Calamar Construction discovered Soonr Workplace. The secure online file sharing solution gave Calamar the ability to easily upload and share multiple documents – no matter how large they were – with all the subcontractors that needed to access them. Plus, it delivered the detailed controls the construction firm needed, including who has been assigned to each project, when the project was last updated and how many projects each person is working on. This gave Calamar Construction just what it needed to solve its large document file sharing problem.

“Now, with Soonr, it's truly effortless to share files with our subs,” said DeFalco. “Once the pre-construction plans are in Soonr and there are updates, all I need to do is remove the old ones and put in the new. Then, I can send out a group email with the link for the subs to provide their pre-bids. Because I often need to update files two to three times a week, this can save me hours compared to our old email process.”

Results

In all, Calamar Construction is saving up to 90% on file sharing productivity with Soonr Workplace. Plus, because the company is committed to the privacy and security of its clients and partners, the enterprise-grade security embedded in Soonr Workplace has been a significant advantage.

“Using Soonr Workplace has been like going from driving a Ford Pinto to a Lamborghini,” said DeFalco. “It revolutionized our office. And, if we ever have a question we know that the Soonr team is always right there to help. The customer service line is quick and professional – simply phenomenal.”