

Digital Redlines Proposal


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Introduction

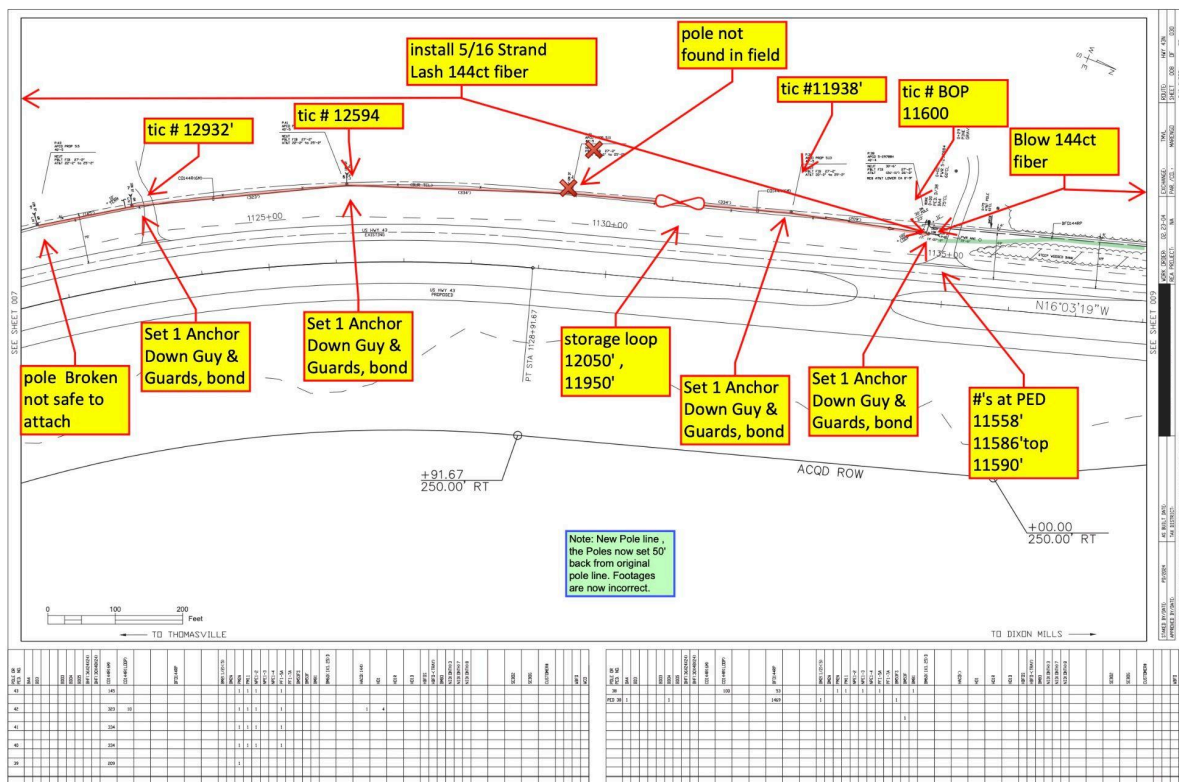
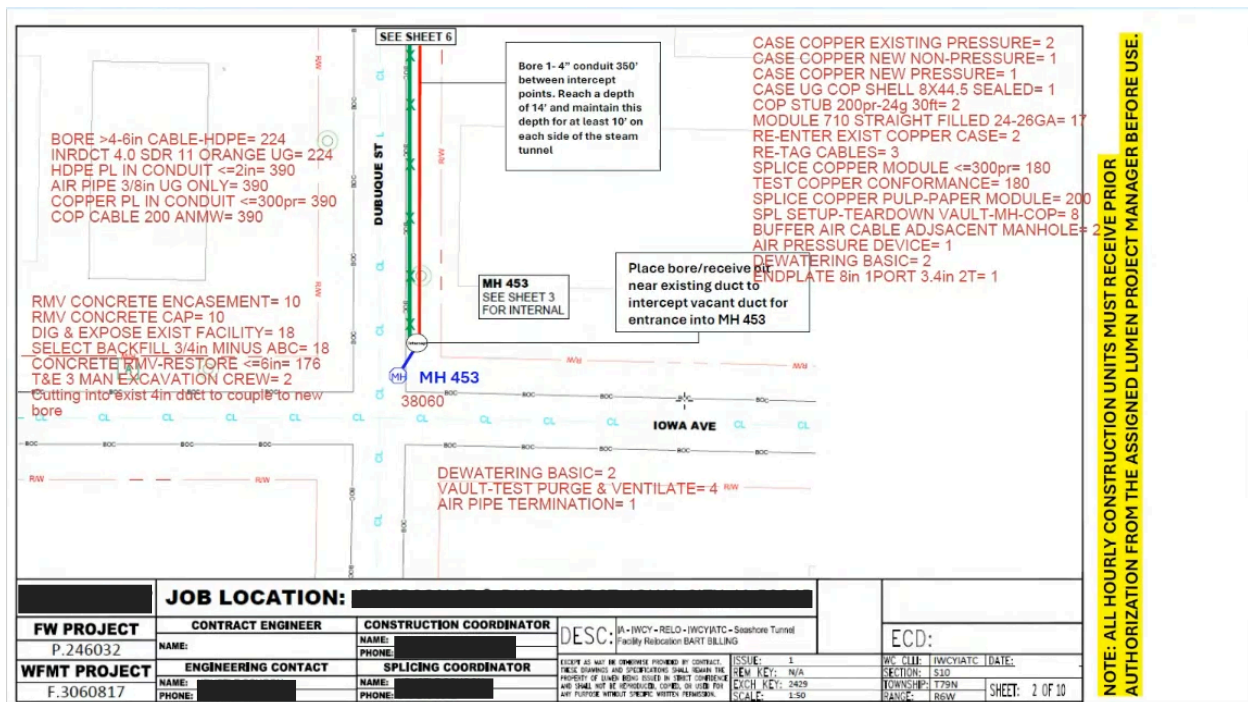
The goal of this software is to streamline the construction documentation process. It replaces physical redlining on paper prints with a digital solution, ensuring accurate and readable capture of installed units and other performed work.

Definitions

CIP - Change in Plans

CUP - Construction Unit Plant

DSR - Daily Status Report



Problem Statement

When some portion of the work is completed, the foreman provides progress reports to his supervisors. Progress is reported through non-audited and often unorganized trails. Some communication is done via email, some via sms, and some via calls. Particularly for phone calls, there is no history of conversations.

If handwritten redlines are submitted, the supervisor needs to create a clean version of the redline manually, drafting a digital redline in Adobe PDF or another editor.

Proposed solution - Redline

██████ can develop a minimal mobile app to facilitate digitization of redline data in the field.

The amount of work can be reduced if the redlines are drawn digitally the first time, instead of being re-written by a supervisor.

The solution is minimal in that it is a single-page. However, the solution can be combined with other single-page solutions in the future: whatever pages we build would just be linked with a main menu.

Little change to existing components is required, because SMT has an API layer for both publishing data (eg: project selector) and ingesting data (eg: redline detail). The solution can integrate with Foundation (via a scraper-crawler), Fulcrum, and any other backend.

Any page we build would still be built as a regular web page. Then, it is converted into an app with Capacitor/Electron. Capacitor/Electron embeds a browser in a mobile app, making a react-based website act as a mobile app. This is a common and popular approach. It can later be expanded with native Java bindings that allow mobile-only features (such as calling, camera, GPS) to be accessed by the embedded webpage.

The solution would include the same analytics (users per day, average time on site, etc) as is wired into SMT.

The redline data gets uploaded to SMT and attached to the selected redline.

The app addresses the common situation that there's no connection in the field, and works offline.

9:41

Redline Lineitems

Job Number

202628103

9:41

Redline Lineitems

Job Number

202628103

Project info

Redline

Select a redline

9:41

Redline Lineitems

Job Number

202628103

Project info

Project Number:

P-214165

Engineer Contact:

John Smith

(415)555-1234

Placing Contact:

Alex Doe

(500)501-5678

Splicing Contact:

Dayton Richardson

(899)401-7800

Redline

202625871-Redline.pdf

Line items

PF1-5A (Small Anchor)

Unit count

Description

X

NPEP1-2, NPE1-3,NPE1-4 (Guys)

Unit count

Description

+ Add line item

Save

Voice to text is possible (even offline). It is actually a part of the android keyboard. The second option is to use [alphacep/vosk-api.git](https://github.com/alphacep/vosk-api) , which has similar functions but is not made by google.

Additionally, we can implement voice calling, voice messaging (if any), and sms messaging, with an in-house messaging platform. XMPP is the open chat protocol and Jabber is one of the biggest open-source servers/clients for it. Other options are Slack and Whatsapp, which allow automatic access to messages.

Additionally, we can implement canvas drawing on a pdf. This would be relatively advanced and we haven't expanded this topic in this proposal. Drawing lines, shapes, symbols, and annotations on top of a pdf is possible. We would be using paperjs, or the html canvas.

Additionally, we can implement canvas drawing on top of a map. This would be different from, and more difficult to implement, than drawing on a pdf. The map choices are openstreetmap (free) or google (negligible cost). The way of drawing on top is again paperjs or the html canvas.

Projected KPI's

We anticipate that this mobile app would reduce the billing complexity by a month.

Open Questions

- Why not use fulcrum then?
 - We prefer to integrate with Fulcrum as much as possible, because they have an API allowing both inputting and reading their data.
- How does data go from redlines to billing?
- [REDACTED] says there are project #'s different from job #'s. Can this be explained - do we care about project numbers? So far we have only the input for a job number.
- For redlines, who is responsible for the first draft of the redline notes? The foreman on the field or the supervisor in the office?
- We have an example of a pdf with redline comments pointing at specific locations on the plot.
Does [REDACTED] need or want the capability to place redline lineitems onto specific points on the pdf? We can capture the x-y coord of a right-click on a pdf, to put a note on that exact spot. Otherwise, we can implement a simpler approach that only allows text line items on redlines.
- Are project fields e.g. construction coordinator per-project or per-redline?
- We're assuming that redlines now have lineitems. Is this reasonable?

Conclusion

We can implement this single-page app in four weeks.