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Enhancing Digital Takeoffs

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When it comes to estimating a specific construction project, using paper can be time consuming. With construction technology, companies have the ability to transform this into a digital process by implementing takeoff software solutions.

These solutions enable construction companies to complete the takeoff process faster and more efficiently. To help, On Center Software, www.oncenter.com, The Woodlands, Texas, recently came to market with its enhanced Digital Takeoff Table 2.

The solution is available from On Center in conjunction with Wacom Technology Corp., www.wacom.com, Vancouver, Wash., and is integrated with the newest version of On-Screen Takeoff.

The Digital Takeoff Table 2 provides users with a hands-on solution for digital takeoffs and is an upgrade from the original solution On Center released in 2009. The enhanced version is designed to help users increase the accuracy and speed of their takeoffs.

The new solution consists of a 21.3-inch monitor and a patented cordless grip

pen, which can be used to write directly on the monitor. The solution also comes with 16 customizable ExpressKeys for accessing specific shortcuts for On-Screen Takeoff.

Another benefit to the solution is its grip pen calibration feature. This enables users to simulate writing on paper plans using a pencil. Aside from enabling a more efficient cost-estimating process, digital takeoffs can automatically perform measurements and calculations as well.

In other estimating news, Tech Unlimited, www.planswift.com, Henderson, Nev.,

provider of PlanSwift, announced a partnership with SMARTBIDNET, www.smartbidnet.com, which is a product of JB Knowledge Technologies, www.jbknowledge.com, Bryan, Texas, an online construction bid invitation and bid management software.

According to the companies, this partnership will allow a subcontractor to receive a bid invitation and submit a proposal after downloading plans and specs. Then the general contractor can compare proposals and view data online.

These types of technology upgrades and partnerships bring more efficiency to the estimating process for both subcontractors and general contractors. Today's technology is helping the industry enhance the entire estimating and takeoff process.

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