



Takeoff and Estimating Software for Concrete Contractors

Concrete takeoff and estimating is not a check-the-box task. Quantifying the various elements of a concrete job requires know-how and organization. Phases of the same job involve various quantifications. Slab on grade is significantly different from a metal pan takeoff. Estimating for post-tensioned slabs and columns require different quantifications.

That is why concrete contractors are turning to software like On-Screen Takeoff® and Quick Bid®. With digital drawings uploaded into applications, an estimator can see on screen® that every column has been counted and the materials quantified. On-Screen Takeoff calculates measurements of each unit with a mouse click and displays the totals.

Modern database-driven software solutions like On-Screen Takeoff and

Quick Bid increase the accuracy and speed of building a bid exponentially. These tools also allow “what if” adjustments where an estimator can quickly determine the results of

Estimating software quickly pays for itself by increasing the number of jobs your company can bid on.

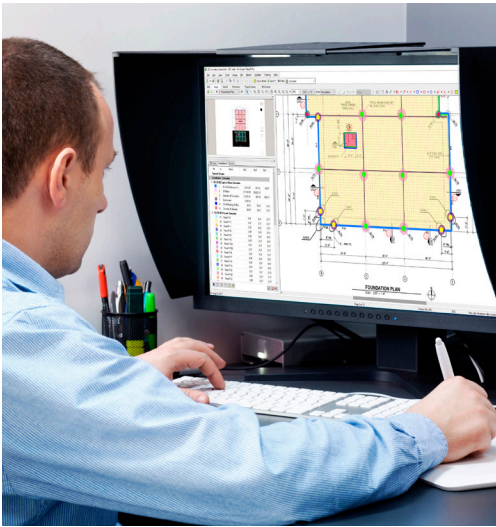
alternatives to the project. Having this ability allows the estimator to understand the cost impact of ad hoc client requests and design changes. Moreover, with Quick Bid, you can

email requests for current prices from suppliers with a few clicks using eQuote.

From start to finish, estimators and project managers who use these automated tools develop clear-cut, detailed bids in much less time than doing it manually. A digital approach to takeoff and estimation also enables quick historical recall from prior jobs as well as efficient change order processing.

On-Screen Takeoff and Quick Bid were designed with a high degree of integration so that takeoff data flows right into cost estimates and ultimately into popular accounting systems.

Implementing Controls to Drive Up Productivity



Calculate area takeoff with one click. Quantities are available instantly for length, volume, rebar, mesh, riser count, and surface area.

Construction estimating applications quickly pay for themselves. First, by increasing the number of jobs your company can bid on, which leads to more jobs won. Also, digital overlays make it easy to compare the initial drawings with the latest revisions. New specs and design changes are color-coded. Manual methods on paper plans take several hours more to account for changes.

Quick Bid enables concrete companies to store a library of standard assemblies and designs. These assemblies

are combinations of materials, mixes, rebar, forms, and labor that together form a unit of concrete production. The assemblies can be instantly recalled and reused on similar projects, rather than manually recreating them from scratch. Built-in cost databases that are unique to concrete are another time-saver. Also, Quick Bid enables the estimator to import current costs from vendors and suppliers. With

eQuote, they can email requests for pricing and availability with a click or two.

Manage Costs Easier

The software generates reports on material inventories and purchases and reports on man-hours based on a variety of labor categories and tasks. Materials are reported by what is needed, and when, to facilitate just-in-time purchasing. Project management software such as Digital Production Control® tracks construction. A project manager can click for a report on percent complete to see if the job is falling behind schedule and over budget.

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A Better Way to Conduct Business

Concrete companies that use software like On-Screen Takeoff, Quick Bid, and Digital Production Control cannot imagine going back to manual methods for these reasons:

Save time and money: Reduce the cost of printing, shipping, organizing and storing paper plans. Spend far less time doing takeoffs and estimates for each bid. Submit more bids and win more projects.

Reduce costly mistakes: Eliminate manual entry errors and see on the screen that everything is accounted for, which decreases the likelihood of having to perform “value engineering” to recoup lost revenue and extra costs from an error-filled bid.

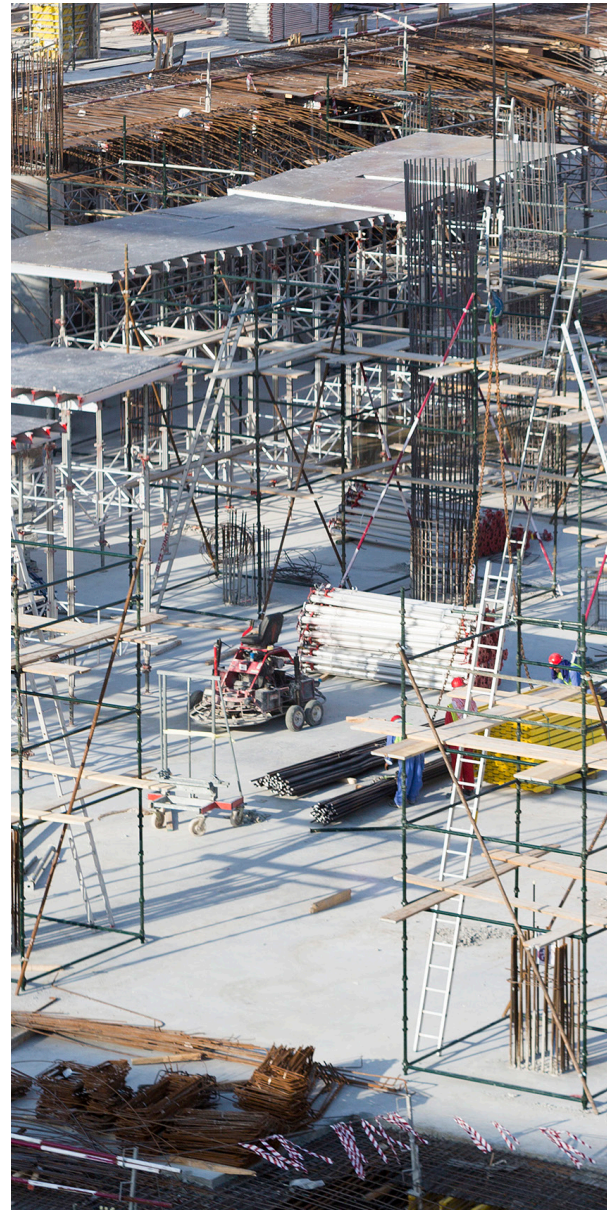
Improve collaboration: Get everyone on the same digital page to first build a bid and later perfume the job on budget.

Beat the competition: Submit professional bids, respond

to change requests and offer alternatives quickly and with confidence.

Conclusion

A construction company's success begins with expertise, attention to detail, and exceeding expectations through teamwork. All that hinges on the ability to produce detailed, professional bids. Taking too long to gather costs to generate a bid often causes wrong plug numbers. Bidding too high because of incorrect input costs will cause companies to lose jobs. Conversely, if a company bids too low due to stale data, it may win the job, but lose money on its work. The objective is to get it right the first time, every time. On-Screen Takeoff and Quick Bid software make the difference between building a valuable backlog of jobs, just keeping busy, and scrambling to make another bid.



On Center Software has been a trusted provider of construction automation management solutions for nearly three decades. On Center was the first in the industry to offer the best-in-class digital solutions for takeoff and estimating: On-Screen Takeoff® and Quick Bid®. Our award-winning software is recognized by the industry, our customers, and partners in 60 countries around the world and is part of construction management curriculum at more than 300 universities and institutions.