

## CASE STUDY

### **DB CONSTRUCTION SELECTS THE HAND-E-PIX DIGITAL IMAGE MANAGEMENT SOLUTION TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY & EFFICIENCY AND IMPROVE CLIENT RELATIONS**

*Civil Engineering company DB Construction uses BlackBerry SmartPhones with the hand-e-pix application from Handheld PCs to provide real-time visibility of project activity.*

DB Construction is a family owned civil engineering company applying its trade throughout the east & south-east of England. Since establishing in 2005 DB Construction has attained, and continues to build on, an enviable reputation for the delivery of pre-eminence across every aspect of the operation. The focus remains on exceeding clients' expectations throughout every step of the construction process from conception & feasibility to handover. No two projects are ever the same, each one presenting their own unique set of challenges, complexities & requirements.

It is DB Construction's approach and understanding of these that truly sets the company apart and has formed the backbone of its continued success.



Most companies would agree that submitting undeniable proof that a service has been delivered completely, safely and correctly, to the required quality standards and within the given timeline would be a real asset. DB Construction has recently implemented just such a solution in hand-e-pix, an easy to use tool for taking time, date and location stamped photographs on SmartPhone devices and uploading them instantly to a remotely hosted content management system. This simple function has delivered immediate cost benefits in terms of providing better time management of sites, management of resources and allowing greater visibility of project works throughout the organisation and importantly to clients.

hand-e-pix is used by DB Construction to maintain its high quality of works and improve health & safety records. A wide variety of works that DB Construction undertakes benefits from hand-e-pix such as:

- Traffic management
- Winter maintenance
- Plant repair
- Structural maintenance
- Health & Safety audits
- Signage



During 2010 DB Construction identified the need to enable better communications with its site/remote workforce. DB investigated several possible options with their communications provider, Davison Communications, and selected hand-e-pix from Handheld PCs.

hand-e-pix is a unique solution that uses proven technology on a smartphone to collect a powerful combination of photographic evidence, GPS location, free text and additional data such as date and time. Using a Global Positioning System (satellite) fix to plot locations at the time a picture is taken a web based database application is updated in real time via the mobile data network. This makes the data available to authorised staff and clients from any location worldwide.

Project Managers, Site Managers and Engineers use a BlackBerry SmartPhone with the hand-e-pix application.

Jack Bowie, QSHE Director of DB Construction says, *"We can now get a series of images from each of our sites and have them instantly available on a secure web site. This gives us real-time visibility into each project and also allows clients to see accurate and up to date images of their works in progress. hand-e-pix has created a hugely powerful project management tool that has increased our overall productivity and efficiency, particularly through time saving and has received hugely positive feedback from clients. It gives us irrefutable documentary evidence, with pinpoint accuracy on time and location on all projects whenever we or our client needs it."*

Jack continues, *"hand-e-pix allows us to display a live portfolio of images on-line, which clients can use to confirm jobs are safe and on-programme, acting as a virtual Project Manager for the client. It also helps document Confirmation of Verbal Instructions and Requests for Information. They also show that the job was completed and the site left correctly, just in case anything is changed, for example over a weekend."*

Having an historical log of information aids DB Construction in terms of legal protection and can reduce insurance costs.

*"Every day we are seeing the potential new benefits that the devices and hand-e-pix can provide. Everyone in the company is benefiting from the mobile solution: the Management team has access to a greater amount of instantly available accurate information; and it gives employees on site assurances that they have recorded the completed works correctly,"* concludes Jack Bowie.

The hand-e-pix system is configurable and DB Construction will be taking advantage of this to provide tailor-made solutions for clients' specific needs on long-term frameworks.

Nick Taylor, Sales Director for Handheld PCs says, *"We are delighted to have been selected as the provider for DB Construction's digital image management system. Working with Davison Communications to implement the solution has been a pleasure. They are professional, knowledgeable and focused on delivering exceptional customer service."*

