

Challenge

“Sure, we want a powerful system with high-end productivity tools. But we really need that system to allow us access to project data whether we are in the office or at the job site. Plus we’d like our job collaborators—both owner reps and subcontractors/vendors—to also have access. Of course, we need a smart system that knows that our vendors should have different access from our project managers.”

Solution

Spitfire Project Management System (sfPMS) is a web-deployed application so it provides access from virtually anywhere, through both office computers and Android™ smartphones. But Spitfire does not merely run in a web browser, so it retains the power of a full Windows user interface. Access to Spitfire also means access to integrated Windows-based tools such as Adobe Acrobat and Microsoft Excel, Word and Project. Role-based customizations determine the exact level of access that all users (from the Superintendent to Project Managers and Assistants to Subcontractors) are allowed to have to project information, documents and files.

How It Works

1. Power users can access the Spitfire Dashboard—a full Windows user interface—anywhere they have access to the Internet.
2. Access to the system also means the use of familiar tools:
 - a. Documents can be created and edited in Microsoft Word, then routed in sfPMS.
 - b. Project financial data can be analyzed using highly tailorable Microsoft Excel tools.
 - c. PDF files can be attached to documents and easily viewed.
3. Spitfire provides routing, file version control and document management.
4. When not near a computer, users out in the field can still access and process documents, alerts, photos and project contacts on mobile devices through the Spitfire App for Android—a specially designed app that takes advantage of smartphone functionality.
5. Casual or third-party users can be given limited access to sfPMS through a generic browser.

Benefits

- Far-reaching access allows everyone involved on a project to stay informed and collaborate seamlessly.
- Everyone on one system avoids the confusion inherent from too many people “doing their own thing.”
- Integration with Microsoft Office and Adobe tools capitalizes on existing user knowledge, comfort level, and productivity.
- Consistent user interface for the full dashboard and generic browsers means no double training is necessary.
- Web-based deployment and self-updating software keep IT costs at a minimum.