

**Specialty Publishing Co.**[Home](#)[News](#)[Technology](#)[Lists](#)[Conferences](#)[Awards](#)[Resources](#)[PRINT ARTICLE](#)  [EMAIL ARTICLE](#) 

November 20, 2007

Plugging the Drain on Resources

A misplaced hammer here. A missing 2x4 there. Each event seems insignificant in and of itself; however, together they quickly add up and chisel away at the profit potential of every project.

With the solutions available today, construction firms have few excuses for not increasing productivity and profitability through better management of resources.

Better tracking of equipment and materials can also save companies from purchasing duplicate tools or materials. Not only will workers have quicker access to the supplies they need, contractors can make sure equipment is where it is most needed and not sitting idle on a jobsite or warehouse.

HCSS, www.hcss.com, Houston, Texas, recently launched a Small Tools feature for The Dispatcher Resource Management Software that enables construction companies to track the inventory of small tools assigned to employees.

"Construction companies lose many thousands of dollars annually to replace lost, stolen, or damaged tools, or buy them unnecessarily when they can't find them at the moment they're needed," says Steve McGough, HCSS's chief operating officer. "The Dispatcher's Small Tools feature addresses the familiar issues of employees losing tools, bringing them home or leaving them at a job site because they forgot which ones were assigned to them."

Now users can leverage The Dispatcher to track specific tools assigned to individual employees on a daily basis, and maintain a complete history of the company's tool-related transactions.

The software solution offers a grid of squares on the screen indicating the foremen or other employees who have been assigned small tools. Each square represents a specific individual and the tools for which he/she is responsible. When tools are returned, they're marked as available. If a tool is assigned to another employee, it can be "dragged and dropped" from one person's square to another.

Furthermore, contractors should understand the scope of the project goes beyond scheduling and accounting.

"It is no longer really good enough just to manage a project through project management without being able to have

CONSTRUCTECH

Top Stories

- [Sharing Data Globally](#)
- [High Range and Low Power](#)
- [Kore Partners with Auto Service Provider](#)
- [TGI Makes ERP an Easy Pill to Swallow](#)
- [NYS DOT Expands CORS Network](#)
- [Plugging the Drain on Resources](#)

[ALL OF TODAY'S HEADLINES](#)

This Week

- [Import, Export Indexes Up](#)
- [Lean and Flexible](#)
- [Amcor Flexibles Selects Apriso](#)
- [Architects Meet Demands with Green Designs](#)
- [Sensor Networking in Utilities to Grow](#)
- [Customer Experience Management](#)
- [Multipoint XEB Ethernet Bridge](#)
- [Progress through Community](#)

[ALL HEADLINES](#)

visibility into the resources necessary to complete those projects," says Don Kafka, founder and CEO, ToolWatch Corp., www.toolwatch.com, Englewood, Colo.

ToolWatch's solutions integrate with contractors' job cost, billing, and accounting systems, as well as their purchasing and procurement systems.

Kafka says, "Having instant, accurate visibility into those resources allows a contractor to more effectively manage them and control cost, as well as accumulate a lot of the information that allows them to make good business decisions."



Find Your Way
Navigate the Construction Software Selection Process with Free Tools and Research.
> [Learn More](#)



CHECK OUT THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF
CONSTRUCTECH

- **COMMITMENT TO TECH EXCELENCE**
- **COST VS. ROI**
- **2007 CONSTRUCTECH VISION AWARDS**



[Advertising](#) | [Subscriber Service](#) | [Reprints](#) | [Press Room](#) | [eNewsletters](#)
[Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Partners](#)

Copyright © Specialty Publishing Co. 2007
Problems with the site? Email: webmaster@specialtypub.com