

October 12, 2012

Please print a copy of this newsletter for staff that do not have e-mail.



Designed for all staff and departments who use Accela

Tough Books and AMO

Last week we announced to arrival of 22 new Tough Book laptops for the Building Inspectors to use. After so many years the Tough Books and the Inspectrac software currently being used has become dated. Having new hardware and software is pretty darn exciting. Here is a screen snapshot of the new Accela Mobile Office application that will be used by the Building Inspectors. Below you will find a sample screen from Accela Mobile Office. The sample provides a glimpse of the information and functions at the fingertips of the inspectors including some cool GIS information.

The screenshot displays the 'Record Detail' screen in the Accela Mobile Office application. The interface is organized into several sections:

- Navigation Bar:** Includes 'HOME - LINCOLNDEV', 'JOB LIST', and 'RECORDS' buttons. Utility icons for 'SYNC', 'MESSAGES', 'SETTINGS', and 'HELP' are on the right.
- Record Information:** Shows 'MBS12118' as a 'Mobile Sign' located at '3835 SOUTH ST, Lincoln, NE 68506', owned by 'LUGARUE LLC'. It includes 'ASSIGNED TO:' and 'SCHEDULED FOR:' fields, each with an 'Edit' button.
- Summary Section:** Features a large 'ISSUED' status indicator and an 'Update Status' button. Below it, the 'LAST UPDATE' is noted as '10/12/2012'. A 'View Log' button is also present.
- Location and GIS:** A map shows the location at the intersection of Scott Ave and Normal Blvd. A purple pin marks the specific site. A scale bar indicates 100 feet. The map is credited to Accela Inc. (© 2004-2012).
- Description:** A text box contains the text: '29 DAYS, 9-24-2012 THRU 10-21-2012, SETBACK 10, BUS: DAIRY QUEEN'. An 'Insert Standard Comment' button is located above the text box.
- Left Sidebar:** A menu of options for the record, including 'Summary', 'Conditions', 'Conditions of Approval', 'Location', 'People', 'Additional Information', 'Inspections', 'Fees', 'Attachments', 'Comments', 'Related Records', and 'Workflow and Activities'.
- Bottom Bar:** Contains 'Save', 'Submit', 'Actions', and 'View Log' buttons.

Project Status Report

Many times in our newsletters we elude to the complexities in the project, those many facets of the project which make challenging work for the team. It can be explained in the analogy of building a house. To begin, we created a building plan to implement Accela Automation (AA). A lot was then selected with the creation of a virtual environment. We visited the DSC to get the right approvals and permitting. Footings were poured as the software was installed in the virtual environment and data and communications services were created. The foundation was formed as we gained understanding and working knowledge of AA software functionality. Then the walls began to rise as the analysis effort turns information into new permit record types. The inner workings of the system, how components work together, have been tediously put into place. This is where AA comes together with Accela Mobile Office (AMO), Accela Citizen Access (ACA), and the use of Accela GIS (AGIS) services. Slowly the rafters begin appearing as the roof then spans across the housetop, bringing some closure to the process as the underlying details await their completion. Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical processes have begun; however, have not been completed. Then there are the finishing touches. The drywall, interior details and finish work ... there you have it! This is where we currently are in the AA project. We have this finish work to complete. The team is in the process of making sure that all of the inner workings of the system are working together. The foundation must be tested to ensure that the walls of record types can support our business processes. We are trying to cover all the bases to get the project to the final reveal! So, the final stages of the building are taking place. We are still evaluating when the keys will be handed to you. Accela is working with us to make that determination, and we will have some news to share with you on a move-in date soon.

.....

On this day . . .

Sometimes projects just take guts and determination. Consider Christopher Columbus taking his charge and his crew setting sail to find East Asia and eventually discovering America October 12, 1492. Can you imagine crossing the Atlantic in a small wooden ship?



JIM WALKENHORST
PROJECT MANAGER

FRED A. HOKE
PROJECT SPONSOR

Our Accela project newsletter now reaches 377 people!