



PLUGGING A BLACK HOLE:

THE WAY TO  
BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING (BIM)  
WITH

# JOB SITE TRACKING

***Accuracy, Control and Improved Visibility to Project Status***

**B**etween the time structural steel ships from the Fabricator and the time it is erected at the job site, it may seem to enter a virtual black hole. Because of the lag time involved with processing the paperwork, General Contractors often times do not have visibility to a project for days. Assemblies sometimes go missing in action. At any given time, there may be no way for the erector to tell if shipped assemblies have arrived at the site or where they are located, nor a way to quickly determine if or when they have been erected.

*Striving to adopt BIM-friendly processes, and often because they recognize a potentially valuable service to their customers, many Fabricators desire to implement a system to reduce the paperwork, streamline the process, and accelerate accessibility to project status information from the job site.*

## THE BLACK HOLE

Even if the MRP system has the ability to track assemblies in real time from the saw through shipping, they usually stop there. Often, they do not have an automated way to track assemblies at the job site. Moreover, there may be no interoperability between the Fabricator's MRP, the software packages available to track assemblies at the job site, and the BIM. The use of computers can be limited for this type of data entry because usually they are not rugged enough to handle the elements and harsh conditions found at most job sites.

## THE PLUG

- Create a process that tracks job-site status by scanning assemblies with rugged wireless batch terminals that update the status of each assembly in the 3D Modeling Software.

**Radley WorkForce Productivity...for the Steel Industry**  
White Paper: Plugging a Black Hole — the way to BIM with Job Site Tracking

- Simplify the process using an Automated Data Collection System to minimize errors and speed data capture.
- Use an easy-to-use/easy-to-learn uncomplicated interface. Use this same interface to mark items as received at the job-site, track their location, and to mark them as erected.
- Track assemblies that were rejected for any reason.
- When possible, make use of equipment and bar-codes already operational in the plant.



Simple User Interface

All of this can be efficiently accomplished using a mobile client, created to handle the receipt, location, erection and rejection of jobsite assemblies. As each event takes place, location data is entered into the mobile device.

Captured information is stored on the device in a SQL mobile database and periodically synchronized with the SQL Server data located back at the office. Synchronization is easily carried out in the construction trailer at the site via a docking station connected to a PC with an active Internet connection.

Once docked, the user just has to press a button on the device to begin the sync process. When completed the Modeling software then updates the 3D model to the appropriate color for the current status of each piece.

### The Future

If you have questions about Job Site Tracking of assemblies or labor by using Automated Data Collection, or would like assistance in determining the best first step to simplifying and automating your processes, we are ready to assist you. From receiving to erection, Radley WorkForce Productivity Solutions help the steel industry gain project and process visibility. Focused on interoperability with other systems to solve problems, Radley Corporation bridges the gap often found between software solutions. Radley clients move forward, confident that their systems are flexible and able to grow with them into the future.

### About Radley Corporation:

Enhancing your technology investment — by streamlining data entry and daily operations, and automating data flow, Radley's WorkForce Productivity Suite for the Steel Industry is a mobile computing and data collection system that provides a complete work force optimization solution. Radley's x/DC provides a user friendly interface and enhanced functionality to tracking and shipping processes. Delivering real time information that is critical to adapting to today's ever changing business climate, x/DC validates from your MRP/ERP database and updates it with each completion - as it happens. Without separate databases and manual data entry, better data is available immediately. Personnel can take action while it still matters. Modules for Time & Attendance, Labor Tracking, and Product Traceability are also available.

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