

# Whitepaper

## SharePoint 2007 And Construction domain



### Overview

The construction domain is basically divided into three types of construction:

#### Building Construction:

Building construction is the process of adding structure to real property. The vast majority of building construction projects are small renovations, such as addition of a room, or renovation of a bathroom. Often, the owner of the property acts as laborer, paymaster, and design team for the entire project. However, all building construction projects include some elements in common – design, financial, and legal considerations. Many projects of varying sizes reach undesirable end results, such as structural collapse, cost overruns, and/or litigations reason; those with experience in the field make detailed plans and maintain careful oversight during the project to ensure a positive outcome.

Building construction is procured privately or publicly utilizing various delivery methodologies, including hard bid, negotiated price, traditional, management contracting, construction management-at-risk, design & build and design-build bridging.

#### Heavy/Highway Construction:

Heavy/Civil construction is the process adding infrastructure to our built environment. Owners of these projects are usually government agencies, either at the national or local level. As in building construction, heavy/civil construction has design, financial, and legal considerations, however these projects are not usually undertaken for-profit, but to service the public interest. However, heavy/civil construction projects are also undertaken by large private corporations, including, among others, the golf courses, harbors, power companies, railroads, and mines, who undertake the construction of access roads, dams, railroads, general site grading, and massive earthwork projects. As in building construction, the owner will assemble a team to create an overall plan to ensure that the goals of the project are met.

Industrial construction, though a relatively small part of the entire construction industry, is a very important component.

## Industrial Construction:

Industrial construction, though a relatively small part of the entire construction industry, is a very important component. Owners of these projects are usually large, for-profit, industrial corporations. These corporations can be found in such industries as medicine, petroleum, chemical, power generation, manufacturing, etc. Processes in these industries require highly specialized expertise in planning, design, and construction. As in building and heavy/highway construction, this type of construction requires a team of individuals to ensure a successful project.

The above division of construction domain is shown in figure below:

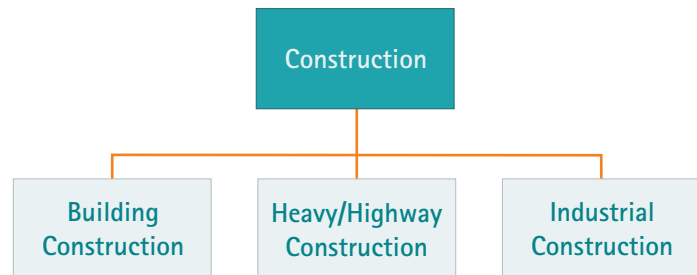


Fig: Types of Construction Domain

## Overview

### About Construction Domain

The construction project life cycle is divided in the following stages:



Fig: Construction Project Life Cycle.

#### Explanation of the life cycle of the construction project

- Identifying the clients' requirements and constraints
- Preparing the strategy, identifying the procedures, structure, etc.
- From strategic brief of project to full laid strategic plan for project
- Detailed proposal, application for full development control approval
- Preparation of final proposal
- Preparation of product information
- Preparation of tender documentation
- Identification and evaluation of tender action
- Arranging the site handover to contractor
- Practical construction
- Administrative activities after construction

Now in any type of construction, there are some general issues that need to be taken care of. These are:

- Tracking the project at every phase
- Issue Tracking
- Automating paper work involved in a project
- Lack of Integrated Solution for various systems involved in a project
- Lack of knowledge sharing center
- Lack of Document Management

## Introduction to SharePoint

SharePoint is an integrated suite of server capabilities that can help improve organizational effectiveness by providing comprehensive content management and enterprise search, accelerating shared business processes, and facilitating information-sharing across boundaries for better business insight.

The points below give an overview of SharePoint as one integrated solution:

- Manage Content and processes
- Improve Business insight
- Simplify Internal and External Collaboration
- Integrate various solutions to One Solution
- Project Management
- Issue Management

The above points can be graphically put in the figure as shown below:

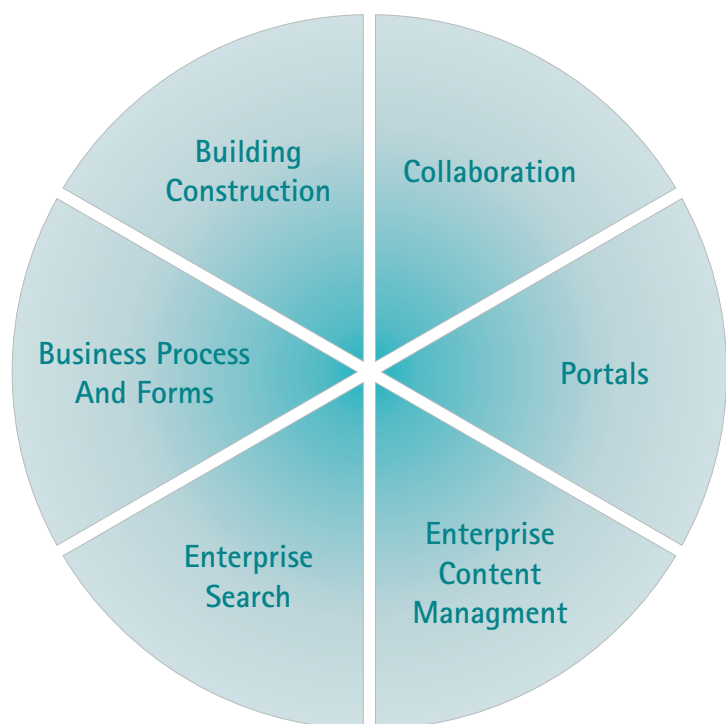


Fig: SharePoint overview as one integrated solution.

## SharePoint for Construction Domain

The following points brief us about the uses of SharePoint for construction domain:

- Integrated Solution to all scattered processes involved in a project
- Content, Document management to automate and manage paper work
- Project Management to track every phase of the project
- SLA monitoring mechanism
- Issue management framework
- Knowledge Sharing Portal for sharing best practices/Issues/Risks
- Tracking/Monitoring mechanism for all financial Data with graphical view

## Facts: SharePoint and Construction Domain

Construction companies across the world are fast using SharePoint for their various internal and external requirements. Some of the companies are listed below:

- George & Harding Construction Ltd
- COLPATRIA Constructa : Reduced there construction delays by 50% and were able to create a process to support ISO Certification
- Heery International : Adopted SharePoint for documentation management
- eBuild.ca: Using SharePoint for better project tracking and management mechanism
- PCL Constructors : To Streamline the business process
- Lagan Construction : For better inter office collaboration and to have a centralize management

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