

C.F. Jordan Finds Flexibility and Ease with Sage Timberline Office

C.F. Jordan, a Texas-based multi-family and commercial general contractor, owned Estimating, a Sage Timberline Office application, but wasn't using it. When Chief Estimator Steve Harper was hired, he wanted to change that.

Harper, who had been trained to use Estimating at a previous job, set about showing his new co-workers how they could do everything they needed to do using Sage Timberline Office.

Thinking Outside the Spreadsheet

"When I started, I was given 101 reasons why Sage Timberline Office doesn't work," he says. "It was just a matter of people not understanding how to fully use the software."

Harper says he showed them that using Sage Timberline Office is more accurate than using a simple spreadsheet.

"I've seen a lot of mistakes in spreadsheets that I don't see in Sage Timberline Office," Harper says. "With this software I don't have to worry about formulas being corrupted. I'm getting ten times what I want."

C.F. Jordan's four residential estimators, most of whom had used Sage Timberline Office in previous jobs, began using Estimating regularly, Harper says.

All-in-One Support and Software

In the past, Harper had undergone Sage Timberline Office training classes, which taught him all the ins and outs of the software. When he forgets how to do a rarely used technique, he calls technical support.

"I don't think I've ever had a problem that tech support couldn't solve," Harper says. Most times, they can answer his questions on the spot, but they're always prompt when they have to get back to customers, he says.

Customer:

C.F. Jordan

Industry:

General Contracting

Location:

El Paso, Texas

System:

Sage Timberline Office

- Accounting
- Estimating
- Property Management
- Reporting and Other Tools

CHALLENGE

The staff at C.F. Jordan relied heavily on spreadsheets to create estimates—leaving themselves vulnerable to calculation errors.

SOLUTION

Sage Timberline Office provides flexible, powerful estimating tools that anyone can learn to use. Sage support experts reply quickly to customer questions.

RESULTS

Chief Estimator sees greater accuracy with Sage Timberline Office, and no longer has concerns about formulas being corrupted in Excel. Creating multiple versions of an estimate for comparison purposes is fast and easy.

Harper often uses Sage Timberline Office to create multiple estimates for the same project, allowing him to compare different alternatives. “It lets me look at them side-by-side and price them out.

When I decide which one I want, I just drag-and-drop it into my main estimate and pull out the detail I’m replacing. If they change their minds, all I have to do is drag it back,” he says.

Flexible Reporting Makes a Difference

He says the flexibility and reporting capabilities Sage Timberline Office offers are especially useful. “With the Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) codes, I can pretty much pull the information I want out of the estimate and sort it how I need it to be sorted to suit my clients. We have some people who build for U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and I’m able to fill out a special HUD form by breaking down my costs according to what items go into the lines on the HUD form.”

For more information about Sage Timberline Office, visit www.sagecre.com, call 800-628-6583, or contact your local Sage Timberline Office Business Partner.

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– Steve Harper
Chief Estimator