



CASE STUDY

# Power Projects Forward With Daily Reporting Tools and Real-Time Data

## CHALLENGE

As the County Engineer in Hancock County, Ohio, Douglas Cade and his team of inspectors are responsible for county roads, bridges, drainage and daily inspections of new subdivision developments. With paper processes, Cade faced a number of challenges - from a staff spread too thin to a lack of quick access to vital project data.

## SOLUTION

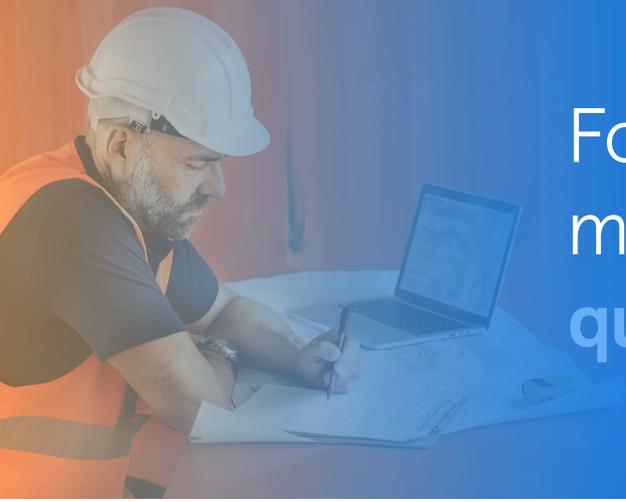
**Appia®** – Infotech’s leading solution for construction administration and inspection.

With Appia’s daily reporting functionality and real-time access to project data, Hancock County inspectors can stay in the field longer and report instantly back to Cade, where he can quickly step in when problems arise.



“We were completing daily reports by paper before. But now with Appia, we can keep track of all our materials, all of our daily pay items, and also keep track of what work is going on.”

DOUGLAS CADE, COUNTY ENGINEER, HANCOCK COUNTY, OH



For inspectors balancing multiple jobs, **there's nothing quite like real-time access.**

**“A lot of times, especially in my 20+ year career, we wouldn't see our inspectors for a week.”**

For Douglas Cade, that's a problem. When you're responsible for everything from road resurfacing to daily

subdivision inspections, keeping a tight schedule relies on the speed of information transfer. With Hancock County's previous paper processes, an inspector spread across 10 jobs simply wouldn't have time to return to the office after every job and log reports. Important information wouldn't reach Cade's hands

until the end of the week when inspectors came to the county office to turn in paperwork and timesheets. That process may work when projects are running smoothly, but any issues that arise would have a delayed response. And as anyone that works in construction knows too well, delays cause further delays.

## Daily reporting tools keep projects moving forward.

“Sometimes our inspectors were not physically able to get to every project, but are now able to stay out in the field and do the reporting directly on their laptop.”

Appia eliminates many of the issues found with outdated paper processes. Instead of receiving a weekly overview of inspections, Cade can monitor project progress as inspectors enter information directly from the site. And since Appia is accessible wherever internet is available through Infotech's mobile apps, Cade can check up on projects whether he's home in the evening, on the road at a meeting, or at the office. With comprehensive daily reporting functionality for materials tracking, pay items, project progress and more, Appia allows Hancock County inspectors to run a smooth and productive operation.



“Instead of inspectors having to handwrite on a piece of paper, come back to the office, type it up, print it, and then hand it to me at the end of the week, we use Appia for real-time access that is a huge time-saver.”

DOUGLAS CADE, COUNTY ENGINEER, HANCOCK COUNTY, OH

# With Appia, problems stop being problems before they ever really start.

When discussing how Appia reduces the risk of issues on a job, Cade recalls a specific example. As part of his County Engineer responsibilities, Cade and his team conduct daily inspections of new subdivisions to ensure developers are constructing the required improvements.

On a recent subdivision inspection, an inspector reported an issue with the elevation of the road

subgrade. As it turned out, the operator didn't know how to read the grade stakes and undercut the road by two feet. With instant access to the inspector's report, Cade was able to see the issue and contact the consulting engineer on the project before the discrepancy dramatically impacted progress. And though that section of road needed to be adjusted and recompacted, Cade and his team were able to stop the operator before the entire street was built incorrectly - saving the county time and money.

**“We can determine what kind of problems are occurring at any time...instead of waiting one week to find out the problem was a big problem.”**

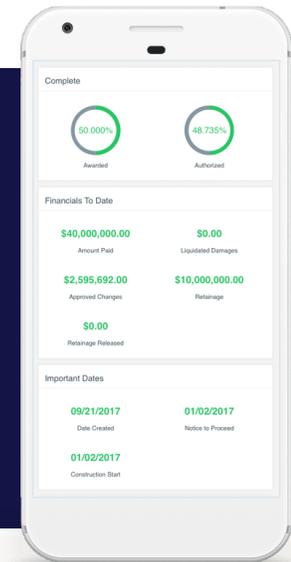


## Tailored implementation and support have teams up and running in no time.

**“The more you use it,  
the more you find the  
functionality is very  
easy to use.”**

Despite a natural learning curve that comes along with any new software, Cade and his team were able to start setting up projects and using Appia in

the field very quickly. As one of six partners piloting the software in Ohio, Hancock County inspectors and engineers participated in onsite training with Infotech, developers of Appia. Their product knowledge was bolstered through access to educational webinars and other resources that walk users through



Appia's different functions. Cade enjoys the ability to contact the Appia support team any time issues arise and found the support team extremely available to answer questions. Once training was complete, Cade and his inspectors saw their process revolutionized almost overnight.



“My inspectors love it. In administration, sometimes we just want to review the report and get it through without any problems. The [people] in the field are dealing with reporting daily and they see all the benefits of the software.”

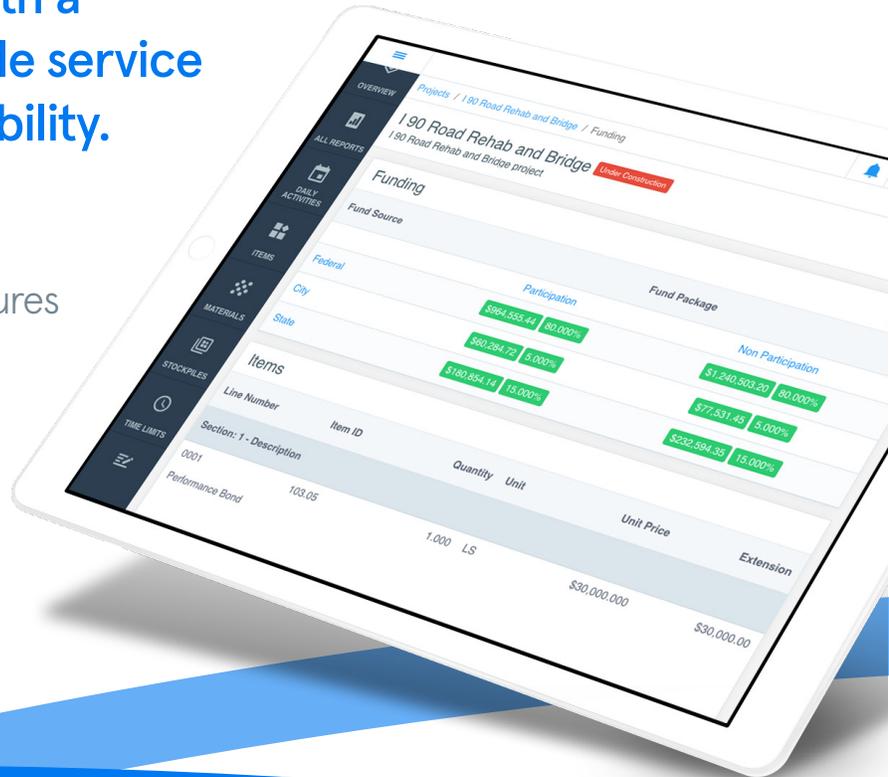
DOUGLAS CADE, COUNTY ENGINEER, HANCOCK COUNTY, OH

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