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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY THOUGHT LEADER ON RECORD-KEEPING AND LITIGATION

Will Pandemic Lockdowns Be The Catalysts That Evolve Construction Record-Keeping On Paper Into The Digital Age, Reducing Related Disputes and Litigation?

(Philadelphia, PA) Traditionally, the construction industry has kept many records on paper, including blueprints, design drawings, procurement orders, equipment logs, progress reports, punch lists and others. According to consulting firm, McKinze & Company, the construction industry is one of the least digitized of all industries. Jim Gallagher, principal at Resolution Management Consultants says, “Paper records contribute to a lack of consistency and reduced access to information as owners, designers and crews often find themselves managing with different perceptions of what is actually happening on a project. This dysfunction has contributed to creating or complicating disputes and litigation.”

Although there have been numerous digital record-keeping solutions available to the industry, habit and tradition have kept the paper trail alive. Is it finally time for the construction industry to evolve into digital? Gallagher believes it is. He says, “The tipping point was likely the need to digitally measure and track Covid symptoms on site, which pushed people to become more accepting of digital record-keeping.” Gallagher notes that a

number of digital health screener apps have expanded as they have grown in popularity, to add features such as time keeping, PTO records, punch lists, daily diary and more.

“Leading the industry’s conversion to digital from another direction are BIM or Building Information Modeling applications,” observes Gallagher.

Although BIM was initially developed as a 3D modeling process enabling the entire design and construction team to more effectively collaborate on a project, the concept has expanded from 3D to 8D and beyond to enable coordination of additional aspects of the construction process, including record-keeping.

Gallagher lists several reasons why embracing digital record-keeping has the potential to lower costs, facilitate payment and reduce the number of disputes:

- Digital makes it easier to search through records and find relevant information.
- Digital expedites date/time recording and overall accuracy.
- Digital records can be stored in a single place using minimal space, which is helpful in researching billing or litigation issues.
- Access to digital records makes it easier for various members of the team to collaborate.
- Digital records provides accurate access to information even after employees leave the company.

- Digital record-keeping facilitates the analysis of information and performance.

Says Gallagher, "Digital record-keeping has the potential to stop disputes before they even start because there is much more efficient access to information during every step of the construction process."

About Resolution Management Consultants, Inc.

Resolution Management Consultants, Inc. (RMC) is a nationally recognized consulting firm headquartered in Marlton, NJ. There are two sides to the business: the construction planning and management aspect – helping clients build more successful projects – and the litigation aspect – should matters go to court, providing analysis and testimony as expert witnesses. Founded in 1993 by veterans in the construction, contracting and engineering professions, RMC has assisted numerous private owners, public agencies and contractors in either achieving project goals or resolving cost and time disputes between the contracting parties.

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