



ACCOUNTING AND CONSULTING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Having Troubles Tracking Costs? Having Troubles Tracking Costs?

Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!

Sometimes it can be difficult to ask the tough questions, like “Why did you overcharge me?” Don’t be afraid to **ask your subcontractors or material suppliers questions** about your bill. If you see what you deem to be a mistake on your invoice, ask. It could have been a simple clerical error that can be corrected without any hard feelings or harsh words.

If you can, always **adjust incorrect invoices before paying** them. It is much harder to get a credit if you have already paid the bill. “Can I have my money back?” you ask. Sometimes the answer is, “No.” Plus, you should always **track costs from the very beginning** of any job. That way, you can save everyone time, money and embarrassment.

Another initiative you can try is to **print detailed job cost reports after each payroll and after the payables** have been posted or paid. You’ll see what you spent and when, and how much you have left to play with. To update that famous phrase, “It is better to regret the things you have said, then the things you should have said.”

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