TOPS Construction Software

Innovation Description:
TOPS Construction Software utilizes technology to allow for real-time collaboration and coordination of construction activities between Owners, Contractors and Sub-Contractors by allowing all parties to access the information in the data “cloud”.
By leveraging project control relationships and associating them to planning, construction, schedule, turnover and commissioning by the Owner efficiency, accuracy and quality have been greatly increased.

What the Innovation is:
TOPS allows more effective sharing of information concerning Construction Scope, Activities, Quality Requirements, Inspections and Project Controls such as RFI’s, Punch lists, Drawings, Change Orders, Purchasing, Receiving, Transmittals, Quality Inspections, and ASME & AWS Welding activities.
Construction Scope is entered during the planning phase of a project and target dates are set for logical chunks of work also known as work/test packages.
As construction activities progress RFI’s and Punch list items are associated to the work packages. Field completion and corresponding Inspections are also recorded, this provides for a much smoother and efficient turnover and commissioning process with the Owner.
Summary reports provide progress of construction and quality activities and allow improved effectiveness and management of the project.

Why the Innovation is Important:
TOPS is so important because it allows for the field and the office to share a common tool to track, progress and turnover construction projects to the Owner in a controlled manner, that improves quality, while bringing down the cost of construction.

Origination:
“Necessity is the mother of invention”; TOPS is no exception to that. TOPS originated as a result of the need to be able to better manage the Inspection activities, Punch lists & RFI’s to allow for easier and smoother turnover of systems to the Owner, and to provide summarized progress of these activities throughout the cycle of the project.

Changes & What it Replaces:
TOPS changes the way information flows and increases its effectiveness and accuracy. TOPS replaces paper and or manual summary systems for tracking construction and quality inspections.

Specific Innovations:
TOPS is innovative in that it associates all information necessary to smooth turnover of work packages to the Owner and makes that information easily accessible to the Owner, Contractor and Sub-Contractors involved in construction activities.

Applications:
TOPS has been used by BMW Constructors Inc. on three major refinery projects over the past year and has helped make them more efficient by providing necessary tools to perform the work more effectively.