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New Product Enhances Project Estimating Capability



A new software product called Steel Erection Bid Wizard can save time and make job estimating much easier. This steel erection estimating program has 304 steel erection tasks with formulas attached to each one. When you enter the piece count, linear footage or square footage of any task into this estimating program, you get an immediate price that includes labor, crane, welder, fuel and equipment cost. These costs are all based on costs that you are currently running that you have entered into the estimating program.

The program uses calculations based on many years of data on how long it takes a crew of professional ironworkers to perform each of the 304 steel erection tasks included in Steel Erection Bid Wizard.

The product developer Vince Hughes, explains, "I have been a steel erector for 28 years, running up to 160 ironworkers and doing between \$8 to 15 million in business annually. In March, 2012 we made the HARD decision to get out of the game and we sold our company. Over the years I had developed an estimating program so, after selling our company, I decided to package it and put it out to the steel erection community. This industry is in my blood so this was a way to keep myself connected to it."

To ensure that the software meets customers' needs, Hughes has modified the software to make it more flexible, explaining, "If for some reason you find that the hours assigned to each task are not correct for you and your company, you can edit the assigned hours for each task to suit your need so it truly becomes your personal estimating program."

Hughes designed the product to make it possible for an injured ironworker on light duty to be able to do takeoffs and input the information into the Steel Erection Bid Wizard, using these steps:

1. For the initial set-up, enter wages, fringes, tax burden, worker's comp average, general liability, subsistence, percentage of mark up where the estimating program will save it.
2. Enter cost for forklifts (all different sizes), scissor-lifts (all different sizes), boom-lifts (all different sizes), rates for different sized cranes, average daily fuel cost, cost of freight for equipment, such as forklifts or boom lifts but not crane move ins and outs that varies by crane size and is entered in a separate place in the software on a job-by-job basis)



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3. Do your detailed takeoff (how many beams, columns, joists, braces frames, braces, moment connections, ledger angles, stairs, rails, nelson studs, square footage of deck, etc.) and enter the information into the program. NOTE: **Steel Erection Bid Wizard** can be used whether you are still doing old school takeoffs or if you are doing them digitally.
4. Enter the square footage and crew size for the size of project you just took off. The Steel Erection Bid Wizard immediately calculates the project price based on **your** wages and equipment cost.
5. Then the **Steel Erection Bid Wizard** inputs the numbers onto another sheet that will have whatever **your company's** standard language and exclusions are, which can be edited to suit your company. This form can be used to enter the general contractor information and email your **steel erection** bid or print and fax it. This **estimating program** will accommodate any alternates a project may have.

A demo video and more information are available at <http://steelestimatorsdream.com>.