

Bid Express Internet bidding option ON-LINE BIDDING EXCHANGE

Your agency can choose to include the Bid Express service as part of your Appia software implementation. The Bid Express service is a two-way online bidding information service - publishing bid-related information from your agency to the bidding community, and allowing online, secure, sealed and digitally-signed bid submission from bidders to your agency.

More than 5000 bidders are already using the Bid Express service for projects from agencies in the U.S. and Canada. Using the Bid Express service saves them time needed for preparing bids on paper, and travel time and expense in attending bid openings. Simple screens allow bidders to quickly scan all current opportunities, and a search function is available for keyword information on current projects or historical data from previous bids. For agencies, accepting Internet bids is an easy process that produces results quickly. Agencies that implement the Bid Express service find that their bid opportunities are easier to plan and execute, and they often benefit from a larger group of contractors bidding on their

projects. Errors are virtually eliminated and bids are received easily and read immediately. Bid data is easy to analyze, and helps make estimation for future projects more accurate.

The Bid Express service also enables electronic bid bond verification, offers a bid tab analysis service, and provides on-line access to plan sheets. The Small Business Network, a virtual community inside the Bid Express service, allows prime contractors, subcontractors and vendors to electronically exchange requests for quotes regarding upcoming bid projects. The network is especially helpful in bringing prime contractors and disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) subcontractors together to meet specific agency requirements.

The Bid Express service was established in 1997 and has grown to become the Internet bidding service of choice in more than half of the U.S. state DOTs, with several more working towards implementation. The Bid Express service has earned the VeriSign® security certification, a true benefit to subscribers and member agencies as it assures the safety and security of their bidding information.

What the users are saying...

"Appia's bid tabs and intuitive, graphical bid analysis feature allow for quick decision-making during the award process. Additionally, the ability to capture historical data dynamically, once bids are received, helps ensure that the estimation process stays current."

"Implementation went very well. Appia was easy to learn and use, and we were able to put the product into production immediately after the training."

*Greg Day, Project Controls Engineer
Consultant for Jacksonville Transportation Authority*

"I can run any project status report for any of the projects in Appia without having to call someone on the project to run that report."

"[Pay estimate data] is calculated automatically versus having to use Excel and copying and pasting from month to month."

"We provided Info Tech with a sample of the [Overrun/Under Run] report and within weeks they were able to implement the report... This was a huge plus for us."

*Vanessa Wallace, Construction Assistant
Pate Transportation Partners, Inc.*

About Info Tech, Inc.

Info Tech provides customer-oriented, highly-technical consulting, software development, systems integration and network communications services for transportation agencies, consulting engineers, and contractors. For more than 30 years, Info Tech has been providing solutions for transportation construction management. Today, there are more than 10,000 road construction professionals using software developed by Info Tech.

Info Tech employs more than 200 professionals and maintains offices throughout the U.S. The company is the contractor for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Trns•port® software suite. Used by 40 of the 50 U.S. state transportation agencies plus two foreign countries, Trns•port is a complete construction management solution.

Agencies looking for an enterprise solution for managing any infrastructure projects are looking for the Appia® software. It manages cost estimation, bidding/bid analysis, and construction, all in one intuitive environment. Tools for external partners allow for collaboration, and the Appia software can easily interface with other systems.

Benefits

- Automates key functions via the web
- Provides electronic exchange of data and reports with consultants who perform design & estimation services
- Interfaces with the Bid Express® service, a market-leading Internet bidding service
- Allows contractors to submit secure, sealed, and digitally-signed bids via the Internet for error reduction and true paperless bidding
- Increases collaboration, accountability, and efficiency among all stakeholders in construction program management
- Provides at-a-glance status updates via the Executive Dashboard
- Standardizes data and reports
- Easy to install, train, and use
- Scalable to projects of all sizes/types (roads, bridges, sanitation, airports, landscaping, etc.)
- Configurable to meet your organizational business requirements
- Accompanied by world-class customer support



The Complete Construction Management Solution

Are your cost estimation, bidding and contracting, and construction management departments working independently of each other; maybe even investing in separate systems? Do your projects move slowly and require re-entry of data? Are your contractors requesting Internet bid submission?

Agencies like yours are facing these issues, plus they have difficulty managing projects in the construction phase and lack the tools to analyze bid history data. Without effective collaboration, many agencies end up not getting the most for their limited construction dollars. While departments in your organization may have software or manual systems that work for each of them individually, greater efficiency is readily available through the Appia® software.

The Appia software is a web application for managing your entire construction program. It keeps all of your departments engaged because it is reliable, intuitive, and easy to implement. The Appia software manages estimation, bid lettings (with secure Internet bidding), and the construction phase of a project. When you implement the Internet bidding option, the Bid Express® service, you gain access to a market-leading Internet bid management service that reduces errors and omissions in bidding and makes the process truly paperless for both your agency and your contractors.

The Appia software allows you to get the most out of your construction budget by maximizing the return on your investment. It gives you the ability to streamline reporting and get an accurate picture of all activities at a glance. A quick look at the Executive Dashboard gives you a clear picture of what projects are in the works and the current status of each. It is your information source for instant briefings and status updates.

If you are seeking better communication and more collaboration in your agency, the Appia software can help you achieve it. The latest web technology designed specifically for construction program management is available to you today with the Appia software.



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THE APPIA SOFTWARE

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Project work flow

Step 1: Project Creation



Using a standard web browser, projects are initiated in the Appia software, where basic information about the project, such as name, location and description, are defined.

Step 2: Project Estimation



A detailed cost estimate is created by entering bid items and their quantities. Built-in item bid history analysis provides prices that you can use in the engineer's estimate. After pricing, project time limits and funding packages can be added.

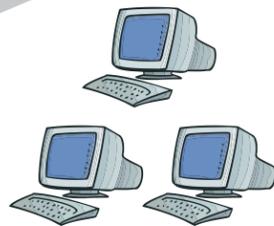
Design consultants can use the Appia Estimator™ software, a stand-alone, interactive estimation system, to create estimates that are uploaded into the Appia software via XML.

Step 3: Advertisement and Bid Letting



Once a project is ready for advertising, an electronic file is created which allows the project to be transmitted to the contracting community in any manner desired (via the Internet, on a diskette, on a CD, or in paper format). Agencies that implement the Bid Express® service can post projects to their agency page on the Bid Express web site. They can also post plan sets for contractors to download.

Step 4a: Contractor Bidding



Contractors are provided with the Appia Expedite™ Bid application free of charge and use it to complete their bids. The Expedite software readily interfaces with most popular cost estimation software, so the contractors can transfer their estimates directly into The Expedite software and submit their bids back to the agency via diskette, CD, and/or on paper.

Step 4b: Internet Bidding Option

If the agency has implemented the Bid Express service, contractors can submit bids via the Internet and electronically verify their bid bonds. Contractors also have access to bid tab analysis data through The Bid Express service for preparing more accurate bids.



Step 5: Receiving Bids



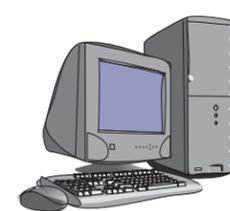
The bids received electronically and via the Internet from the Bid Express service are uploaded by the agency directly into the Appia software. Any bids received on paper are manually entered. The bids are checked automatically to detect any possible errors or omissions, and then made available for pre-award analysis.

Step 6: Project Award and Execution



The agency now views and analyzes the bids using the analytical tools included in the Appia software. The agency then awards the project by assigning the prime contractor. Once the Notice to Proceed date is assigned, the project may be executed.

Step 7: Project Administration



The executed project is now in the "under construction" phase. The Appia software performs the full construction management functionality, including Inspector Daily Reporting, Change Order Management and Contractor Payment Initiation.

Step 8: Project Completion



After the project has been finalized, it is archived and retained within the Appia software, and remains permanently available to meet any future review or audit requirements.

