

YOU ASKED, YOU ANSWERED ON LINKEDIN

Is there a great conflict between the field and the office?

→ Field management typically have, and have to have, a strong personality to be able to deal with the many different levels, from the landscapers to the architects and owners. I looked at my responsibility in the field and in the office to basically take away any excuses anyone has as a contractor we have control over. I always believe the people that bid the job—the project manager and the super—should sit down, face to face, and clarify how everyone envisioned the job to be built.

—Gary McCool, construction manager, DJM Construction Services, Atlanta

→ Different jobs require different personalities. For instance, project managers must be able to negotiate with clients, vendors, and others to resolve the various conflicting needs of the different parties. Superintendents, on the other hand, are “get it done” types who need to push the job forward in spite of the difficulties involved (including lack of timely paperwork). Because of their different personalities and job requirements, it is inevitable that there will be conflict from time to time. It is the job of upper management to bring common cause to the entire project team to get them to work

together. It can be difficult at times but it is not impossible.

—David Prizio, president, Prizio Construction Inc., Costa Mesa, Calif.

→ There has always been this issue that the field does not understand what the office does, and that the office is just overhead. I spent several years changing that perception in the company that I ran. It is difficult to change cultures sometimes but it can be done. You have to get people to understand each part is an essential part of the whole and no one part can stand on its own.

—Harry Moats, president and COO, L. M. Scofield Co., Douglasville, Ga.



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Value Versus Cost

Good to know the facts [about blade wear]. Last year I cut some asphalt about 1 inch thick and 30 inches long and had the same experience. It is definitely something that is worth considering. I wonder what real good blades wear is? —*The koa*

TWITTER

#FF @ConcreteConst because, well, concrete is just cool.

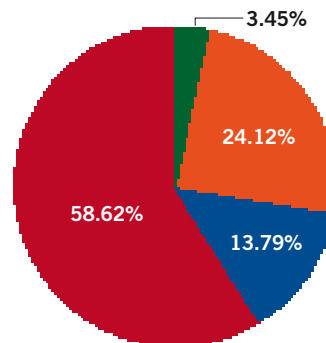
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Tilt-up has worked wonders for us in #studenthousing.

—@HADPARCHITECT

QUICK POLL

Do you enter into joint ventures to get bigger projects?



- yes, but only on public infrastructure work
- Yes, on some building projects
- Rarely
- No

Go to www.concreteconstruction.net to view the reader responses to this question.

» PROJECT OF THE MONTH



This 14-foot concrete alligator, created by John P. Kennedy, was commissioned for Elmwood Park Zoo in Norristown, Pa. Read more about how Kennedy created this swamp-living creature online.

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