Leverage yesterday’s experience in today’s estimates

Every contractor, regardless of size, scope or market penetration, creates a wealth of cost-related data on every project—though few leverage that data and the lessons learned when estimating future projects. Even in this age of digital intelligence, many do not have the capabilities to use that historical data for conceptual estimating or benchmarking. In most cases, historical cost data is not stored in a structured cost database that is accessible to the right people at the right time. The consequences of this missed opportunity are likely lost time, money and business. When faced with an opportunity containing limited scope, contractors are often forced to reinvent the wheel when developing budgetary estimates. The time wasted on this arduous effort often results in lost bidding opportunities. Perhaps even worse, the inaccuracy of a conceptual bid built off bad assumptions could cost you a client.

For companies using Trimble Modelogix, these problems are now a thing of the past. Modelogix is a cloud-based enterprise software solution that allows organizations to capture, benchmark, and analyze all structured historical cost data in a secure, centralized database. Imported data is tagged with cost driving attributes for enhanced searchability. The structured and attributed project cost information can then be used to build cost models within the application.

Modelogix ties seamlessly to data from any leading cost-tracking solution—including Microsoft Excel, WinEst, Vico and others. Data is stored and managed in a user defined cost structure and readily accessible, as needed, throughout your company.

Reduce time and improve accuracy

By leveraging historical costs in the conceptual estimating process, Modelogix can dramatically reduce the time spent producing an early-phase budget for the owner, also improving the budgets accuracy. As one contractor put it, “The ability to data mine across a large library of projects has proved invaluable in creating realistic early phase cost plans.”

Benchmark your estimates

Additionally, estimators use Modelogix to benchmark their GMP estimates against historical projects of similar scope for greater confidence prior to providing it to the owner. Benchmarking several iterations of an estimate can help an estimator identify cost deltas between the estimate as it evolves through the preconstruction phase.

Key Features

- **Search Engine**: Search and filter for projects stored within the Modelogix database by key attributes
- **Slice and Dice Modeling**: Combine any mix of work breakdown structures when creating your models (e.g. CSI code within Uniformat level)
- **Inflationary Cost Indices**: Normalize costs for past projects, to account for fluctuations based on location or time
- **Smart Categories**: Apply key project attributes to past work, allowing you to filter thousands of projects in an instant
- **Benchmark**: Benchmark detailed estimates against your cost models looking for errors or omissions
- **Proposal Designer**: Generate reports and proposals that are consistent, polished, and professional
- **Attachments**: Attach all relevant documents to your projects allowing for easy access to anyone with access
- **Project Database**: Store all of your past project cost history in a consistent, secure, and fully accessible manner
**BENEFITS**

- Centralize and secure your past project cost history or "Intellectual Property" within the Modelogix database
- Create quick and accurate conceptual estimates for your customers by combining historical data with analytics
- Organize your database using flexible coding structures and by applying key attributes to projects
- Produce reports and presentations that outline the details of the conceptual estimate
- Use your cost model to benchmark your detailed final estimates, identifying any omissions or errors
- Visualize your data to see how your cost model stacks up against past projects of similar scope
- Analyze your data based on any number of user defined work-breakdown structures
- Cloud-based SaaS deployment makes setting up and using application simple

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**“Closed loop” Integration**

- The best way to leverage historical information is to create a continuous cycle or “closed loop” integration. To begin the cycle, a feasibility budget is developed that is based on actual cost information from past projects. The conceptual estimate is then moved to the cost estimating solution to prepare the detailed estimate based on owner specifications. The detailed estimate forms the basis for your budgets in your project management solution, and this data exchange is automated with Prolog. When the project closes, the actual cost data flows back into Modelogix for use on future projects.