



# BBE Uses Pype AutoSpecs to Maximize Efforts and Improve Communication

AutoSpecs provides deeper dive early, maximizing efforts and improving communication with subs and the design team

## BACKGROUND



General contractor Bartlett Brainard Eacott (BBE) provides construction, design-build, and program management services across the northeastern United States. Since 1921, their clients have turned to their expertise in the corporate, academic, athletic, assisted living, manufacturing, and high technology sectors.

## CHALLENGE

Project Engineers typically handle creating submittal registers, which is a very time-consuming, manual task. This work requires them to go through construction documents for each project and find every necessary submittal for that project. Then all that information is pulled out and assembled into a submittal register.

Compounding this issue was that even after parsing through the spec book, identifying submittal data, and then copying and pasting each piece individually into a submittal register at the beginning of the job, they would have to do it all a second time to identify the closeout requirements at the end of the job. They were performing the same, arduous, and time-consuming process twice for each and every project.

According to Sue Comer, Executive Project Manager at BBE, "We were doing a two-step process, instead of one that encompassed everything." BBE knew something had to change.

## SOLUTION

A group of PEs in the field at BBE participated in an AutoSpecs demo to see how the software worked. They learned how it scans a spec book and quickly compiles a highly-accurate list of required submittals; they saw how to view submittals broken down by type in the Dashboard; and they dove into different divisions and individual submittals, learning how they could make adjustments in the Smart Register.

It wasn't long before the PEs approached Comer, telling her that they were interested in using AutoSpecs on their projects. She went through the demo herself and realized that the software could be highly beneficial to the company. However, she needed to do a comparison to determine the cost of running specifications through AutoSpecs versus the time it would take a PE or admin to do it.

With teams spending upwards of 45 hours on building a log, Comer was able to calculate significant return by implementing an automated solution. The comparison also showed her that BBE could not only save both time and money, but also improve their quality of work at every stage. AutoSpecs helped BBE ensure that their bids were impressive and detailed, that subs were notified of all submittal requirements, and that their submittal logs were generated by the most accurate Artificial Intelligence on the market.



*"I was involved in the first run we did. I've got to say I think Pype has done a phenomenal job. I found it very easy to use."*

**Sue Comer**, Executive Project Manager

## RESULTS

### Take a Deep Dive During Preconstruction

It typically doesn't make sense for GCs to put countless man-hours into creating a submittal register before even being awarded a project.

But using AutoSpecs, BBE could dig into the specs while the project was still out for bids and confidently estimate more efficiently. Referencing the submittal log gave them clear insights into the project requirements.

Using AutoSpecs to see the required submittals early allows them to gain a clearer perspective of the designer's intentions while the specs are still being developed. Comer says, "We're using AutoSpecs to show owners where they can save on costs, avoid delays, and do it without being confrontational."

As construction managers, BBE works with many architects and engineers during preconstruction. Now they can coordinate with the design team early and pass on the clarified requirements to subcontractors. That's a win for everybody.

### Frees up PEs and Admin

Before implementing AutoSpecs, BBE's PEs and admin staff were spending lots of time reading spec books and creating submittal registers. Now they can let AutoSpecs do the work in a fraction of the time and get quality results, freeing up their staff to focus on project understanding and other, less-manual tasks.



### Held Up Against the Competition

BBE wanted to make sure they were getting the best service possible, so they tested AutoSpecs against its biggest competitor--a new tool released in a product line that BBE has been relying upon for the past eight years.

"We tested a competitor against Pype, and it just didn't hold up. Pype won, hands down" Comer said.

### Tag Specs for Different Subs

AutoSpecs allows BBE to tag their subcontractors for each specification that applies to their work, making it easy to sort the submittals by each sub.

Comer found it valuable to export mini-logs for each trade partner, giving them clear, advance notice of what to submit and when. "This feature, among others, stood out to us when we evaluated AutoSpecs against other similar tools," Comer says.

### Easy to Use

Like every company, BBE strives to provide training for software used by their teams. The more user-friendly the software, the easier it is to train teams, so they can ramp more quickly and become effective with the new solution. "When implementing any technology, ease of use is definitely a factor," said Comer. "And within a matter of minutes, we were zipping around in the program." Soon after getting up and running, they found that AutoSpecs seamlessly integrated with their project management tool, easily fitting into the rest of their project workflow.

## CONCLUSION

Creating their submittal registers with AutoSpecs helped BBE streamline a manual process. They found the product easy to use, and it freed up their staff to do other work. They were able to easily sort and distribute the data they extracted, and catch errors before projects actually begin.

In the end, BBE combined multiple steps into one, used their man-hours more efficiently, and verified they were using the right product to do it.