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Today's Industrial Products & Solutions

Vol. 22 Issue 3

PRESIDENT

Glen Hobson
205-441-5591
glen@tipsmag.net

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Bart Beason
205-624-2180
bart@tipsmag.net

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Steven Hobson
steven@tipsmag.net

EDITOR

Brandon Greenhill
brandon@handfmedia.net

CREATIVE/WEB DIRECTOR

Jacklyn Greenhill
jacklyn@handfmedia.net

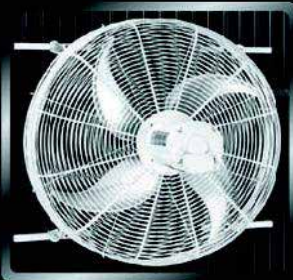
P.O. Box 1568 • Pelham, AL 35124
Phone: 205-441-5591 • Fax: 205-624-2185
www.tipsmag.net
info@tipsmag.net

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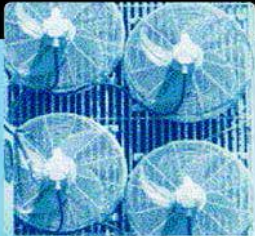
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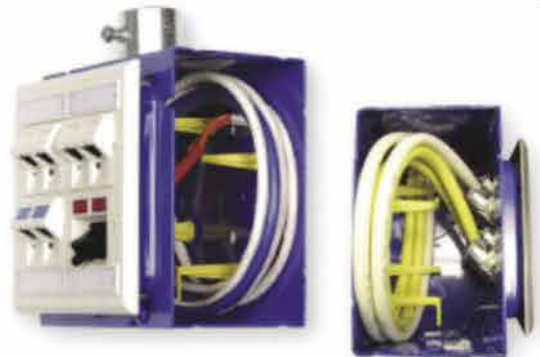
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How to Improve Job Site Metrics with Wearables

Wearables have become a very fashionable topic in the construction industry, but it's not all window dressing, every day, wearables are promoting health, safety, connectivity, productivity and accuracy on construction sites.

An Accessory For Every Occasion

A number of employee monitoring systems have been introduced to the construction industry with the aim of making employees safer.

Dash cams are being installed into truck cabs—but not to record traffic—to record the activities of the driver. Truck companies want to make sure drivers are checking their mirrors and especially aren't using their phones when behind the wheel.



The Spot-R fall alert and emergency evacuation system from Triax Technologies monitors employees' movements to alert safety personnel if the device changes elevation quickly, indicating a fall. And it alerts workers of a emergency evacuation.

The Scan-Link RFID tags monitor employees' locations and alerts equipment operators of employees who are located behind the machine.

Some smart watches detect vibration; that technology is used to monitor the ramifications to the body from using power equipment for a long time. Alerts tell the end-user when power tool use exceeds what the body can safely perform, and this is to prevent hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS).

Smart helmets monitor several health elements, such as fatigue, heart rate and stress, so workers and man



him a safer way to perform his job and wrote down new safety protocols into our guidelines and training.”

Using historical data to learn how things happen is the first step to promoting safety on the job site. “It’s not enough just to learn how accidents have happened,” says Fava. “The next step is to analyze data in order to prevent accidents from happening.

With all of the employee detections picked up by the Scan-Link system, managers can identify “hot spots”—spots where machines detect people the most frequently.

“Using this data, customers can identify areas where a struck-by incident is most likely to occur. Then, customers can make decisions that will decrease the risk of an accident from happening by moving the location of materials, so workers don’t have to walk in a machine’s workspace or by putting up signage warning employees of high-risk areas,” says Fava.

Assisted Reality Connects Two Physical Worlds

Wearables are also instrumental in merging realities, which is bringing connectivity, productivity and accuracy to job sites.

Exoskeleton and assisted reality headset manufacturer Real Wear just released the second version of their assisted reality headset, called the RealWear Navigator 500.

It is sleeker, lighter and is more ergonomic than the previous model (the HMT100) for all-day comfort yet is rugged and durable for use on construction sites and in industrial settings.

It features a modular design, a 48-megapixel camera sensor with enhanced zoom capability, incredible low light performance, and is compatible with more than 200 optimized apps. A hot-swappable battery allows for continuous use the whole day.

“With the Navigator 500, we wanted to provide scale enterprise solutions as part of the digital transformation movement. Today, we see the acceleration of digital transformation on the future of work, espe

agement can modify worker’s activities in ways that promote employee health and job site safety and productivity.

Turning Historical Data Into Predictive Analytics

A lot of times, this monitoring can lead to policy changes and coaching opportunities.

“One customer who uses our Scan-Link RFID technology reported to me the following story,” says Jonathan Fava, president, Scan-Link Technologies, a CONEXPO-CON/AGG exhibitor. “We were looking at the number of times equipment operators were alerted to the presence of a nearby worker, and we noticed one person was causing a lot of alerts, so we pulled that individual aside and asked him why. He explained that he’s the flagger so, when operators load the machine onto a float, he gets up on the float to aid the operator place the machine. We advised him that behavior is unsafe; he could get struck by the machine or fall off the float. So, we told

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cially since the pandemic,” says Andrew Chrostowski, chairman and CEO, RealWear Technologies. “Our device is hands free and keeps you present. You don’t want your head stuck in the meta verse when you’re working around heavy equipment.”

The device allows the user to take photo and video at six different zoom levels, as well as call someone. The device takes audio commands for all features; you say the words “take a picture” or “zoom” or “call Herald” and it does it, so you can keep your hands on what you’re doing.

With it, users can aid in remote inspections and diagnostics. By equipping someone at the job site with the Navigator 500, they can act as the eyes for inspectors and technicians, so inspections and troubleshooting equipment can be done remotely, saving time and travel costs.

Augmented Reality Expands By Becoming Handheld

The Trimble XR10 with Microsoft HoloLens brings a different kind of connectivity and reality. The technology connects virtual reality to physical reality to provide mixed reality.

HoloLens users can see both the physical world and the virtual world; the digital image is overlaid onto the physical world.

This technology is especially handy to trades; now, they no longer need to look at paper designs for what they are installing and then try to map out where that is in the physical world by establishing a frame of reference and taking out the measuring tape; they can simply see, for example, the virtual pipes and their detailed measurements, and install the pipes with high accuracy. They can also see what is being installed nearby, so they can identify potential complications.

Trimble, a featured exhibitor at CONEXPO-CON/AGG, recently expanded the potential for BIM (business information modeling) users to deploy augmented reality on the job site by introducing the Trimble Connect AR app, which is compatible with Trimble Connect. The app is downloaded to a phone or tablet and allows users an augmented reality ex

perience by pushing BIM data to their phone and overlaying it onto images of the real world on the device's screen.

"This eliminates what can be a costly financial barrier to some customers," says Martin Holmgren, general manager of building field solutions at Trimble. "And users can interact with Trimble Connect AR users in the digital space. For example, I can leave a message in the digital space with my Trimble XR10 and someone with the Trimble Connect AR app on their phone can detect the message, even weeks later as they walk by the location where it was left and read it. This greatly enhances communications and streamlines workflows."

Trimble expects people who don't need to be fully hands-free, such as supervisors, managers, inspectors, and building owners will use it to perform tasks, such as QA/QC, updating punch lists, and measuring construction progress.

"The app allows for the incorporation of AR into workflows that don't require the user to be hands-free, and we think our app will ultimately drive AR in a much wider range of adoption," says Holmgren.

About the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)
AEM is the North America-based international trade group representing off-road equipment manufacturers and suppliers with more than 1,000 companies and more than 200 product lines in the agriculture and construction-related industry sectors worldwide. The equipment manufacturing industry in the United States supports 2.8 million jobs and contributes roughly \$288 billion to the economy every year.

About CONEXPO-CON/AGG

Held every three years, CONEXPO-CON/AGG is the must-attend event for construction industry professionals. The show features the latest equipment, products, services and technologies for the construction industry, as well as industry-leading education. The next CONEXPO-CON/AGG will be held March 14-18, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information on CONEXPO-CON/AGG, visit <https://www.conexpoconagg.com>.

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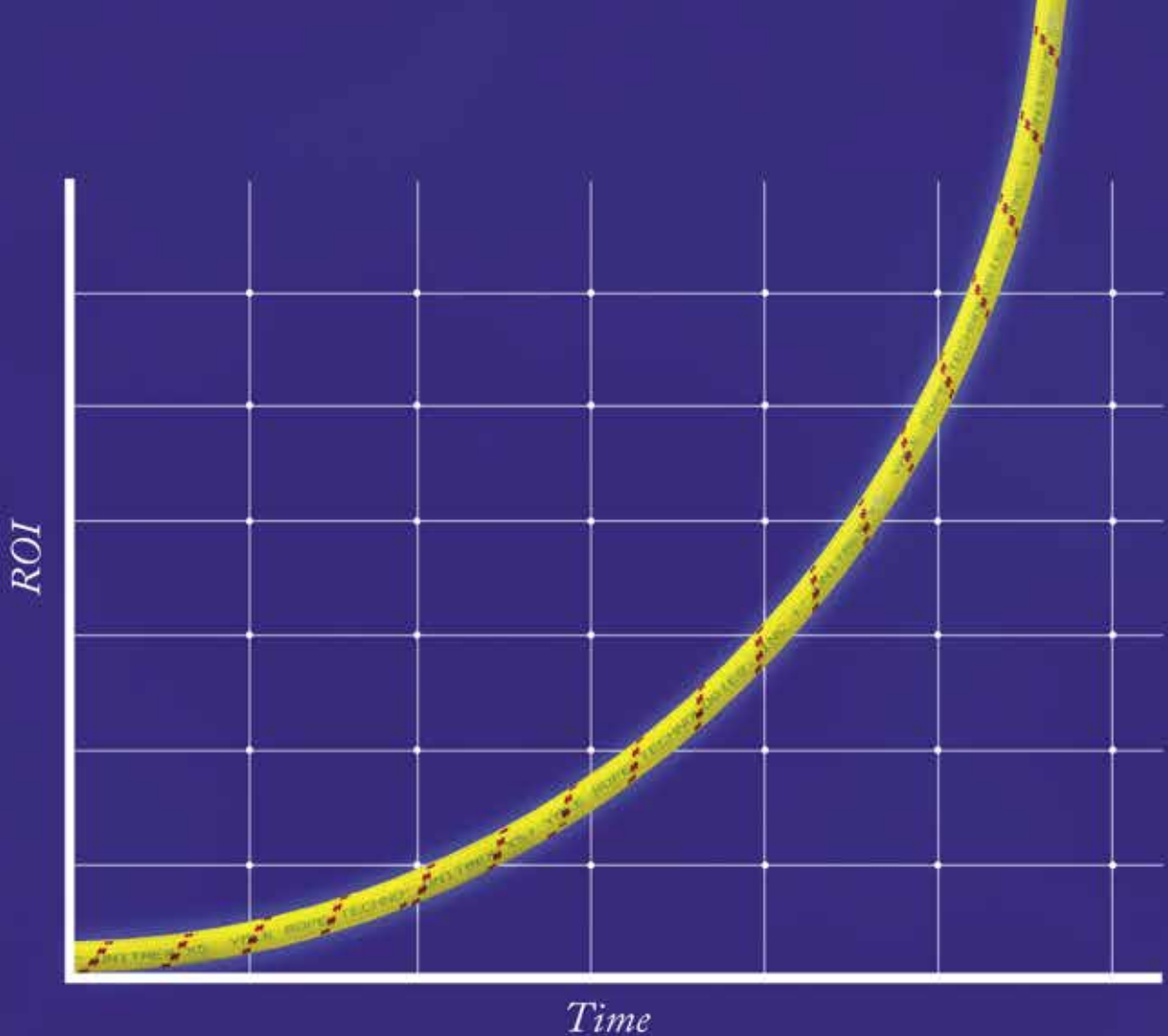
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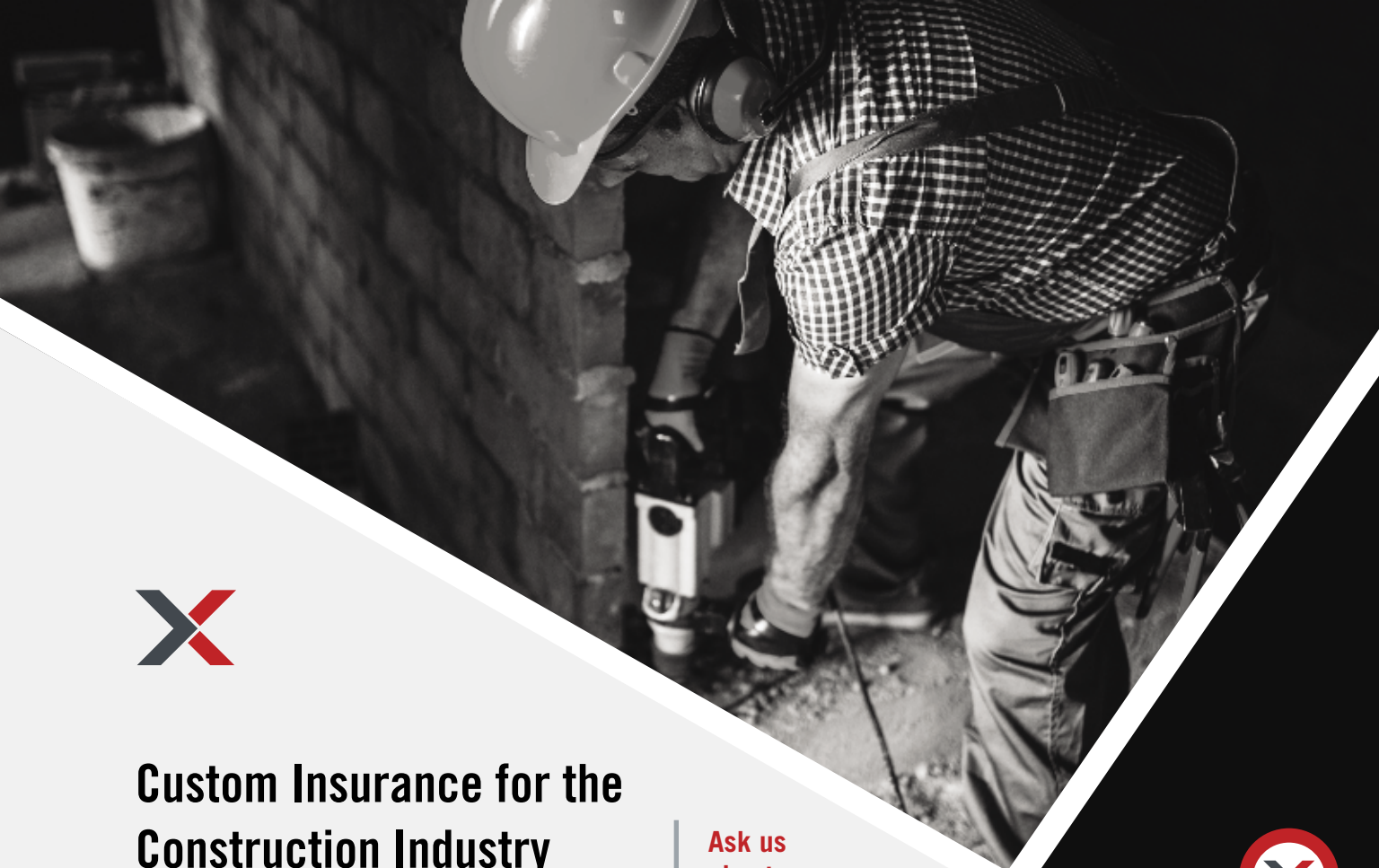


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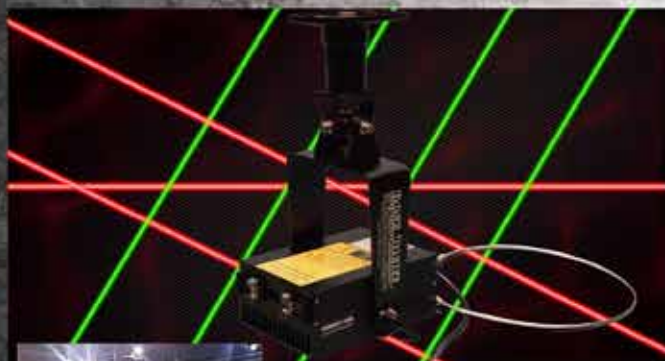
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