

**CASE STUDY** 

# Saulsbury Deploys Holistic Construction Asset Management With AlignOps



### Overview

Saulsbury Industries has been the trusted provider of full-service engineering, procurement, and construction solutions since 1967. Headquartered in Odessa, Texas, the company specializes in serving clients in the energy and heavy industrial sectors. Saulsbury's reputation for delivering safe and high-quality projects has allowed them to expand their services across multiple active job sites spanning eight U.S. states.

In 2014, the Saulsbury team began their search for an asset management solution that would enable them to track their physical assets and fully manage them. This included providing various levels of access to all departments to unify their construction operations enterprise-wide.

# The Challenge

In 2014, Saulsbury had over 50,000 assets in the hands of approximately 3,000 employees spread across multiple job sites nationwide. Although the company used an ERP platform, its tool and equipment inventory control relied on pen-and-paper clipboards. These manual processes led to inaccurate information and unacceptable amounts of lost time and assets, all of which Saulsbury knew were negatively impacting project performance and company profits.

One pressing example of this was the amount of time field workers wasted each day waiting to pick up tools: there was a 30-60 minute wait outside the tool room each day—a time-consuming and costly routine. Over the course of a year, this was stealing three to five weeks of productivity per worker, just waiting for the tools they needed. The process relied heavily on handwritten notes and was difficult to track,



making accountability for tangible assets very difficult to enforce on warehouse staff, field management, and foremen. Meanwhile, the management of trailers, trucks, and tool vans fell under the fleet team's purview, further complicating asset visibility.

To address this problem, Saulsbury wanted more than to know where its tools and equipment were and how many they had. The company also wanted to create

# Saulsbury Asset Management Challenges

- Tracking corporate purchases, usages, and losses
- Consolidated purchases and cost reduction
- Reducing or eliminating duplicity in stock levels
- Tracking the location of specialized equipment
- Utilizing tool and equipment resources across multiple projects
- Ensuring accountability down to the user level.
- Maintaining calibration and inspection schedules for critical equipment



accountability and manage those assets proactively to solve real business problems.

Saulsbury needed a scalable solution for its construction enterprise that would provide the accurate location of assets, create accountability among the field team, support warehouse logistics like pick tickets and equipment service, and provide the back office with financial data to bill jobs and inform strategic business decisions.

"We couldn't have done it without AlignOps. AlignOps is the source of truth for where any item is located, who is responsible for it, and who is paying for it. AlignOps seamlessly aggregates all the information from our Spectrum, ERP, and Geotab systems and puts it all at our fingertips, instantly."

#### The Solution

In 2014, Saulsbury made the strategic decision to adopt AlignOps Enterprise to take control of its construction assets and enable more efficient and effective operations across field, warehouse, and back office teams. AlignOps was the perfect solution as it seamlessly integrated with Saulsbury's existing Viewpoint Spectrum construction ERP and its Geotab telematics integration for its fleet.

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- Sam Stubbs | Former Manager of Asset Systems and Project Services

Notably, every member of Saulsbury's team in the field and warehouse to the back office found it easy to adopt and utilize the real-time data provided by the platform. AlignOps empowered Saulsbury to eliminate all paper-based processes and digitize its asset operations, providing accurate and accessible information for better decision-making.

- "Overall, we wanted to be more competitive. AlignOps' barcode scanning systems, GPS systems, and integrations allowed us to do so."
- Jeff Moncrief | Director of Asset Management at Saulsbury Industries

## The Result

# **Time Savings**

Saulsbury eliminated the wasted time waiting for tools and equipment in the tool room. They utilize AlignOps to scan workers' hard hats and instantly collect critical information such as their names and requested items.

The streamlined process reduced tool room wait times on the job site by approximately 90%.

# Fleet and Heavy Equipment Management

AlignOps' integration with Geotab serves as a vital tool for precise GPS tracking information and visuals to help Saulsbury locate valuable assets quickly and easily.



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The warehouse team took these capabilities one step further by installing a 50-inch TV monitor, which displays Excel spreadsheets automated by AlignOps Pick Tickets and the Viewpoint Spectrum integration. The data updates every 60 seconds, providing the warehouse staff with the most current pick tickets and fleet status information. The names and the locations represented on the screen correlate to:

- Employees in Workday created as employees in AlignOps via an integration
- Trailers as locations in AlignOps
- Job sites from Viewpoint Spectrum imported to AlignOps as locations via an integration

In addition to that, the spreadsheets are color coded to highlight critical areas where



the Saulsbury team is falling behind so that priorities remain in focus and critical tasks are addressed quickly. The system works similarly to airport arrival and departure screens, making it easy to track and manage assets.

The status board provides a comprehensive overview of Saulsbury's 285 trucks, 37 semi-trailers, and 158-trailer fleet, displaying the location of each asset in the field, warehouse, yard, and the entire supply chain. It also offers real-time financial implications for every data point.

By keeping this critical information accurate and up-to-date, warehouse management can organize inventory, accurately complete pick tickets, and efficiently prepare deliveries.

To further improve its asset management, Saulsbury also utilizes AlignOps to extend the life of its valuable assets by automating notifications for all service needs, which include determining the necessary time for an oil change and identifying when the





transmission needs to be flushed. The increase in operational transparency also means that IT no longer needs to navigate multiple platforms to see work orders and preventative maintenance paths.

The streamlined process allows Saulsbury's team to maintain peak productivity without the risk of errors.

# Interdepartmental Communication and Streamlined Operations

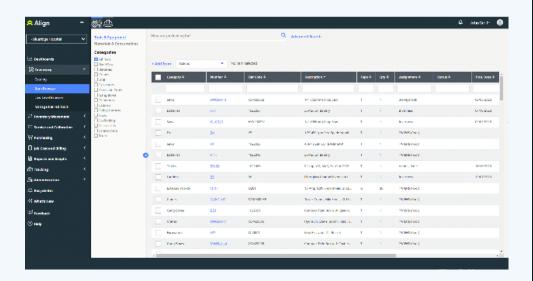
AlignOps became a nucleus for interdepartmental communications, connecting teams with actionable operations data enterprise-wide. Here's how adopting the construction operations platform improved processes for each department within Saulsbury:

#### **Project Managers and Superintendents**

At the beginning of a job, the project managers and superintendents must provide an initial loadout list of necessary tools, equipment, and materials. The list is crucial for ensuring the correct items are available and delivered to the job site on time.

However, creating pick tickets was repetitive and time-consuming for Saulsbury's team. So they implemented AlignOps templates with standard loadout items to create pick tickets. AlignOps expedites initial field processes and ensures the correct tools and materials are available for the job, thus reducing the risk of delays and mistakes that could impact project timelines.

Saulsbury superintendents also utilize the AlignOps Item Browser for accurate asset information on any project. Data is automatically updated, ensuring that the current point of contact is always available, even if the invoice approver changes during the project life cycle.



1. The items are loaded into a trailer that the Superintendent picks up from the





warehouse.

- 2. The items are palletized and picked up by a third-party for delivery to the job site.
- 3. The items are boxed up and delivered by FedEx.
- 4. The items are placed in a dedicated building outside the warehouse with individual locking chain link cages the job site workers can access after hours. This allows the site Superintendent to retrieve their tools outside of the warehouse's normal operating hours, typically very early in the morning.

By providing robust warehouse logistics workflows, AlignOps became the single system for maintaining accurate tool and equipment inventory information, including not only where an item is currently and who is responsible for it, but the entire history of the item, any service plans attached to the item, and more. This allowed Saulsbury to proactively manage its construction assets and avoid overstocking inventory or running out unexpectedly.

#### **Human Resource Department**

In order to streamline asset management and ensure assets and resources are appropriately assigned and accounted for, the human resource department now updates all employee information and the items assigned to them within AlignOps. By using AlignOps in combination with Workday, Saulsbury easily tracks:

- Employee with assets currently assigned to them
- Employee driver records
- Approved driver list
- Current CDL to operate Class 8 Semi Tractors
- The extent of utilization

Taking this proactive approach ensures accountability at all levels, making it easier to track down missing items or investigate issues that may arise.



# Is your business suffering astronomical losses on construction projects? Let us show you how AlignOps improves efficiency, safety, and profitability for your organization. Contact our team today to schedule a product tour.

800.676.4034 AlignOps.com

### Conclusion

AlignOps empowered Saulsbury to take control of their asset operations and solve real business problems, from long wait times at the job site tool room every morning to inefficient warehouse logistics, integrations with Geotab for fleet management and Viewpoint Spectrum ERP for improved financial operations.

While Saulsbury hasn't quantified exactly how much tool and equipment loss it eliminated or how much efficiency AlignOps created for the company, it solved many of the major business challenges its team set out to accomplish when adopting AlignOps in 2014. As new business needs arose, the Saulsbury team moved additional aspects of its construction operations into AlignOps, gaining more value each subsequent year since they launched the platform.

Curious how you can streamline your processes just like Saulsbury? Tour AlignOps today.

