Model Estimating

Model Estimating lets you nail your estimate down to the last nut and bolt.

The result is a remarkably precise conceptual estimate, because the assumptions you make about a project are backed up by details. Costs, quantities, crews, hours, waste factors—everything you need to support your estimate is there in black and white.

Model Estimating Does the Heavy Lifting

Building an estimate model is easy. You determine the complexity or level of detail. Then to run the model, simply take what you know about a project, and answer a series of conceptual questions, making the same assumptions you always do. Your model does the rest of the work by using construction methods, costs, and production rates directly from your database. Overnight estimates? No problem. On-the-spot estimates? That can be done, too. You can even use Model Estimating for fast-track projects. The model lets you complete estimate details in the design phase before finalizing the entire estimate. And you can make estimate changes in later phases without affecting earlier work.

Make Changes at Will

A lot of things can happen to a building design once you've handed over the first estimate. A brick exterior can change to stucco. Rooms can expand or contract. The building can move to a new site. The number of changes can be mind-boggling, and costly if you don't keep track of them. With Model Estimating, you can easily modify and monitor your estimate as changes are made to the design. So you know exactly how those changes impact your estimate, before they add up to a budget problem.

Intelligence that you build into the model makes sure no loose ends are left untied. Modify anything about the model and it will logically "think" through the change and take appropriate action. Change a building's exterior facing and the model selects a new foundation size and backup wall. Stretch the height of a concrete tilt-up wall and the model specifies a different type of rebar. It's all automatic. What's more, you don't have to scrap your conceptual estimate and start over to prepare a final estimate. As the design progresses, your conceptual estimate evolves from assumption to specification smoothly and accurately.

Analyze the Estimate from Every Angle

Model Estimating is highly analytical, which makes it great for value engineering and other applications that require sophisticated parametric estimating. Sage Timberline Office and Sage Master Builder let you see multiple views of the estimate model up close and in detail. So you can quickly consider a variety of cost options. You can play "what-if" games just about anywhere—in brainstorming sessions, at regular meetings with project designers or owners, or over the phone. With Model Estimating, you don't have to wait until the design has gone to bid to find out the building is too expensive to build. Model Estimating will tell you as the design develops whether a building option is feasible or not.

Deliver the details

Model Estimating does away with ballpark, pie-in-the-sky conceptual estimates. Instead, you get lots of details to help you respond, in dollars and cents, to ongoing design ideas and changes. In the end, you'll be amazed at how little dollar difference there is between your initial estimate and your final bid. Model Estimating lets you nail down the details; every step of the way.

BENEFITS

Create fast and remarkably accurate conceptual estimates with limited or preliminary project information.

Recalculate project costs based upon new or additional project specifications as they become available.

Play "what-if" to review the cost impact for a number of construction scenarios.