**Chevron’s Secret Weapon: AutoCAD Search Tool**

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**Abstract**

The journal describes the usage of DrawingSearcher, an AutoCAD based search program that is used extensively by Chevron engineers, designers, and operators. This program is used to find the necessary AutoCAD designs and drawings in a matter of seconds, compared to having to manually look for the physical drawings in an office cabinet. Technical expertise is not required, as DrawingSearcher can be used just as simply as widely known search engines, Google and Bing. This program is efficient to the point of having saved the Richmond location tens of thousands of dollars in regard to time spent otherwise looking for physical drawings.

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Summary:

Chevron’s Richmond, California location is large in size and workforce, being 2,900 acres and 1,700 workers strong. With such massive sources, it retains the ability to refine and maintain a large number of pipelines and infrastructure. A large workforce also helps to find and resolve problems found on site. One aspect that employees work on is fixing and replacing critical components that are susceptible to wearing down more frequently. This is done to ensure that operations may run smoothly at all times. In order to further increase productivity, Chevron has implemented an AutoCAD based search program, known as DrawingSearcher. Developed by Docupoint, this program was designed to make identifying and locating services, parts and systems a smoother and easier task. This search program is modeled to be superior to a previous version of an AutoCAD based search program. DrawingSearcher was able to find AutoCAD drawings using acute information detailed in the files, from physical footprint, to blueprint designs. Before this program, people needed to manually search for physical drawings found in the CAD office. DrawingSearcher provides employees the ability to update AutoCAD drawings in a more efficient manner, and offers an all-around clearer search experience. Utilizing it is as simple as using Google or Bing. Accessing it requires no vast experience in the AutoCAD program. DrawingSearcher is most frequently used by Chevron’s engineering, maintenance, and operations departments to help locate and use applicable drawings as many times as they need.

Annually speaking, DrawingSearcher has saved Chevron ten of thousands of dollars in regards to time utilized in searching for AutoCAD drawings.

Works Cited

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