Hello Danielle, thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

I'm conducting research on behalf of a Dr. Anh D. Chau’s research team. Our project aims to explore how AI could be developed to assist professionals in the construction industry. We're specifically looking at how these applications could help with day-to-day tasks. There are no right or wrong answers – we're interested in your honest thoughts and experiences. Your expertise in the field is what we're here to learn from.

**1. Background Questions**

* Could you briefly describe your role in the construction industry? Project management / Project Superintendent
* How long have you been working in this field? 7 years in current position, but 19 total within the industry
* What are the main types of projects you typically work on? County, City and FDOT – Roadways

**2. Current Challenges and Processes**

* Could you walk me through a typical day in your role, focusing on tasks that involve accessing information, decision-making, or following specific processes? As a **project manager** I feel my role is to support the project team from the project superintendent to the trucking department, scheduling and everything in between. Just to name a couple of PM tasks - we process invoices / quantity for payment, process subcontractor payments, track budgeting for each project, attend all scheduled meetings and assist with problem solving for any field issues that may come up. As a superintendent you are to schedule and set up the day to day subcontractors/project tasks. You monitor the onsite progress, fill out and maintain onsite forms (just to list a few - rain fall, MOT, ITCP, OJT, incidents that may happen / traffic or otherwise), order any project support you may need, schedule when subs are to come in and get them to commit mobilizing to the project, stay on schedule with project completion and within budget. The super and PM should have a good working relationship in order for both of them to be successful in their roles.
* What are the most challenging or time-consuming aspects of your daily work? How do you handle them? (Follow-up: How do you think AI might help with these challenges?) Knowing which specification, the owners are following and having a complete understanding of those specs. I think AI would help with these if there was a simpler way to plug in what you have, what you need and it would give you the spec to utilize or fits the situation at hand. This would mostly help newcomers, as they're still learning, and experienced people, since specs can change. When making a split-second decision, it's crucial to have accurate information. Project scheduling is also a challenge for me (CPM / P6), but if AI had a program when you could plug in details of the job and milestones it would dumb it down and give me something easier to follow, that would be great.
* Are there any repetitive tasks in your work that you find particularly tedious? Can you describe one in detail? (Follow-up: How much time do you estimate you spend on this task?) When my work load was more towards the FDOT side of things, the CPM schedule was very tedious. I would say that the amount of time spent on this in a two weeks’ time was more than 10 hours over multiple days.
* In your area of work, what are some common issues or mistakes that people often encounter? How are these typically addressed? Is there any possibility that they cannot be discovered and resolved timely? The one thing that comes to mind right away is someone ordering the wrong tonnage of asphalt or using the wrong internal phase to bill the project for something.
* If you encounter any problems, do you have any online source that you use to trouble shoot it? If so, what do you use? Any social media like Reddit, YouTube etc.? YouTube and Google
* How do you currently handle tasks that require looking up information from company documents, industry standards, or databases? (Follow-up: What challenges do you face in this process?) Most times I utilize the CTRL F function to search key words. What happens here sometimes is that if you don’t search a word exactly as it is in the document then it wont show up in the search. Also, if it’s a document that gets saved a certain way then this function doesn’t work.
* Can you describe any routine analysis or decision-making processes you perform regularly in your work? (Follow-up: How do you ensure accuracy or consistency in these processes?) I go back and see how I have dealt with similar situations in the past. If after a while I can not figure something out and I am running out of time to get something done, I will reach out to someone I am familiar with to brainstorm
* How do you stay updated with changes in industry practices, regulations, or company policies? What challenges does this present? Updated information is hard to keep up on in my opinion. For example, if a spec changes but the change does not affect my current project(s) it gets over looked. Then when it does apply to me on the next one I get caught not using current information. Then I struggle when a situation comes up because there are so many different places to look up but sometimes each outlet reads different. As far as company polices, these are easier to stay up to date on. Ajax is great about communicated these topics to us.
* Can you think of any aspects of your work where even small improvements in efficiency or accuracy could lead to significant time or cost savings? I think one area that would benefit us is to have a lesson learned or take away after a job has completed (best practice procedure). This could save time and cost on similar jobs that may experience some of the same setbacks or “wins.”

**3. AI Awareness and Potential Applications**

* Are you familiar with AI or chatbot technologies? If so, how have you encountered them in your work or personal life?
  + Have you or your company used any AI tools in your work? If yes, could you describe that experience? – I have used Chat GPT and have done so, so far only to write official letters to owners. I think this option is great and wish I would have done it sooner. Initially I was afraid of it, to be honest. I have also had to go back and change words that I know and other would know, that I would never use.
* In what areas of your work do you think AI could be most helpful? I think the AI was helpful with my letter because I struggle with getting everything out that I would like to say or need to say without being long winded or just rambling. It also helps with spelling, grammar and punctuation.
* What concerns, if any, do you have about using AI in your industry? My only concern is that my letters I use Chat GPT on will make me seem smarter than I am lol the only other concern I can think of is it may cause something people to become lazy and maybe not allow them the opportunity to learn something that will stick because they will just use AI to find it when the need it again.

**5. Closing Thoughts**

* Based on our discussion, how do you envision AI potentially changing your work in the future? I think it will just become so common that it wont even be a thought or an extra step to doing something. You will just go right to it.
* Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions about integrating AI into the construction industry?