Larry’s Electric Scheduler Application

Problem

Larry’s Electric is a small residential electrical company in Seattle, Washington with 5 employees. The owner, Larry, manages all of the scheduling and dispatching. His employees have to text or call him in the morning to find out where they’re going to be working that day. There have been numerous occasions where his employees have not all been on the same page, and ended up at the wrong job sites.

Every two weeks, to submit their time cards, Larry asks employees to email or text him with the hours and jobs they’ve worked on that day. Every employee has a different system of doing this; some of them write down their hours for each job at the end of the day, occasionally forgetting to write down their hours, and having to piece together where they were days later. Each time card is submitted in a different format, and often with the wrong job site identifier. This requires Larry’s book keeper to look up the correct jobs to bill, for each employee’s time card every pay period. On occasion, employees forget to submit their time cards, causing payroll to be delayed for the whole company.

Larry has no way of keeping track of requested time off. Employees will ask for time off months in advance, only to have Larry forget when the time comes.

Larry, the builder, and his employees are not always on the same page with what needs to be accomplished for a job. The builder will ask for changes made to either Larry or one of his employees, and the communication breaks down, leading to items being left out of jobs.

When employees pick up supplies from the warehouse, they will not know the address or job site identifier of the job account, having to search through their smart phone’s GPS history, or guess. This leads to more paperwork difficulty.