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One of the Biggest Mistakes I See During Construction



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Dear clients, thirty years as a consultant engineer has taught me that typical projects are broken into four major phases: feasibility, preliminary engineering, detailed design, construction and start-up. While the engineering phase is the most critical for your project's development, the construction phase is the most complex. It's when the rubber hits the road, when most of your budget is being spent, and when things could go wrong with even the best relationships sometimes ending in dispute and litigation.

During the construction phase, there is a lot of complexity dealing with multiple contractors, subcontractors, vendors, equipment suppliers, government oversight, safety, and more. Unfortunately, this is often when the design engineer's role is trimmed down or even abandoned by owners. This is problematic because you, as the owner, rely on design engineers to set your goals, specify equipment, and select contractors, but then you assume risk for the project and yourself by not engaging the same engineers in this important phase of the project.

[Click here to read about duty of care and responsibilities during construction...](#)



Before OSHA Visits Your Facility...



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Our clients frequently approach us to proactively identify any OSHA walking surface and structural integrity issues. This kind of initiative can protect you against accidents, reinforce safety at your facility, and keep you away from fines.

Since some facilities don't get enough funding for infrastructure maintenance as they show their age, these proactive inspections are a great way to catch up. To make the process easier, we divide it into two phases. In Phase One, ADF performs Structural and OSHA assessments for all the elevated work surfaces, platforms, catwalks, ladders, and stairs, and then compiles all findings into a report which summarizes the location, types of the deficiencies found, and solutions to bring the issues up to code. In Phase Two, ADF provides follow up engineering design services required to remedy the identified deficiencies, including Issue for Construction structural sketches and CAD drawings.

Here's an example of one client's Phase One findings:

- OSHA assessment for all elevated work surfaces, platforms, catwalks, and ladders greater than 6' off the ground level.

[Read more online...](#)



Did you know?

ADF offers various training seminars, such as Structural 101 (taught below by Derek Jacobs, structural department manager, at a client facility last week). To see a full list of offerings or to request a topic, [click here](#).



2019 Calendar of Events

- GEAPS @ Booth 3329; New Orleans, March 9-12
- FA&M @ Booth 109; Miami, FL, April 14-17
- Petfood Forum @ Booth 1441; Kansas City, MO, April 29-May 1
- AOCS @ Booth 120; St. Louis, MO, May 5-8
- FEW @ Booth 1028; Indianapolis, IN, June 10-12
- Others TBA – Check back in the Q2 newsletter in May!

Are you attending any of these shows? Be sure to [let us know!](#)

Below, Alex Fishman and Steve Minnich at the ADF booth at IPPE (the Animal Feed Show) in Atlanta earlier this month.



How are we doing?

Have an idea for a topic? Want to provide feedback? [Let us know what you think!](#)