

Construction Productivity: Advances and Opportunities for Improvement

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Agenda

- ▶ **Construction Productivity –
The Measurement
Challenge**
- ▶ **Improvements through
Technical Change**
- ▶ **The Need for Process
Improvement**



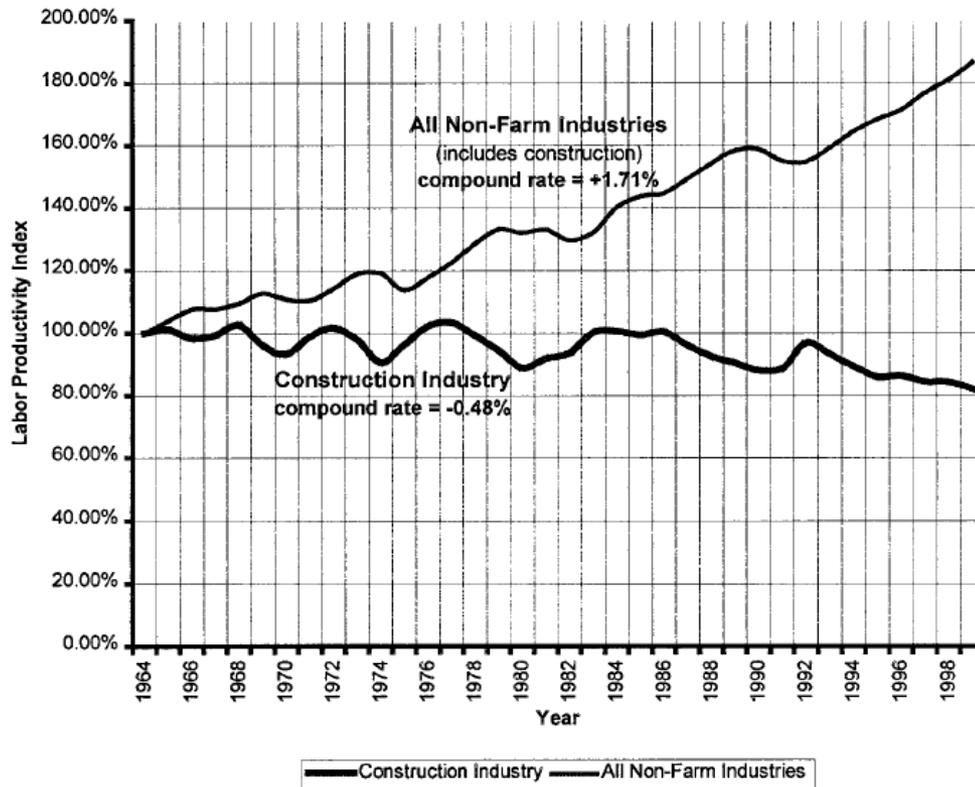
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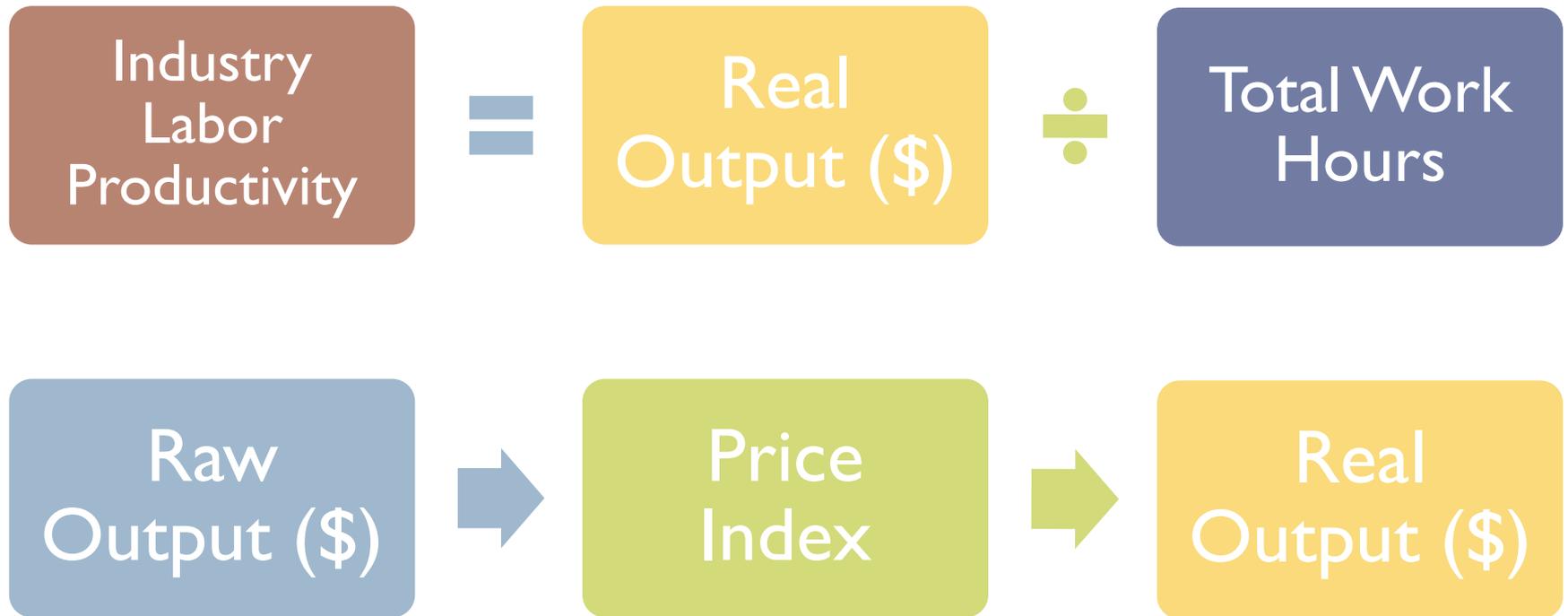
Productivity Measures and Industry Policies

Productivity Index (1964-1999)
(Constant \$ of contracts / workhours of hourly workers)
sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Dept. of Commerce



Ref: Teicholtz, P. (2001). "U.S. Construction Labor Productivity Trends, 1970-1998". ASCE J. Const. Engr. & Mngmt.

Construction Price Indices



Single-Family Houses Index Hedonic Regression Models

1970s



Modern Home

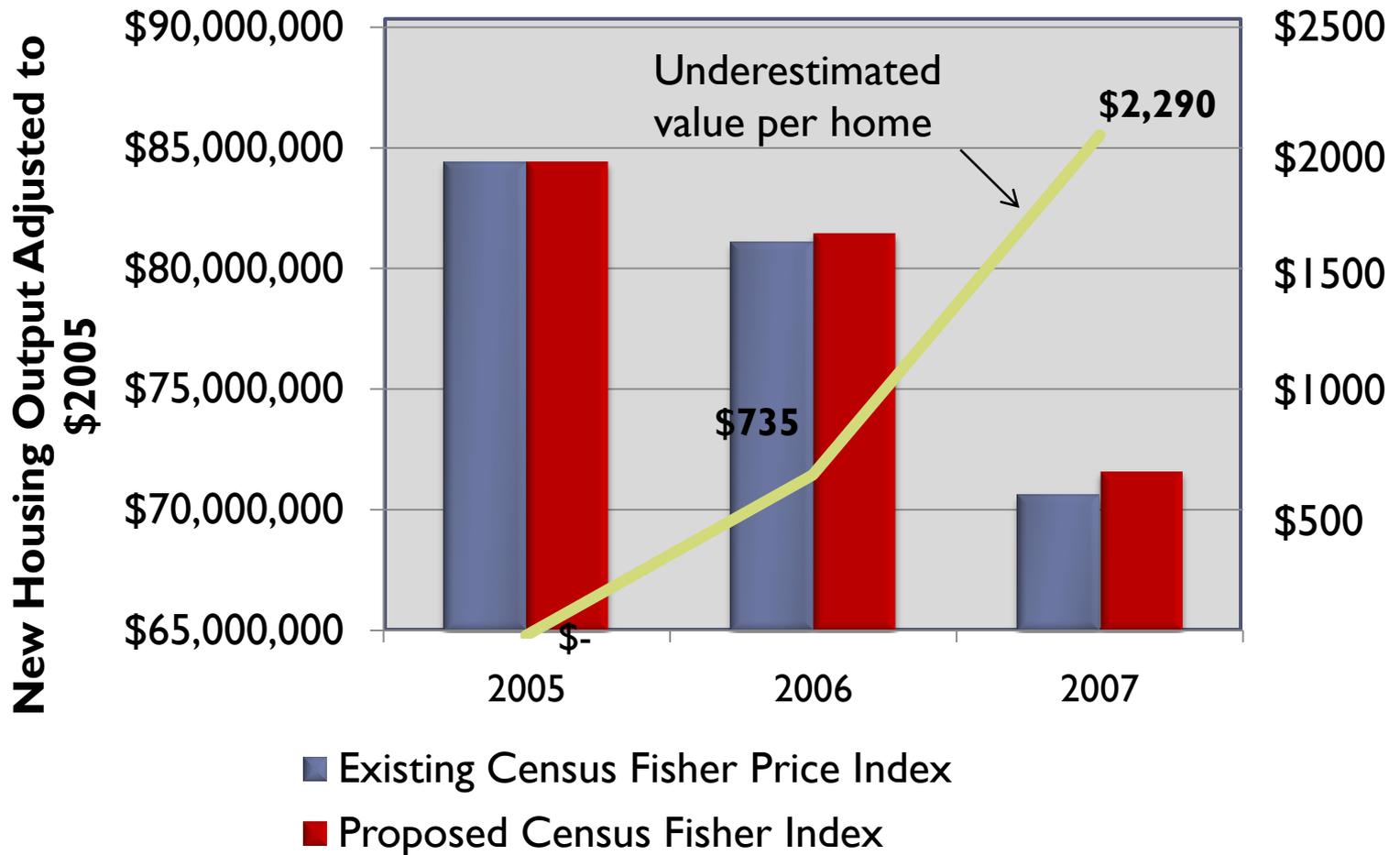


Case Study: New Home Construction in Bowling Green, Kentucky

- ▶ Bowling Green, KY
 - ▶ Population: 54,000
 - ▶ Local Economy: Health Care, University, Manufacturing, and Agriculture.
- ▶ Used new home sales data for 2005 to 2007 from Multiple Listing Service to develop “New” Price Index for Bowling Green, Kentucky.

ALL FIELDS DETAIL				
	MLS # Status Type Address City State Zip Area Class Asking Price Sale/Rent IDX Include	92544 SOLD-INNER OFFICE SINGLE FAMILY 160 Red Cedar Way Bowling Green KY 42104 WARREN COUNTY SOUTH RESIDENTIAL \$346,500 For Sale Yes	# Bedrooms # Full Baths # Half Baths Above Ground SqFt Below Ground SqFt Garage Capacity Age	5 3 0 3001-3300 None Three New Construction
GENERAL				
Agent	STEVE CHERRY - (270) 392-6258	Listing Office 1	RE/MAX REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVES - MAIN (270) 781-6000	
Listing Agent 2	TIM HALEY - (270) 542-9175	Listing Office 2	RE/MAX REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVES - MAIN (270) 781-6000	
Listing Date	12/8/2005	Co-Broker Commission	C	
Subagency	No	Number of Acres	1.00	
Lot Size	1.00 acre	Elementary School	Richpond	
Middle School	Drakas Creek Middle	High School	Greenwood High School	
Subdivision	Red Cedar	Builder	M & J General contractors	
Directions	Three Springs road to Matlock road to left on Matlock, right on Red Cedar Lot #13.	Agent Remarks	Lot 13 Red Cedar Way beautiful home 4 or 5 bedroom 5th bedroom can be home office or study.	
Dining Room Dimensions	13'3x11'5	Great Room Dimensions	19'9x19	
Master Bedroom Dimensions	19'10x14'5	Bedroom 2 Dimensions	24'4x13'5	
Bedroom 2 Level	Upper	Bedroom 3 Dimensions	13'8x11'6	
Bedroom 3 Level	Upper	Bedroom 4 Dimensions	12'6x11'6	
Bedroom 4 Level	Upper	Bedroom 5 Dimensions	12'10x11'7	
Kitchen Dimensions	23'10x11'1	Utility Dimensions	8x5'6	
Input Date	12/8/2005	Price Date	5/26/2006	
HotSheet Date	5/26/2006	Status Date	5/26/2006	
Update Date	5/26/2006	Off Market Date	5/26/2006	
Associated Document Count	0	Original Price	\$346,500	
Days On Market	169			
FEATURES				
LISTING TYPE/DISCLOSURES	INTERNET ADVERTISING	FIREPLACE/WOOD STOVE	WASHER/DRYER LOCATION	
Exclusive Right to Sell	Transfer	Yes-Fireplace	Utility Room	
TAX RATE	ROOF	Living Room	GARAGE	
County	Composition Shingle	FLOOR COVERINGS	Attached	
OCCUPANT	FOUNDATION	Partial Carpet	INTERIOR FEATURES	
Vacant	Crawl Space	Hardwood	Garage Door Opener	
POSSESSION	Brick	Tile	Ceiling Fan	
With Deed	BASEMENT	WINDOW TREATMENT	Tray/Vaulted Ceiling	
STYLE	None	KITCHEN FEATURES	EXTERIOR FEATURES	
Traditional	HEAT	Range-Elect.	Asphalt Drive	
SHOWING INSTRUCTIONS	FAG	Dishwasher	Garden Space	
Lockbox	AIR CONDITIONING	BATH	Patio	
LOCKBOX LOCATION	Central Elect.	Whirlpool	Landscaped	
Front Door	TV/CABLE	Separate Shower		
EXTERIOR	Cable Installed	Double Vanity		
Brick/Brick Veneer	WATER	Walk in Closet		
STORM DOORS/WINDOWS	City/Country			
Thermopane Windows				
SOLD STATUS				
How Sold	Conventional	Contract Date	5/1/2006	
Closing Date	5/2/2006	Sold Price	\$354,412	
Selling Agent 1	JANE M PARROTT - (270) 782-9239	Selling Office 1	RE/MAX REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVES - MAIN (270) 781-6000	
http://reis.fnismls.com/Paragon/Search/Reports/Report.aspx				
10/16/2007				

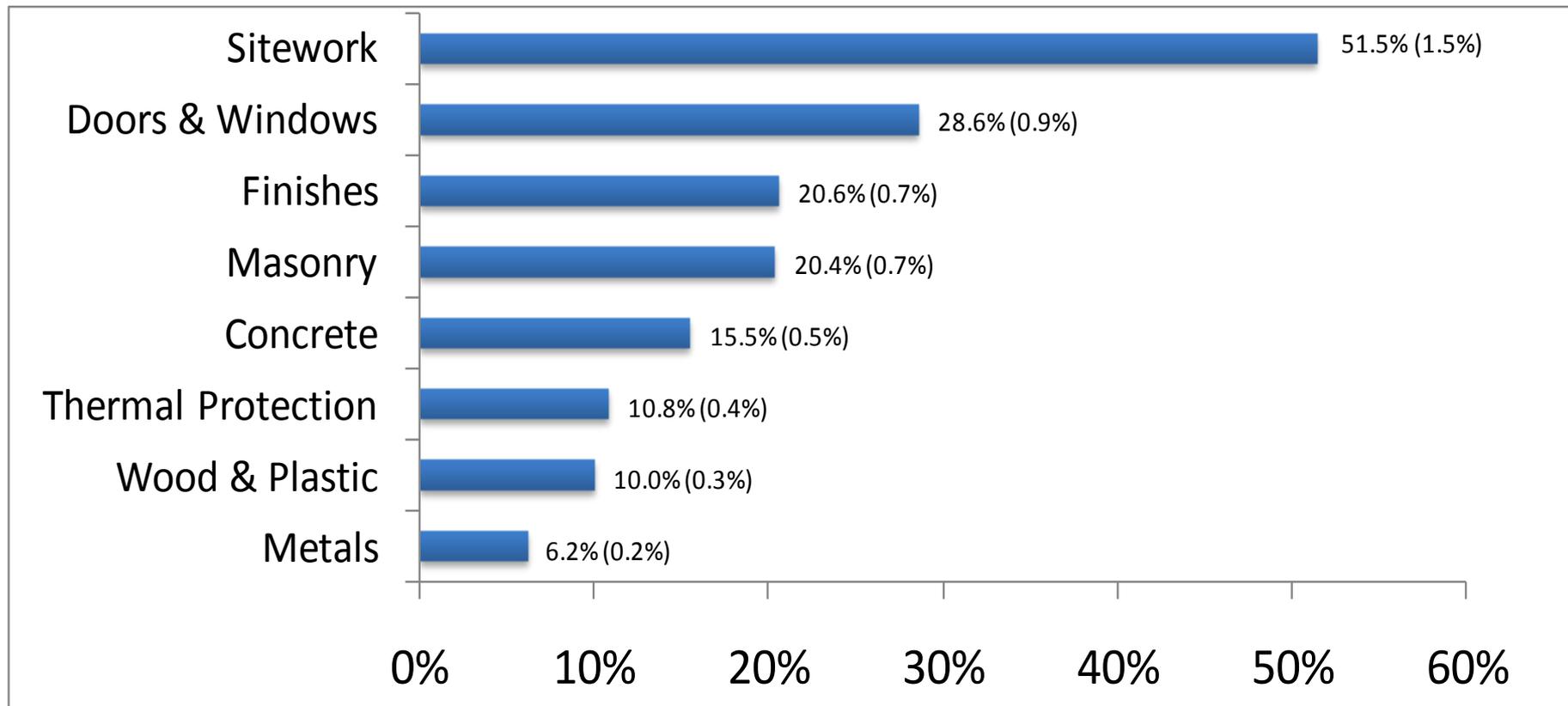
Case Study: New Home Construction in Bowling Green, Kentucky



► Scope of Study: New Home Sales in Bowling Green, KY 2005-2007.
Data Source: Multiple Listing Service New Home Sales Data

Evidence of Productivity Improvement among Construction Activities

1976  2004



Note: (Annual Improvement Rate) Data Source: RS Means

CII RT-240: Leveraging Technology to Improve Construction Productivity

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Technology Impact: A 25 Year Perspective



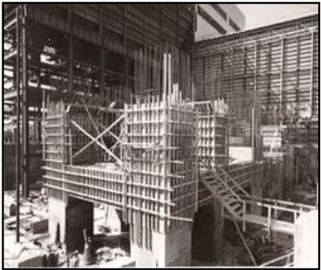
More
Power



Contributes
to



**1.5% Annual Compound
Productivity
Improvement in
Site work**



Advanced
Modularity



Contributes
to



**0.5% Annual Compound
Productivity
Improvement in
Concrete**



Advanced
Function



Contributes
to



**0.7% Annual Compound
Productivity
Improvement in
Finishes**

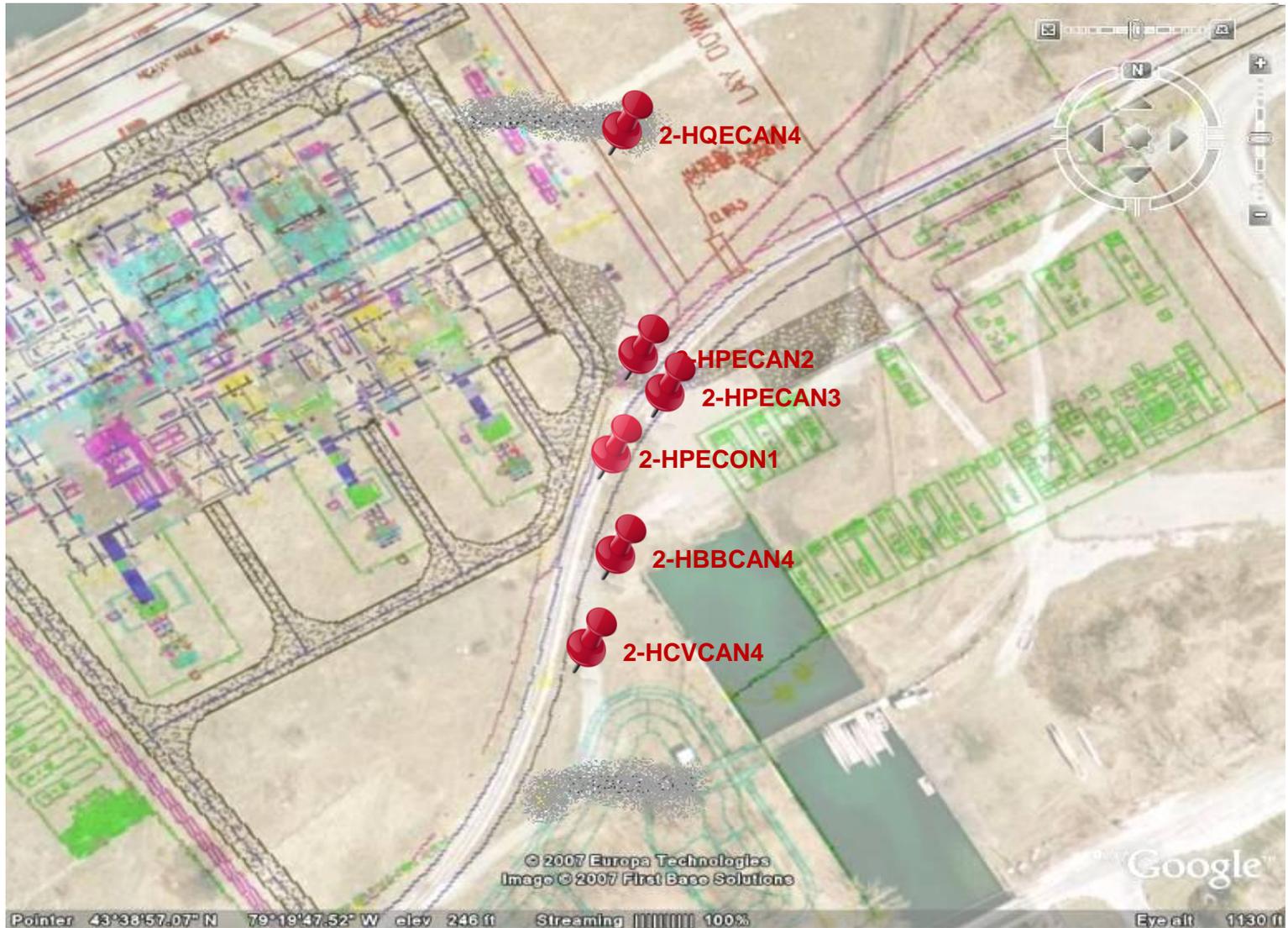
Problem: Site Materials Tracking on Large Industrial Projects

- Typical Characteristics

- Thousands of engineered components
- Long storage periods
- Material movement
- Sequenced erection
- Remote yards
- Inclement weather



Reliable Material Tracking



CII RT-240: Leveraging Technology to Improve Construction Productivity
Carl Haas (Univ. of Waterloo) and Carlos Caldas (Univ. of Texas at Austin)



One Result of Leveraging Technology: Total Labor-Time per Component Located

Manual Tracking



Automated Tracking



36.8 minutes per component 4.6 minutes per component

Improvement Ratio ~ 8.1:1

Productivity Analysis / Installation Area

Based on:

- Project controls data (work hours)
- Foreman daily surveys (idle work time)
- Engineering data (Tons of installed steel)

Focus on the erection of installed components:

- Including the efficiency of erection crews for installing steel components
- Not including bolting, torquing, plumbing, painting, and inspection tasks

4.2% increment in steel erection productivity



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Craft Productivity Improvement Program

2009

Pipe Support Study

Laser Scanning Case Study

Weldless Pipe Joining Case Study

Scaffolding Systems Case Study

Eliminating Cut Length on Pipe Modules Case Study

2010

Activity Analysis Guide

Rework Reduction Tool

Modular Formwork Case Study

Self Consolidation Concrete Case Study

2011

Workforce Development Index

New Case Studies TBD

2012

New Case Studies TBD

2013

Report Out



Innovations



Benchmarking & Metrics Data Analysis



Mechanical

- Safety
- System Integration
- System Automation
- Material Management
- Team Building
- Front End Planning



Electrical

- Safety
- System Integration
- System Automation
- Material Management
- Team Building
- Constructability



Concrete

- Best Practices to be determined



Steel

- Best Practices to be determined



Report Out



Best Productivity Practices

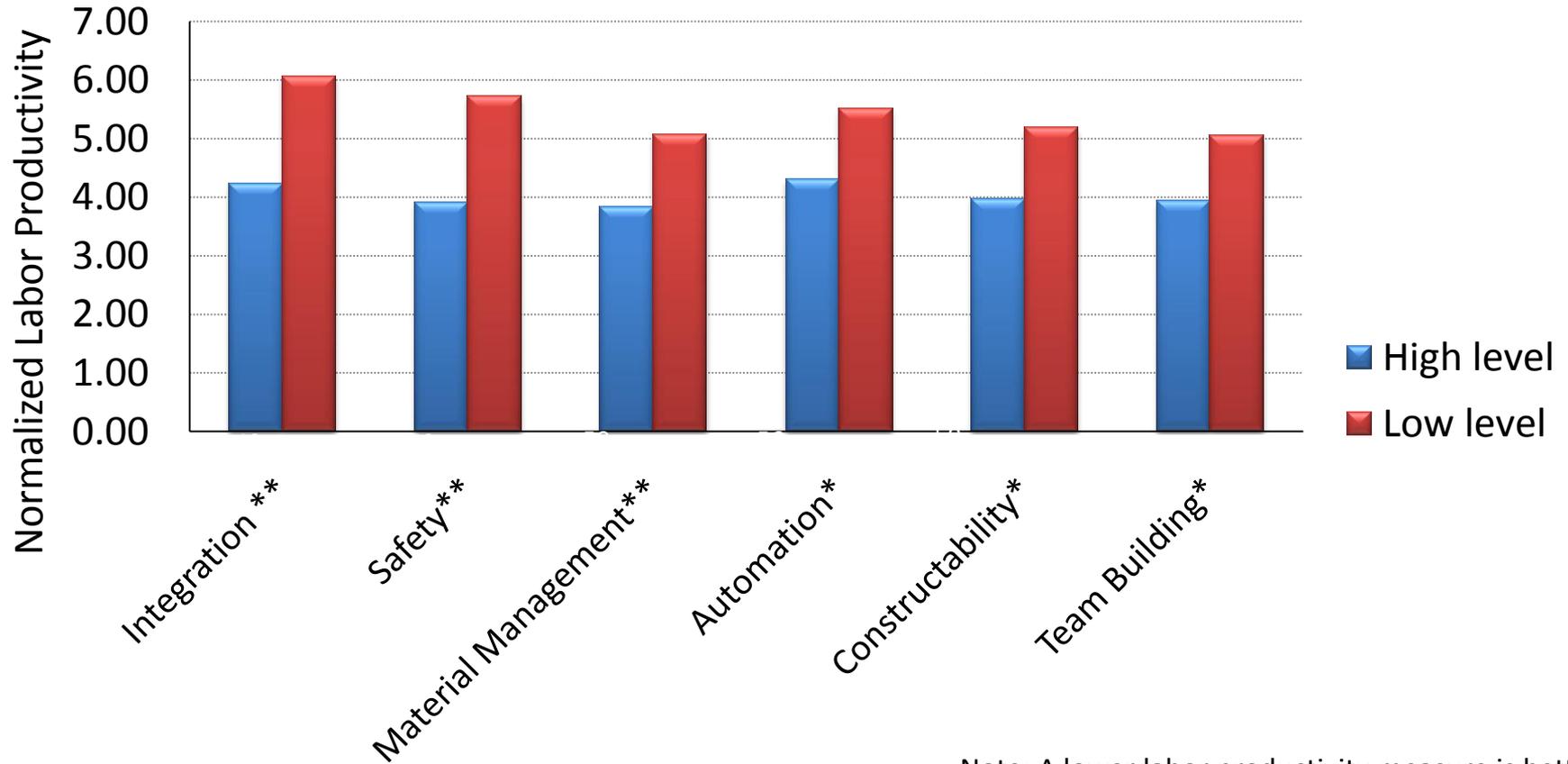
Synthesize BPPII Framework

Weight Index

Validation of Best Productivity Practice Implementation Index (BPPII)

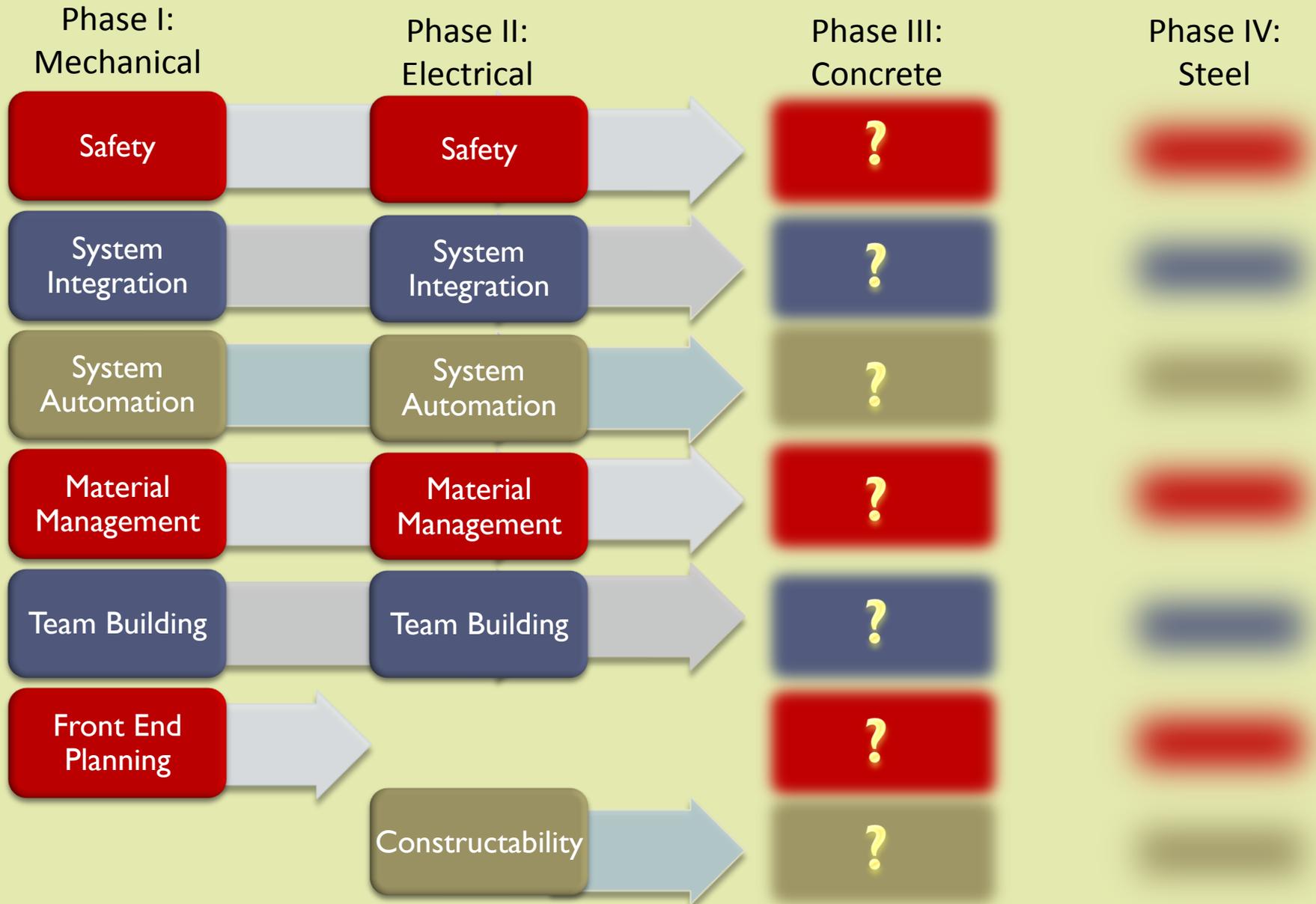
Finalize Roadmap

Best Processes for **Electrical** Productivity



Note: A lower labor productivity measure is better.
** denotes significance at 0.01 level.
* denotes significance at 0.05 level.

Emerging Productivity Practices



Best Productivity Practices Implementation Index

Materials Management

- Materials Management System
- Receipt and Inspection of Materials
- Procurement Management

Equipment Logistics

- Site Tool Management
- Machinery Availability

Craft Information Systems

- Short Interval Planning
- Work Face Planning
- Constructability Review

Human Resource Management

- Training and Development
- Behavior
- Organizational Structure
- Employment

Construction Methods

- Sequence and Scheduling of Work
- Start-up, Commission, and Turnover Plan
- New Product Investigation
- Site Layout Plan

Environmental Safety and Health

- Job Safety
- Substance Abuse Programs
- Safety Training and Orientation

Future Tasks – BPPII Model

- ▶ Weight BPPII elements based on their relative impact on productivity
- ▶ Validate and test
- ▶ Develop Implementation Resource (Roadmap)

<i>Best Productivity Practices Implementation Index</i>								
CATEGORY	Planning and Implementation Level							
Section	0	1	2	3	4	5	Level	Score
I - MATERIALS MANAGEMENT								
A. Materials Management Systems								
B. Receipt and Inspection of Materials								
II - EQUIPMENT LOGISTICS								
A. Site Tool Management								
B. Machinery Availability								
III - CRAFT INFORMATION SYSTEMS								
A. Work Packaging								
B. Work Face Planning								
D. Constructability Review								
IV - HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT								
A. Training and Development								
B. Behavior								
C. Organizational Structure								
D. Employment								
V - CONSTRUCTION METHODS								
A. Sequence and Scheduling of Work								
B. Start-Up, Commission, and Turnover Plan								
C. New Technology Investigation								
D. Site Layout Plan								
VI - ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND HEALTH								
A. Job Safety								
B. Substance Abuse Programs								
C. Safety Training and Orientation								

Conclusion

- ▶ The challenge of accurately measuring construction productivity at the industry level remains
- ▶ Technology has had a positive impact on construction productivity
 - ▶ ...but the swing has to match the club
- ▶ There is significant variation in construction productivity from project to project.
- ▶ Mapping the processes to control productivity should help reduce the variation and potentially improve it on a macro scale as well.

