

The Future Is Now: How Augmented Reality Is Benefiting Construction

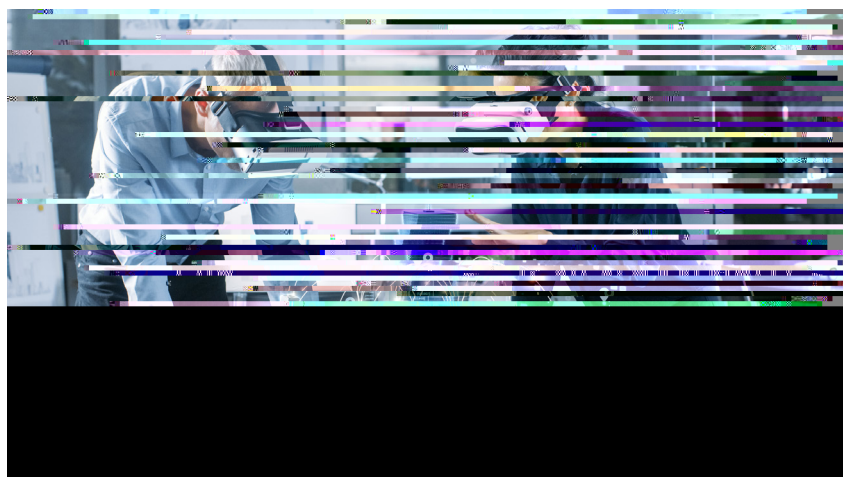
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Anyone who has ever experienced the video game Pokémon GO is already familiar with augmented reality (AR). Played on a smartphone or tablet, the use of AR transforms such video games by superimposing a virtual world on top of the real-life one. The end result? Computer-generated objects are brought into the players' physical environments. All of this is done through widely available mobile apps and other smart devices.

This type of technology that enhances our play has also been gaining traction in our work lives, including within capital projects, positively transforming the construction experience for better project outcomes.

As our industry continues its adoption of technology to improve project management, advanced technologies such as augmented reality are also seeing an uptick in serious investment. In fact, while this investment may have been in a decades-long infancy in the construction sphere, it's now in the middle of a full-on growth spurt, following in the footsteps of, and even enhancing its increasingly popular cousin, building information modeling (BIM).

5bX'Ug'h'Y'h'V'bc`c[m'V'bh]bi Yg'hc' V'V'za Y'a c'fY' bY!h b'YX' and realistic, the possibilities just keep expanding. Here are some of the areas where AR is currently being used and where it holds the most promise for the future.



Planning And Designing Using Augmented Reality

AR's value can be realized as early as the design stage. AR allows architects and engineers to superimpose digital models of buildings onto the real-world site, providing a realistic j]Yk 'cZ\ck 'h'Y' b]g\YX'g'fi V'f' fY'k]''cc_'UbX' h]b'rc']hg surroundings. Being able to fully visualize a project in all its augmented 3D glory allows the client and stakeholders to understand, interact with, and assess it while it's still]b'XYj Y'cda Ybh'H\]b_cZ'h.]g'Ugj]fhi U`m bY!h b]b['UbX']bgdV'V]b['h'Y'dfc'V'V'VYZ'cfY]hg'Vi]'H'h'Y'VYbY h]g]b' envisioning design alternatives, tweaking adjustments, and identifying mistakes and potential issues to collectively address prior to actual construction — all to help create a more

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