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How AI-Driven IoT Enhances Construction Field Safety



"With an estimated 65 percent of construction workers frequently operating on scaffolds, the risks in the industry are undeniable." The construction industry is well known for its unsettling aspects and inherent worker dangers. However, the internet of things (IoT) age has greatly improved safety precautions, particularly with the incorporation of artificial intelligence (AI), or AloT. <u>AloT</u> makes it possible to monitor in real time, provide information-driven analytics for supervision, and implement safety standards with alerts, all of which make workplaces safer. The risk is substantial; approximately 2.3 million construction workers face frequent exposure to scaffolding, leading to numerous safety concerns. Alpowered risk assessment tools have the potential to prevent 4,500 injuries and 50 fatalities annually, translating to a savings of \$90 million in workdays not lost.



Workplace sickness and accidents in the United States amount to an astounding \$250 billion annually—more than the GDP of 143 nations. Cutting-edge technologies like <u>collaborative robots</u> (cobots) and ergonomic exoskeletons are improving operational effectiveness and reducing musculoskeletal injuries to change administrative center safety.

This study explores how Al-driven IoT technology impacts safety in one of the largest integrated construction companies, highlighting the current benefits and advancements in the field.

Real-Time Monitoring: A New Era in Safety Management

Real-time monitoring is basic for the construction industry in terms of IoT, with applications of AI in IoT technology. Enabling IoT sensors and devices all over the construction site will help companies generate large volumes of data on environmental conditions, equipment status, and worker activities. Al algorithms then analyze this data and provide immediate insights and alerts.

Enhancing situational awareness

This technology is a combination of AI and IoT to increase <u>situational awareness</u> in society, such as temperatures, sanities, noise decibels, and air quality, which depends on the sensor implementation. For example, sensors can detect gas leaks or heat-ups, and the system will automatically send a warning immediately to avoid disasters.



Worker health and safety

IoT sensors in wearable devices are used to monitor the health and safety of workers. Vital signals that could be followed on those devices include heart rate, system temperature, and fatigue amounts. Al can detect distress or fatigue based on this data, alerting it to intervene. Most recognizable in the utilization of <u>smart helmets</u> is monitoring the physical conditions of the workers and sending real-time alerts to their seaters, minimizing cases of heatstroke and accidents related to fatigue.

Predictive Analytics: Anticipating and Mitigating Risks

Proactive safety management has a game-changer: prediction analytics powered by Al. Al algorithms use historical data to discern patterns and then forecast upcoming hazards, prompting people to take measures to prevent them.

Predicting equipment failures

"Implementing advanced IoT technology combined with AI and machine learning can reduce equipment downtime by 25% and boost effectiveness by 15%," as research indicates. Leveraging these cutting-edge technologies enables equipment to predict failures before they occur, facilitating timely preventive maintenance and minimizing the risk of future accidents. AI, integrated with sophisticated IoT systems, continuously monitors machine performance. It proactively identifies potential issues and determines the optimal timing for repairs. For example, heavy construction equipment that utilized <u>Artificial Intelligence</u> of Things (AIoT) saw significant improvements in both downtime and operational efficiency, demonstrating the transformative impact of these technologies.

Hazard identification and mitigation



Al systems can select some of the riskiest areas and activities on construction sites through <u>predictive analytics</u>. These systems will recommend historical accident data based on a real-time data feed, which also approves safety measures and interventions to control the risk.

Proactive Safety Measures: From Reactive to Preventive

Al-based IoT solutions automatically detect the oncoming threat and create preventive measures to offer an extremely secure working environment.

Automated safety protocols

Al-enabled IoT devices enable the automation of safety protocols. For instance, if a hazard is detected—say, a gas leak or a fire—Al systems might shut down equipment on their own, sound alarms, and call emergency responders. This <u>quick response</u> prevents accidents and reduces damage.

Training and awareness programs

Workplace safety improves by up to 30% with targeted training based on <u>real-time data</u>,' a statistic that highlights the importance of precise training methods. Leveraging AI in IoT technology enhances safety training programs by providing valuable insights into optimal safety practices for workers. By analyzing data from real-time monitoring and incident reports, AI systems identify specific areas where workers require additional training or awareness. This targeted approach makes safety training more effective and relevant, ultimately fostering a safer and more efficient work environment.

Case Studies: Real-World Applications and Success Stories

Several prominent contractors have now used AI-driven IoT technology to improve field safety. The case studies feature recognizable benefits and improvements achieved with the use of this game-changing technology.

DPR Construction

"Al-driven technologies are reshaping the construction industry, with DPR Construction leading the way in transforming project management. DPR has leveraged artificial intelligence to predict budget overruns and optimize resource allocation, making significant strides in project efficiency and accuracy. By employing predictive analytics and machine learning algorithms, DPR proactively identifies potential obstacles and enhances processes. For instance, using an artificial neural network, DPR forecasts cost overages based on project size, contract type, and project manager competency.

These advancements have expedited project delivery, expanded skill sets, and boosted productivity. Al not only improves safety by using computer vision to detect hazards before they result in accidents but also revolutionizes project planning through generative design. This approach minimizes rework and fosters innovative solutions, setting a new standard for the future of Al in construction."

Turner Construction

Versatile, an innovator in construction technology, has successfully upleveled the Turner Construction job sites with the implementation of its <u>CraneView</u> <u>system</u>, an IoT and AI-powered gainsharing solution that increases crane efficiency. Bechtel incorporates IoT sensor devices on crane hooks to track material flow, production rates, and crane utilization in real-time. The AI-based system identifies and quantifies every picked item and traces cycle times to improve crane operation insights. This technology allows Turner to refine construction planning, increase productivity, and maintain an industryleading safety average. It exemplifies an innovative way to use next-generation construction technologies, creating safer, more effective job sites by recognizing and improving unsafe behaviors.

Oakland Construction

"Construction accidents cost an average of \$27,000 per incident, a figure that has risen by 90% compared to similar industries.

Okland Construction's strategic use of <u>Building Information Modeling</u> (BIM) not only addresses these high costs but also enhances site safety and boosts competitiveness. By integrating BIM, Okland effectively reduces risks and improves logistics.

For instance, during a recent hospital project, Okland utilized BIM to premanufacture rack systems on the ground. This approach significantly reduced elevated work, thereby enhancing safety. Research supports this, showing that companies adhering to BIM standards experience fewer accidents, underscoring BIM's crucial role in job-site safety.

Studies reveal that 21% of professionals using BIM have observed substantial improvements in safety, while 37% noted a reduction in incidents of more than 5%. Okland's proactive BIM implementation illustrates how technology can transform construction safety, suggesting that soon, safety concerns could become a thing of the past."

The Future of AI-Driven IoT Technology in Construction Safety

There is certainly a bright future for Al-driven IoT technology in construction safety, with more exciting breakthroughs just on the horizon.

Advanced Robotics Integration

Furthermore, the advent of AI-based IoT devices combined with next-level robotics will improve construction safety even more. The <u>robotic systems</u> can be used for hazardous tasks, like conducting inspections in the oil refinery and gas pipeline industries, because intelligent machines outfitted with IoT sensors and AI models are hazardous-proof and can avoid jeopardizing human resources needlessly. This combination of robotics and AI-based IoT technologies will open a new horizon for safety on construction sites.

More advanced data analytics and machine learning

Improvements in data analytics and machine learning will extend the powers of Al-enhanced IoT technology even further.

The use of more data and more complex AI algorithms will help them become more accurate in risk prediction and avoidance. Such continuous improvement will result in better and safer workplaces and, hence, more effective safety management standards.

Building Safety in Ecosystems

"See safety as a shared endeavor that is smoothly incorporated into every facet of the sector in the future. Based on this vision, regulatory bodies, system developers, and production companies will collaborate to establish <u>safety</u> <u>ecosystems</u>, exchanging knowledge and ideas to transform safety procedures. By actively collaborating, these stakeholders will gain a comprehensive view of safety measures, enabling the implementation of industry-leading best practices."

Conclusion

"Artificial Intelligence in IoT is not just a technological advancement; it's a transformative force in construction safety."

Artificial intelligence-based IoT technology has significantly elevated field safety in construction. By leveraging real-time monitoring, predictive analysis, and proactive safety measures, this innovation represents a substantial leap forward in construction safety. Beyond enhancing site safety, worker health, and operational efficiency, these advancements pave the way for greater success in both safety and productivity.

Embracing Al-driven IoT solutions, such as those offered by <u>Mongrov</u>, enables construction firms to approach zero accidents and injuries while eliminating violations of safety and health standards. This change prioritizes worker wellbeing, creates a safer work environment, and advances a more environmentally friendly and sustainable future. With constant developments in robots, records analytics, and collaboration technology to address today's and tomorrow's complex difficulties, the construction sector is moving closer to more secure websites worldwide.