Construction Accounting and Financial Management

Chapter 9 Managing General Overhead Costs

What is General Overhead?

 Overhead costs that cannot be charged to a specific construction project or charged to the equipment section of the income statement

Cash Flow Versus Profit

- Cash Flow
 - Only include transactions that result in a cash flow
 Depreciation is not a cash flow; therefore, it is not included
- Profit:
 - Only include transactions that affect profit
 - Purchase of a depreciable asset does not affect profit; therefore, it is not included, only the associated depreciation

What to Include?

- Advertising
- Bad Debts
- Bank Fees
- Car and Truck Expenses
- Charitable Contributions
- Computer and Office Furniture
- Depreciation
- Dues and Memberships

What to Include?

- Employee Wages and Salaries
- Employee Benefits
- Employee Retirement
- Employee Recruiting
- Employee Training
- Employee Taxes
- Insurance
- Interest Expense

What to Include?

- Janitorial and Cleaning
- Legal and Professional Services
- Meals and Entertainment
- Office Supplies
- Office Purchase
- Office Rent
- Office Utilities
- Postage & Delivery

What to Include?

- Publications and Subscriptions
- Repairs and Maintenance
- Taxes and Licenses
- Telephone
- Travel
- Unallocated Labor
- Unallocated Materials
- Miscellaneous

Estimating General Overhead

- Based upon historical costs
- Adjusted for inflation
- Adjusted for change in business practice
 Company growth
 - New markets







