



CATHA PRACTICAL AI FOR CONSTRUCTION LIBRARY

Who Does What Now in Construction?

Redesigning Construction Work Around AI

Guide 7

Practical AI for Construction. Responsible. Outcome-driven.

Catha Construction Services | 2026 Edition

How to Use This Guide

The highest-value AI programs redesign tasks rather than simply adding a chatbot to existing jobs.

Use this guide to separate work that stays human, becomes AI-assisted, becomes automated, or moves into supervisory/review roles.

Best use

Decompose each role into tasks, then assign each task to human, AI, conventional automation or a combined workflow.

Four-Way Work Assignment

Work type	Best owner	Examples
Human-led	Human	Accountability, negotiation, empathy, ambiguous judgment, physical work
AI-assisted	Human + AI	Research, drafting, synthesis, scenario analysis, preparation
Automation-led	Rules/software	Deterministic transfers, calculations, routing, alerts
AI-executed under controls	AI + oversight	Bounded multi-step information work with measurable outputs

Task Decomposition Worksheet

Task	Frequency	Judgment	Data	Risk	Best owner	New human responsibility
Task 1						
Task 2						
Task 3						
Task 4						
Task 5						
Task 6						
Task 7						
Task 8						

Roles That Commonly Expand

- Process owner - accountable for the end-to-end workflow.
- AI product/workflow owner - responsible for performance and change control.
- Domain evaluator - defines what “good” looks like.
- Exception manager - handles cases automation cannot safely complete.

- AI operations/observability - monitors failures, cost and drift.
- Governance/control owner - manages authority and policy.

Avoid the False “Hours Saved = Headcount Saved”

Assumption

Time savings only become economic value when they are converted into capacity, reduced overtime/contract spend, faster throughput, improved conversion, fewer errors, or actual staffing changes. Measure what the released capacity is used for.

Job Redesign Conversation Template

Question	Decision
Which tasks disappear?	
Which tasks become faster?	
Which tasks become more important?	
What new review duties appear?	
What decisions remain human-only?	
What new skills are required?	
How will performance be measured?	

Construction Applications

Keep craft skill, superintendent judgment, safety responsibility, final estimating accountability and contractual authority human. Shift repetitive research, drafting, classification, document handling and follow-up where evidence supports it.