The Redline: Plan Review & Reducing Rework in AEC Projects

Executive Summary

In the complex and high-stakes environment of the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) industry, the integrity of information serves as the fundamental bedrock of project success. Amidst the rapid transition from tangible blueprints to digital twins, one process remains the definitive mechanism for communication, quality control, and legal documentation: **Redlining**. While the term historically carries a separate, negative connotation in financial geography regarding discriminatory lending [1], in the built environment, redlining is the vital circulatory system of the design and construction process. It is the act of marking up drawings and specifications to indicate errors, changes, clarifications, or field conditions.[3]

This report provides an exhaustive examination of the redlining ecosystem, specifically calibrated to the seven stages of the Plan Workflow as defined by industry standards and PlanWorkflow.com.[5] We analyze the "who, when, and why" of redlining, not merely as a task, but as a critical instrument of risk management. From the initial broad strokes of *Concept & Feasibility* to the granular, liability-laden *Operations & Maintenance* phase, redlining serves as the dialogue between intent and reality. The analysis reveals that redlining is not a monolithic activity but a shapeshifting one. In the design phases, it is a tool for **mentorship and coordination**; during procurement, it acts as a **contractual clarifier**; in construction, it transforms into a **legal record of deviation**; and in closeout, it becomes the **foundation of the asset's digital twin**.[6] By understanding the nuance of who wields the red pen, and increasingly, the digital stylus, stakeholders can mitigate the costly rework and litigation that plague the industry.

Disclaimer

This article is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal or professional advice.

The Metamorphosis of the Redline: Evolution Across the 7 Workflow Stages

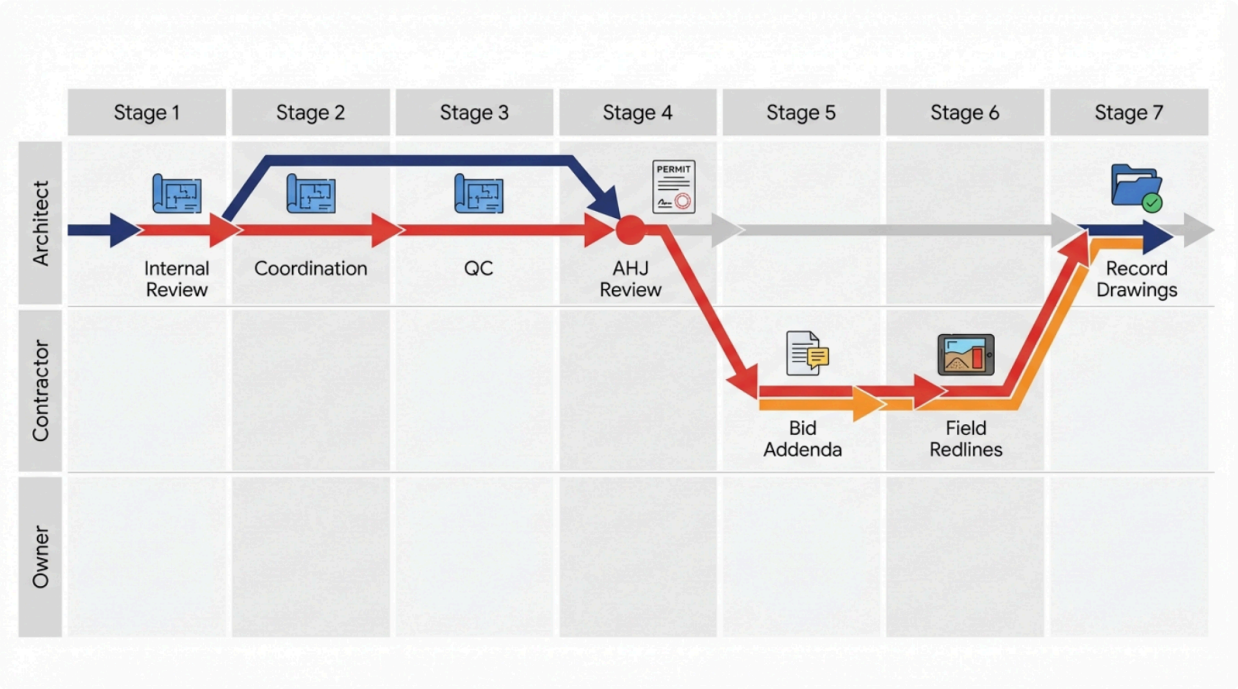

Figure 1: Tracing the redline from a design validation tool in Stage 1 to a field verification record in Stage 6, and finally a facility management asset in Stage 7.

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Part I: Foundations of the Redline Workflow

1.1 Defining the Terminology and Scope

Before dissecting the workflow stages, it is imperative to establish precise definitions within the AEC context. The term "redlining" is often used colloquially to cover a broad spectrum of markup activities, yet distinct contractual and functional differences exist that carry significant legal weight.

Redline Drawings (Markups) represent work-in-progress documents. These are architectural or engineering drawings that have been printed or digitally accessed and marked with corrections, changes, or questions - used throughout design and construction as transient communication tools.[9] They are transitional tools, a means to an end, not the final product. Their primary function is communication between the creator of the document and the reviewer.

As-Built Drawings are often confused with redlines, but they serve a distinct purpose. "As-Builts" are the *result* of the redlining process during construction. They are prepared by the Contractor at or near project closeout to show the actual geometry and location of installed components, deviating from the original design where necessary.[6] These documents reflect the reality of the physical installation, capturing the precise location of pipes, conduits, and structural elements that may have shifted during the chaotic construction process.

Record Drawings represent a specific legal term, particularly within the framework of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Record Drawings are the final set compiled by the Architect, incorporating the Contractor's as-built information. Crucially, the Architect does not verify the accuracy of the contractor's field measurements but incorporates them into the permanent record.[11] This distinction is vital for liability; the Architect is responsible for the design intent documents, while the Contractor certifies the installation reality.

1.2 The Shift to Digital and the Common Data Environment

Historically, redlining was a physical act: distinct red ink on paper to ensure visibility against black line work.[9] This tactile process had inherent limitations; papers could be lost, coffee could be spilled, and version control was a nightmare. Today, the industry is in a hybrid state, transitioning rapidly toward a fully digital ecosystem. While some field teams still use physical "job sets," the workflow is predominantly shifting to digital platforms like Bluebeam Revu, BIM 360, and dedicated digital plan tables such as from Volanti Displays.[13]

Digital redlining allows for metadata tracking, knowing exactly *who* made a mark and *when*, which creates an audit trail that paper could never provide.[16] This shift introduces the concept of the **Common Data Environment (CDE)** [5], a single cloud location where the most current

project information is stored, versioned, and retrieved. In a CDE, a redline is no longer just a mark on a page; it is a data point, actionable and trackable, capable of being assigned to a specific individual for resolution.

Image 1. Volanti Displays family of plan review touchscreens with screen sizes 32", 43", 55" and 65". These are optically bonded and support active stylus with palm rejection supporting markup across all workflow stages.

Part II: The Design Phase (Stages 1-3)

The first three stages of the plan workflow, Concept, Schematic Design, and Design Development, are the domain of the design team. Here, redlining is an act of **creation, coordination, and quality assurance**. It is the primary mechanism by which a nebulous idea is refined into a constructible reality.

Stage 1: Concept & Feasibility

The Workflow Context:
At this nascent stage, the project is defined by potential and constraints. The focus is on site constraints, zoning envelopes, regulatory hurdles, budget ranges, and high-level programming.[5] The documentation is often loose, sketches, massing diagrams, and preliminary feasibility reports.

Who Redlines?

- **Senior Principals/Design Directors:** The "Who" here is leadership. Senior architects review the work of junior designers. Their redlines are often gestural, correcting proportions, massing, or urban relationships.
- **Clients/Developers:** Owners mark up conceptual massing diagrams to indicate preference or operational constraints. They may "redline" a feasibility report to question revenue assumptions or square footage allocations.
- **Land Use Attorneys:** In complex urban environments, legal counsel may redline site plans to ensure compliance with zoning easements or property line setbacks.

When?
Redlining occurs during "pin-up" sessions (physical or digital) where rough ideas are critiqued. It follows initial client presentations where feedback is gathered. It happens during the compilation of the feasibility report, where cost models are checked against the design concept.

Why?

- **Feasibility Validation:** To mark up zoning setbacks or height limits that the design might be violating. A redline here might say "Setback requirement is 20ft, not 15ft."
- **Scope Definition:** To visually exclude areas or features that exceed the budget early on.
- **Mentorship:** Senior staff use redlines to teach junior staff about design proportions and layout logic.[17] The red pen becomes a teaching tool, explaining *why* a corridor is too narrow or *why* an entrance needs more prominence.

Stage 2: Schematic Design (SD)

The Workflow Context:
The approved concept transforms into an initial layout. Systems are defined broadly (e.g., "HVAC will be VAV," but duct sizes are unknown).[5] The deliverable includes schematic floor

plans, elevations, site plans, and preliminary narratives.

Who Redlines?

- **Project Architects (PA) & Project Managers (PM):** They review the drafters' work, ensuring that the programmatic requirements are being met.
- **Client Representatives:** User groups (e.g., doctors in a hospital project, faculty in a university project) review layouts to ensure functionality.
- **Consultants (Preliminary):** Structural and MEP engineers begin to overlay their preliminary systems on the architectural background, dropping "clouds" on areas that require space for shafts or columns.

When?
Redlining is heavily concentrated around Milestone Reviews, typically at 50% and 100% Schematic Design issuance. It also occurs during weekly coordination meetings where the design team aligns on the general direction.

Why?

- **Program Compliance:** Redlines here answer the question: "Does the room fit the required equipment?" or "Is the adjacency correct?".[18] A redline might correct a room that was drawn at 100 sq ft when the program requires 150 sq ft.
- **Design Intent:** Corrections at this stage are about "getting the look right" before technical details solidify. A redline might say, "Align window mullion with partition wall" or "Center door in room".[19]
- **Client Review:** Clients often lack the ability to read complex 2D plans. They use redlines (often in non-standard colors) to ask questions like "Where does the coffee machine go?" or "Move this door".[20] This visual feedback loop is critical for ensuring the client feels heard and understood.

Stage 3: Design Development (DD)

The Workflow Context:
This is the "pivot point" of the project. The design is refined, and consultant disciplines (MEP, Structural, Civil) begin serious coordination. The goal is to resolve clashes before they become Construction Documents.[5] The level of detail increases significantly; wall types are defined, material transitions are detailed, and equipment is selected.

Who Redlines?

- **Interdisciplinary Teams:** Architects redline Structural drawings; Structural engineers redline Architectural backgrounds. This cross-pollination is essential for catching conflicts.
- **BIM Coordinators:** In modern workflows, "redlining" often happens via clash detection software (Navisworks). The software identifies a clash, and the coordinator creates a markup (an "issue") that needs resolution.[21]

- **Specification Writers:** They redline the drawings to ensure the materials shown (e.g., "Stone Cladding") match the terminology in the project manual.

When?
Redlining occurs continuously during Coordination Meetings, weekly overlay reviews where plans are stacked to see conflicts. It also happens during Page-Turn Reviews, where the team conducts a detailed line-by-line review of the evolving set.

Why?

- **Conflict Resolution:** This is the primary "Why" of DD. Redlines identify that a duct is running through a beam or that a plumbing chase is too small.[22]
- **Constructability:** Senior technical staff redline details that look impossible or too expensive to build.[24] A redline might ask, "How do you waterproof this transition?"
- **System Integration:** Ensuring the ceiling grid aligns with lighting fixtures and diffusers. A redline might shift a light fixture six inches to avoid a sprinkler head.

Deep Insight: The cost of a redline in DD is exponentially lower than a redline in Stage 6 (Construction). A red mark on paper costs minutes to fix; a jackhammer on concrete costs thousands. Therefore, the **volume** of redlines often peaks in DD as the team races to "clean" the set before the legal weight of Construction Documents applies.[20]

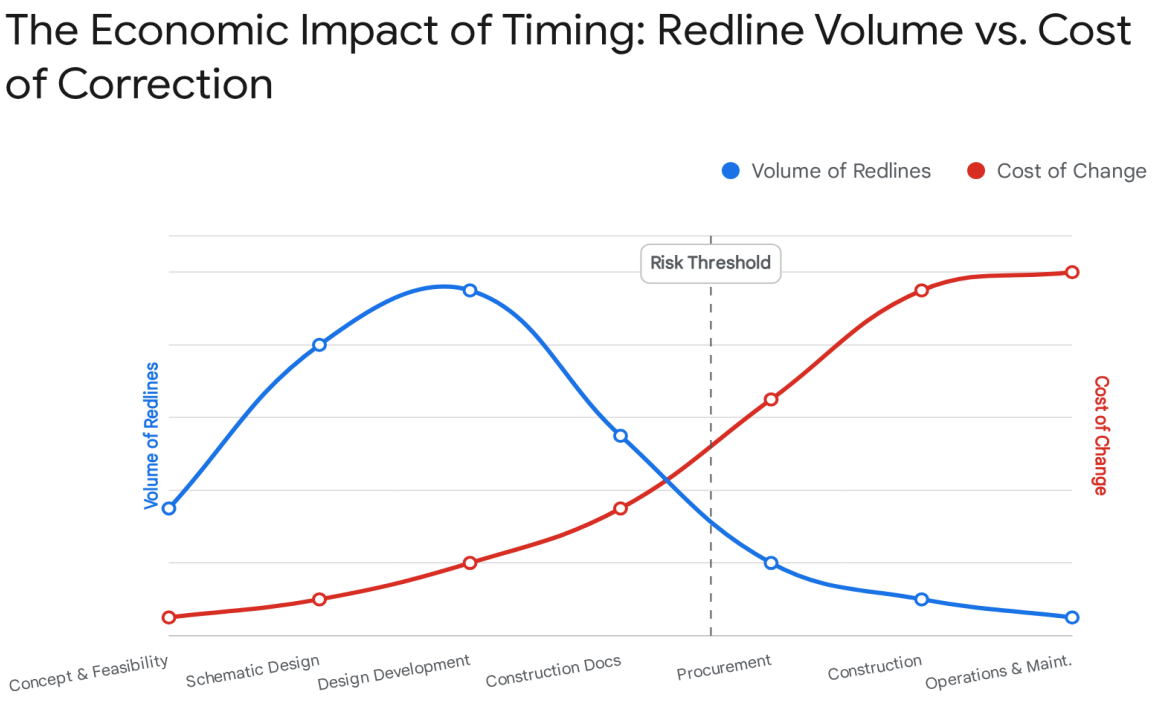

Figure 2: The optimal redlining strategy fronts-loads the volume of markups into Stages 2 and 3 (Schematic and Design Development) to minimize the high-cost impacts of Stage 6 (Construction) changes.

Data sources: Plan Workflow, Pinnacle Infotech, Calmor Consulting, Reddit (Architects)

Part III: The Documentation & Procurement Phase (Stages 4-5)

As the project moves into *Construction Documents* and *Procurement*, the redline changes its nature from a "design tool" to a "compliance tool." The stakes are raised; these documents will become legally binding contracts.

Stage 4: Construction Documents (CD)

The Workflow Context:
The design is locked. The team is producing the "Permit Set" and "Bid Set." These drawings must be legally binding, code-compliant, and coordinated to a level that allows for accurate pricing and construction.[5]

Who Redlines?

- **Quality Control (QC) Reviewers:** Often a senior third-party architect within the firm who has not worked on the project. This "fresh eyes" approach is critical for spotting errors that the project team has become blind to.[24]
- **Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):** City plan checkers, fire marshals, and health department officials. Their redlines are not suggestions; they are mandates.
- **Peer Reviewers:** In complex projects, external consultants may be hired to perform a peer review of the structural or envelope systems.

When?

- **90% CD Review:** The internal QC review occurs before the set is issued for permit or bid.[24] Consultants also help perform this process, see the consultants note below.
- **Plan Check Process:** After submission for permit, the AHJ reviews the drawings and issues "Plan Check Comments", a formal set of redlines that must be addressed.

Why?

- **Code Compliance:** AHJ redlines are mandatory corrections required to obtain a building permit. They ensure the building meets safety, fire, and accessibility codes.[25]
- **Legal Protection:** The Architect's internal QC redlines are about liability. They ensure the drawings are "complete" to minimize Change Orders later. They check for consistency between the drawings and the specifications.
- **Coordination Finalization:** Ensuring that the door schedule matches the floor plan, that the finish tags are correct, and that the detail callouts actually refer to existing details.

Construction Documents QA/QC Consultants:

- Many construction QA/QC consultancies provide plan reviews as part of pre-construction planning, catching quality and compliance issues in drawings and

specifications.
- Some AEC documentation and submittal-review providers include multi-level internal QA/QC (self, peer, supervisory) with coordination checklists that can function as an alternative to a branded system.
- Specialist peer review firms, for example Redicheck, Peer Review, Checkset, Building One.

Stage 5: Procurement / Pre-Construction

The Workflow Context:
The "Bid Set" is issued to contractors. The redline now becomes a tool for negotiation, clarification, and risk allocation.[5] The project is in the market; real dollars are being assigned to the lines on the paper.

Who Redlines?

- **Estimators:** Contractor estimators mark up plans to calculate quantities (takeoffs). They use highlighters and digital tools to ensure they have accounted for every square foot of carpet and every cubic yard of concrete.
- **Subcontractors:** They redline the bid set to highlight scope gaps or exclusions. A plumber might redline a wall saying, "I am not bidding the gas line in this wall; it is by the utility company."
- **Design Team (via Addenda):** If a bidder asks a question (RFI) that exposes an error, the design team issues an **Addendum**. This is effectively a "public redline" issued to all bidders before the contract is signed.[27]

When?

- **Bid Period:** The weeks leading up to the bid due date.
- **Pre-Bid Conferences:** Where questions are raised that may lead to redlines (Addenda).

Why?

- **Scope Clarification:** Estimators use redlines to ensure they have priced every item. A missed item means a lost profit or a lost bid.
- **Risk Allocation:** Contractors redline the contract or the "General Conditions" to exclude risks they won't accept.[28] They clarify their interpretation of the drawings.
- **Addenda Management:** To formally correct the documents before they become a binding contract. An Addendum changes the "Bid Set" into the "Conformed Set".[29] It ensures that all bidders are pricing the same scope.

Part IV: The Construction Phase (Stage 6)

This is the most dynamic and chaotic phase for redlining. The "Plan Workflow" describes this stage as building the project while capturing changes triggered by field conditions.[5] Redlining here bifurcates into three distinct streams: **Submittals/Shop Drawings**, **RFIs**, and **Field Redlines**. Each serves a specific contractual function and carries its own workflow.

6.1 Shop Drawing Reviews (The A-B-C-D Codes)

Contractors must submit detailed drawings (Shop Drawings) for fabrication (e.g., structural steel connections, cabinet details, fire sprinkler layouts). These drawings bridge the gap between the design intent and the fabrication reality.

Who Redlines? The Architect and Engineer of Record.
When? Before any fabrication begins. This is a critical hold point in the schedule.
Why? To confirm the contractor's interpretation of the design intent and to ensure that the fabricated components will fit within the building.

The Workflow: The Architect marks up the shop drawing; many firms use an “A-D” review code convention for these comments. Commonly used A–D review conventions (actual codes vary by firm and contract) [30]:

- **Code A (No Exceptions Taken):** Clean sailing. Proceed with fabrication.
- **Code B (Make Corrections Noted):** Proceed, but fix these redlined items. No need to resubmit. This keeps the schedule moving while ensuring corrections are made.
- **Code C (Revise and Resubmit):** Stop. Fix the redlined items and show us again. The errors are significant enough that the reviewer needs to verify the fix.
- **Code D (Rejected):** The submission is fundamentally wrong. Start over. This is a major setback.

6.2 The RFI (Request for Information) Process

When the plans are unclear, contradictory, or impossible to build, the Contractor submits an RFI.

- **The Redline:** The Architect often responds to an RFI by taking a snippet of the floor plan, *redlining* the clarification (e.g., "Move wall 6 inches West"), and issuing it as an "RFI Sketch" or "ASI" (Architect's Supplemental Instruction).[31]
- **Impact:** These redlines effectively become part of the contract documents and must be transferred to the field set when issued as a formal ASI, Addendum, or incorporated into the conformed set. They represent a formal modification of the design.

6.3 Field Redlines (The Job Site Set)

This is the most critical definition of "redlining" for the Construction phase. It is the real-time

record of the building as it comes out of the ground.

Who Redlines? The Field Superintendent and Subcontractors.
Where? On the "Job Site Set", traditionally a printed set of plans kept in the job trailer, now often a digital set on an iPad or Volanti Job Box.[5]
Why?

- **As-Built Documentation:** If the plumber has to route a pipe around a surprise beam, they *must* redline that deviation on the drawings. If they don't, the location of that pipe is lost forever (until a drill hits it).
- **Inspection Records:** City inspectors will often sign (or redline) the job card or plans to indicate approval or failure.
- **Coordination:** Trades use the field set to coordinate their work. The electrician might redline the location of a panel so the framer knows not to put a stud there.

The "Red" vs. "Green" Distinction: Some workflows use color coding (e.g., one common convention is Red for major revisions, Green for minor field adjustments) to distinguish the severity of the change.[27] This helps in quickly identifying which changes have cost implications.

Deep Insight - The "Single Source of Truth": In Stage 6, the danger is version control. If the plumber is working off V1 and the Architect just issued V2 (Redlined), errors occur. This is why "cloud-based" redlining (BIM 360, Procore) has revolutionized Stage 6, everyone sees the redline instantly.[33]

The Shop Drawing Review Loop: Decoding the Status Stamp

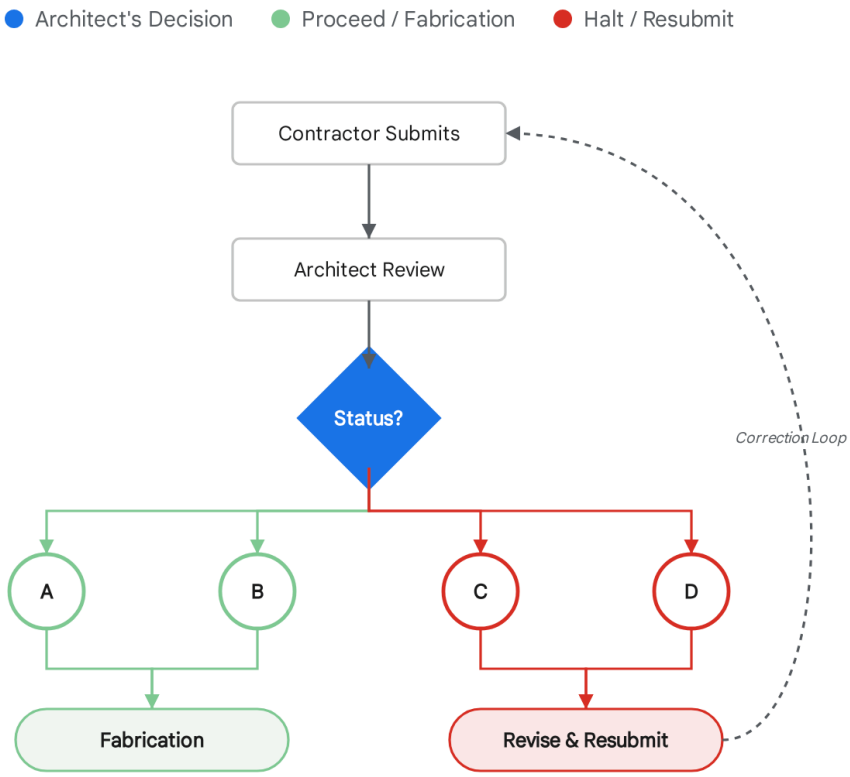

Figure 3: The submittal review workflow. Redlines issued under Code B allow work to proceed, while Code C and D halt fabrication until the redlines are addressed and verified.

Data sources: Construct & Commission, zipBoard, YouTube

Part V: The Operations & Maintenance Phase (Stage 7)

The project is built, but the redlining process has one final, crucial metamorphosis: the creation of the **Record Set**. This phase is about legacy and memory, capturing the "genetic code" of the building for its future operators.

7.1 From Redlines to As-Builts

The Input: The Contractor submits the "Field Redlines", the messy, coffee-stained (or digitally annotated) set of plans that tracks every single change made during construction.6
The Action: The Contractor (or sometimes the Architect, depending on the contract) cleans up these redlines into a pristine set called As-Built Drawings.[10]
Who? General Contractor, MEP Subcontractors.
When? At "Substantial Completion" (Project Closeout).
Why? To get paid. Retainage (the final payment) is often tied to the submission of accurate As-Builts.[10] Without these, the owner has no map of their asset.

7.2 From As-Builts to Record Drawings

The Nuance: The AIA Contract Documents and Commentary (including A201 and B101) distinguish between "As-Builts" (Contractor's responsibility) and "Record Drawings" (Architect's responsibility) subject to the specific terms of the Owner–Architect Agreement.[11] This is a critical legal distinction.
The Workflow: The Architect takes the Contractor's As-Builts and incorporates the changes into the original CAD/BIM files. They issue a final set marked "RECORD DRAWINGS."
Disclaimer: Architects often add a stamp saying they "compiled" the data but do not "guarantee" the accuracy of the contractor's field measurements.[11] This protects the architect from liability if the contractor measured a pipe location incorrectly.

7.3 Operational Use (Facility Management)

Who Redlines? Facility Managers (FM).
When? During the life of the building (years 1-50).
Why?

- **Maintenance Logs:** FMs redline the plans to show where a valve was replaced or a filter was changed. They keep the "living" history of the building maintenance.
- **Small Renovations:** FMs mark up plans for small "churn" projects (e.g., moving a cubicle wall) that don't require a full permit.[35]
- **Emergency Response:** Accurate redlines (showing the *actual* location of the shut-off valve, not the *design* location) can save the building during a leak.[36] If the record drawings show the valve in Room A, but the contractor moved it to Room B and didn't redline it, the water keeps flowing.

Part VI: The "Who" - Roles & Responsibilities Matrix

To synthesize the "Who" across all stages, we present a responsibility matrix. This clarifies the shifting ownership of the redline. It is crucial to understand that the "Owner" of the redline dictates its legal weight. An Architect's redline is an **instruction**. A Contractor's redline is a **request** (RFI) or a **record** (As-Built). A City Official's redline is an enforcement of law and must be complied with to obtain permits and approvals.

Stakeholder	Primary Redlining Stage	Primary Goal	Type of Redline
Client / Owner	Stages 1, 2	Program Verification	Functional Requirements, Scope Changes
Architect	Stages 2, 3, 4, 6	Design Intent, Coordination, QC	Design Markups, RFI Responses, Punch Lists
Engineer (MEP/Struct)	Stages 3, 6	System Coordination, Clash Resolution	Clash Reports, Shop Drawing Codes (A-D)
AHJ (City)	Stage 4	Code Compliance	Plan Check Comments (Mandatory)
Contractor	Stages 5, 6	Constructability, Scope, Field Changes	Bid Clarifications, RFIs, Field Redlines
Subcontractor	Stage 6	Fabrication Detail	Shop Drawings, As-Built Markups
Facility Manager	Stage 7	Asset Management	Maintenance Logs, Minor Retrofit Markups

Document Taxonomy: Redlines vs. As-Builts vs. Record Drawings

Comparison Matrix

Click headers to sort

DOCUMENT TYPE	PRIMARY AUTHOR	TIMING / STAGE	PURPOSE	LIABILITY NOTE
Redlines	Contractor / Builders	During Construction Process	To document on-site changes and edits to original plans for approval.	Unofficial set; details drawn over official plans.
As-Built Drawings	Contractor (or Architect based on Redlines)	End of Construction / Project Closeout	Show final structure with all alterations; required for updated permits.	Contractor bears primary responsibility for accuracy of measurements.
Record Drawings	Architect / Engineer	Post-Completion / Archive	Official, clean set reflecting how project was built including all addenda.	Approved by Architect; often disclaims responsibility for Contractor's data.

Table 1: Key distinctions in document types. Note the shift in liability from the Contractor (As-Builts) to the Architect (Record Drawings) and the specific timing of each.

Data sources: Outsource CAD, Cad Crowd, Procore, Lorman, NCARB Community, Cornell FCS

Part VII: The "Why" - Risk, Quality, and Communication

Why do we redline? Beyond the obvious "to fix mistakes," redlining serves three deeper functions in the AEC industry: Risk Management, Quality Control, and Cognitive Offloading.

7.1 Risk Management (The "Paper Trail")

A redline is evidence. In a lawsuit regarding a building failure, the forensic investigation will look for the redlines.

- *Did the Engineer redline the rebar spacing during the shop drawing review?*
- *Did the Contractor ignore the redline and install it incorrectly?*
- Was the redline clear and legible?
  Digital redlining tools like Bluebeam Studio are particularly powerful in this regard because they create an immutable log of who said what and when.[13] This metadata protects the diligent and exposes the negligent. It transforms the redline from a scribble into a verifiable data point in the project's legal history.

7.2 Quality Assurance vs. Quality Control (QA/QC)

Redlining is the primary mechanism for both QA and QC, though they are distinct processes.

- **QA (Process):** Redlining checklists *during* design (e.g., "Always check door swings against the egress path"). This is preventative.
- **QC (Product):** Redlining the final prints before issuance. This is corrective.
  Effective redlining prevents "Change Orders", the cost overrun mechanism that kills project budgets. A $100 redline in the office saves a $10,000 error in the field.[20] The "Why" is fundamentally financial; redlining is an investment in cost avoidance.

7.3 Cognitive Offloading & Communication

Construction drawings are incredibly dense information systems. No human can hold the entire 3D complexity of a hospital or a stadium in their head. Redlining allows the brain to "offload" a thought ("Check this dimension," "Verify this material") onto the paper so the designer can focus on the next problem. It acts as an asynchronous communication channel between the high-level designer and the detailed drafter.[37] It bridges the gap between the senior principal's experience and the junior architect's execution.

Part VIII: Technological Evolution & The Future

The research material highlights a significant transition in *how* redlining occurs. The industry is moving from analog to digital, and from static 2D to dynamic 3D.

8.1 The Rise of the "Common Data Environment" (CDE)

Recent integrations between Bluebeam and BIM 360, which has fundamentally changed the workflow.

- **Old Way:** Architect prints plans -> Redlines with pen -> Scans to PDF -> Emails to Contractor -> Contractor prints. This was slow, wasteful, and prone to version errors.
- **New Way:** Architect marks up PDF in cloud -> Contractor receives notification -> Contractor views markups on iPad in field. This is instant and transparent.
- **Volanti Plan Tables:** The hardware is catching up to the software. Large touchscreen tables allow teams to gather around a digital plan and "redline" it with a stylus, mimicking the collaborative tactile experience of paper but with the benefits of digital zoom, layers, and version control.[5]

8.2 Automated Redlining (Clash Detection)

In BIM workflows (Revit/Navisworks), the "redline" is being automated. Software analyzes the model and "redlines" the clashes itself (e.g., "Pipe hits Beam"). The human's job shifts from *finding* the error to *solving* it.[21] The "redline" becomes a "Clash Report," but the function, identifying a problem that needs fixing, remains the same.

8.3 The Legal "Original"

A persistent challenge is defining the legal original. Is it the BIM model? The PDF? The printed set? While the industry is moving toward "Model as Legal Instrument," the PDF (and the redlines upon it) remains the primary contract document for now.[38] Until the courts and contracts fully catch up to the technology, the 2D redline on a PDF sheet remains the gold standard for legal instruction.

Conclusion

Redlining is the circulatory system of the AEC industry. It oxygenates the project with information, corrections, and clarifications. Mapping it to the **Plan Workflow** reveals its dynamic nature:

- In **Stages 1-3**, it is a tool for **Design Perfection and Coordination**.
- In **Stages 4-5**, it is a tool for **Legal Compliance, Scope Definition, and Risk Allocation**.
- In **Stage 6**, it is a tool for **Construction Reality, Verification, and Adaptation**.
- In **Stage 7**, it is a tool for **Legacy, Memory, and Asset Management**.

For the AEC professional, mastering the redline, knowing not just how to mark a drawing, but how to manage the workflow of that mark, is synonymous with mastering the art of delivery. It is the mechanism by which we ensure that what is *imagined* is exactly what is *built*, protecting the budget, the schedule, and ultimately, the public safety.

Glossary of Redlining Terms

- **Clouding:** Drawing a bubbly shape around a revision to draw attention to it.
- **Delta:** A triangle symbol containing a number (e.g., Δ1) used to tag a revision cloud, corresponding to a revision date in the title block.
- **Back-Check:** The process of reviewing a corrected drawing to ensure the previous redlines were actually picked up.
- **Slip-Sheeting:** Replacing an old sheet in a physical set with a new, redlined/revised sheet.
- **Mock-Up:** A physical sample built to test a detail; often "redlined" with spray paint by the architect to indicate corrections.
- **RFI (Request for Information):** A formal question asked by the contractor to clarify the documents.
- **ASI (Architect's Supplemental Instruction):** A directive from the architect to the contractor, often clarifying a drawing without changing the contract sum or time.
- **CCD (Construction Change Directive):** A written order directing a change in the work prior to agreement on adjustment, if any, in the Contract Sum or Contract Time.

Disclaimer

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About Volanti

Volanti designs and manufactures large-format plan touchscreens that bring construction documents, models, and field data into a shared, interactive environment. Volanti plan tables and tabletop touch displays are used in project offices, jobsite trailers, and coordination rooms to make digital plans easier to see, navigate, and redline as a team.

By combining 4K touch hardware with leading AEC software platforms, Volanti plan touchscreens support the full plan workflow, from early design reviews to shop-drawing markups and field redlines, helping reduce errors caused by outdated sets and fragmented communication. For more information about Volanti’s construction display solutions, visit www.volantidisplays.com or contact Volanti to discuss plan review and redlining applications for your projects.

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