

# SpecLink Enhances Wilson Estes Police Architects' Dedication to Law Enforcement

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**Paul J. Michell**  
**Project Manager**  
**Wilson Estes Police Architects**

**Wilson Estes Police Architects, P.A. was founded in 1978 as Polson Architects, Law Enforcement Specialists, to provide law enforcement facility planning services.**

*Pharr Public Safety Facility  
Pharr, Texas*



Originally located in Champaign, Illinois, they relocated to Kansas City, Kansas, in 1986. Since that time, the firm's focus continues to be exclusively dedicated to law enforcement facility planning and design.

At Wilson Estes Police Architects, P.A. they believe that the best results are achieved when a systematic procedure is used in conjunction with these attributes. They employ a three-step process to ensure a satisfactory result for the client. This consists of the following: Investigation, Analysis, and Application.

While their buildings are typically contemporary designs based on traditional precedents, they strive to bring freshness to each new design. In working with governments, they bring an appreciation for the special responsibility of public designs to be enduring. They strive for buildings of beauty and visual delight and believe the buildings should enhance their existing surroundings and add to the sense of place. Working closely with clients, they employ client comment periods - along with formal approvals - in their work schedules following each major phase of the work.



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**The need:** Wilson Estes Police Architects does one thing – and they do it very well. Because many of the projects they work on are similar, finding specification software that accommodated this was essential. A word processing based program may have worked. However, according to Paul Michell, a project manager with Wilson Estes, it was important that the software they chose have “the ability to make changes without actually deleting anything.” Having this capability would mean that they could input all of their information into a single “master” file. Using this file, they could make updates or modifications and be confident that all their specifications would access the new information. And because the information would only need to be entered once into this file, making the changes would also increase their time efficiency.

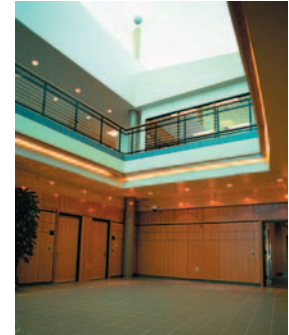
**The solution:** One specification writing software met their criteria – SpecLink. Michell says, “The ability to select and deselect applicable and non-applicable information is great. We have some proprietary specs that we use from project to project. By using the Office Master, any revisions we make to improve our specifications

between the various projects are incorporated into each new one.”

SpecLink makes producing consistent specifications easy, too. “The formatting is universal between sections – this makes the whole specification come out looking exactly the same – with no extra effort on my part! And the universal formatting and header/footer is a big help, too, when it comes to changing minor things like release dates,” Michell remarks.

**The outcome:** Michell has been a SpecLink user since 2000. He taught himself to use the software and says he was able to start using it “almost immediately.” As he reflects on first using SpecLink, he says, “Being a relative novice when I started learning how to put specs together, SpecLink made the process very easy and intuitive. I appreciate having SpecLink every time I use it!”

When asked what his best project was using SpecLink, Michell replies, “Every one has been good! Plus, with each released update of the software, the features have gotten better. Because SpecLink has saved us time – it has also saved us money.”



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**Paul J. Michell**  
**Project Manager**  
**Wilson Estes Police Architects**

Illustrations courtesy of Wilson Estes Police Architects.



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**CSI-DBIA and BSD.**



For more information on BSD SpecLink, contact Bryant Hendricks: [bhendricks@bsdsoftlink.com](mailto:bhendricks@bsdsoftlink.com)

BSD SpecLink is a powerful specification writing, management and production system with built-in intelligence designed to dramatically speed up editing tasks and reduce specification production time while minimizing errors and omissions. Users’ project files are each maintained in a single database, rather than in multiple word processing files. Several model projects are included that allow the user to start with a pre-edited set of complete specifications. Because the master data is always visible and never deleted, it is easy to review project choices or select alternatives. Users can also import their own custom sections and/or create model projects specific to company or project-related requirements.