

California High-Speed Rail Quality Program Management

Firm

Alta Vista Solutions

Location

Sacramento, CA

Client

California High-Speed Rail Authority

Reference

Mark Robinson
(916) 246-1028

Project Duration

2012 – 2018

Role

Subconsultant

Project Cost

\$1.5 billion

Project Description and Scope

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for planning, designing, building and operating the first high-speed rail (HSR) system in the nation. As the Authority's quality office, Alta Vista Solutions was responsible for ensuring that the work produced by and for the Authority met their requirements, standards, and expectations. To help facilitate these objectives, the quality office was responsible for clarifying and understanding roles and responsibilities by developing RACI (responsible, accountable, consulted, informed) charts; performing quality assessments and reviewing quality management plans (QMPs); ensuring that all requirements list expectations for the Authority were identified, assigned, and monitored for progress and compliance; revising the master quality plan (MQP); and developing a continuous improvement tool.

At the project level, Alta Vista evaluated and ensured that contractual requirements were met. This included:

- Reviewing QMPs for contract compliance and QMS consistency
- Conducting periodic assessments of QMP effectiveness and making recommendations for improvement
- Working with project managers to identify, document and mitigate risks
- Providing ongoing review of processes and procedures, identifying nonconformances, identifying improvements, and driving resolutions

Alta Vista facilitated numerous workshops to help clarify roles and responsibilities, including value stream mapping workshops to identify gaps and inefficiencies within the Right-Of-Way acquisition process. With more than 100 miles of construction in full swing in the Central Valley, Alta Vista's railroad coordination team also served as liaison between the Authority and BNSF Railways, Union Pacific Railroads and San Joaquin Valley Railroad. This included:

- Coordinating construction activities that may affect the railroads' Right-Of-Way or passenger and freight operations
- Providing railroad expertise to the project construction manager and design-build contractor on effective strategies
- Overseeing time and material agreements with the railroads

