

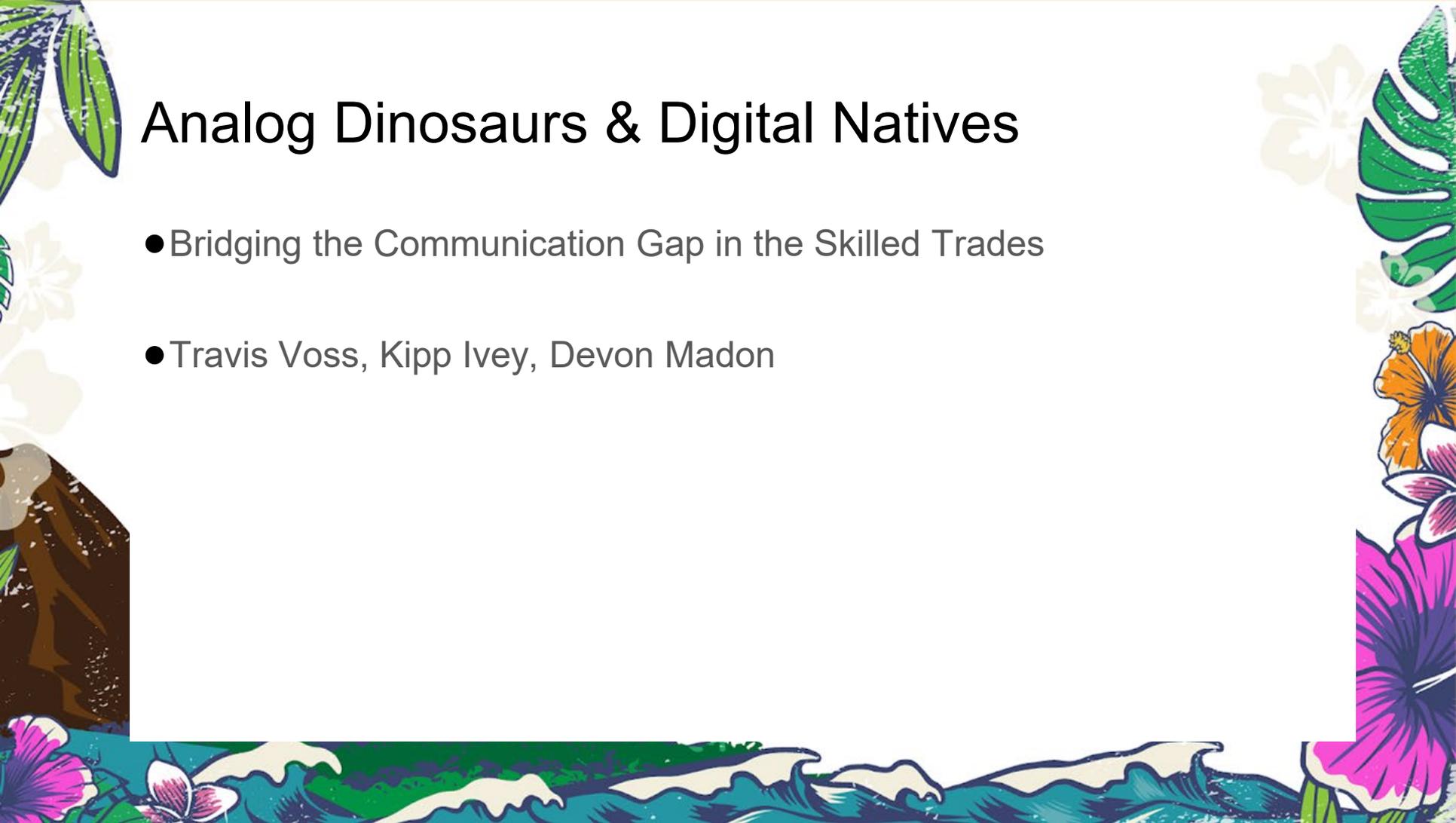


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**SMACNA ANNUAL CONVENTION**

*Maua, Hawaii*

OCTOBER 26-29

A decorative border surrounds the slide, featuring various tropical elements. On the left, there are green leaves and a brown, textured shape. On the right, there are green monstera leaves and several hibiscus flowers in orange, pink, and purple. At the bottom, there are blue and green waves and more pink and purple flowers.

# Analog Dinosaurs & Digital Natives

- Bridging the Communication Gap in the Skilled Trades
- Travis Voss, Kipp Ivey, Devon Madon

# The Problem

## A Generational Divide

- Skilled trades are facing communication breakdowns between analog-era veterans and tech-savvy digital natives.
- The gap threatens knowledge transfer, efficiency, and retention.



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# What Makes a Digital Native?

## Expectations of a Digital-First Workforce

- Raised on smartphones, messaging apps, and instant access.
- Expect real-time communication, shared platforms, and visual tools.
- Struggle with siloed, analog processes.



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# Manual Takeoff—A World of Isolation

- Errors caused by version control chaos.
- Estimator knowledge trapped in binders or heads.
- Communication was fragmented and slow

# Digital Communication Tools

## Tech as a Common Language

Real-time messaging, document sharing, and video conferencing.

Construction management software connects field, office, and fab shop.

Ensures alignment across generations, job roles, and locations.

## Capturing and Sharing Expertise

Repeatable digital processes preserve legacy knowledge.

Supports mentorship between generations.

Smooths leadership transitions.

# BIM as a Visual Bridge

BIM enables visual communication and modeling.



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Helps both digital natives and analog veterans  
“see” the project.

# Mobile Technology on the Jobsite

## Tablets, Phones & Real-Time Access

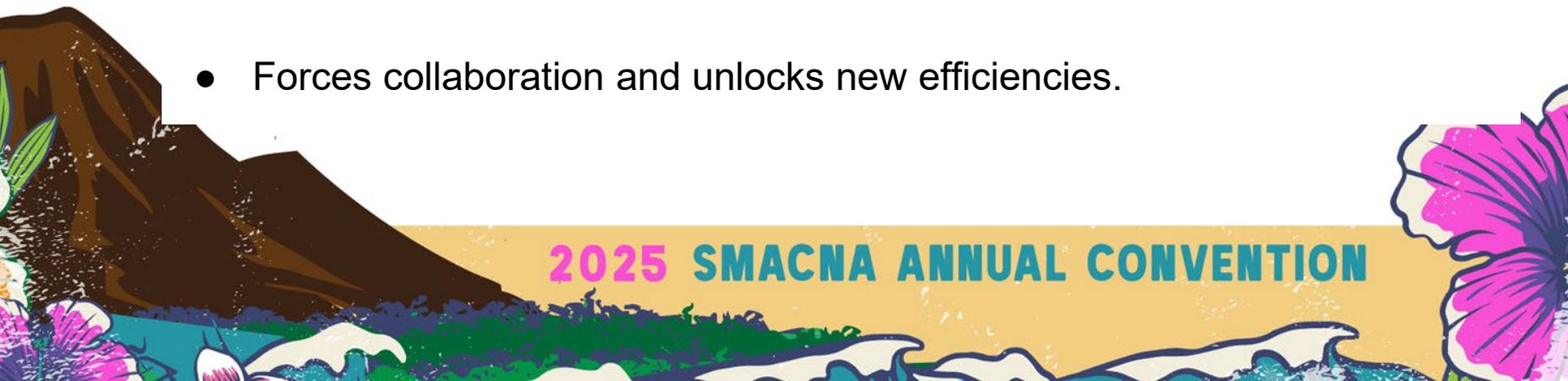
- Instantly access plans, updates, and specs.
- Mobile tech appeals to younger workers but benefits everyone.
- A practical bridge from paper to platform.

# AI & the Future of Collaboration

## We're All Beginners in AI

- AI is a tool built on historical knowledge.
- Success depends on all generations working together.
- Forces collaboration and unlocks new efficiencies.

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A decorative illustration at the bottom of the slide. On the left, there are brown mountains and a blue river with white foam. In the foreground, there are green bushes and pink flowers. On the right, there is a large pink flower. The text '2025 SMACNA ANNUAL CONVENTION' is centered in a yellow banner.

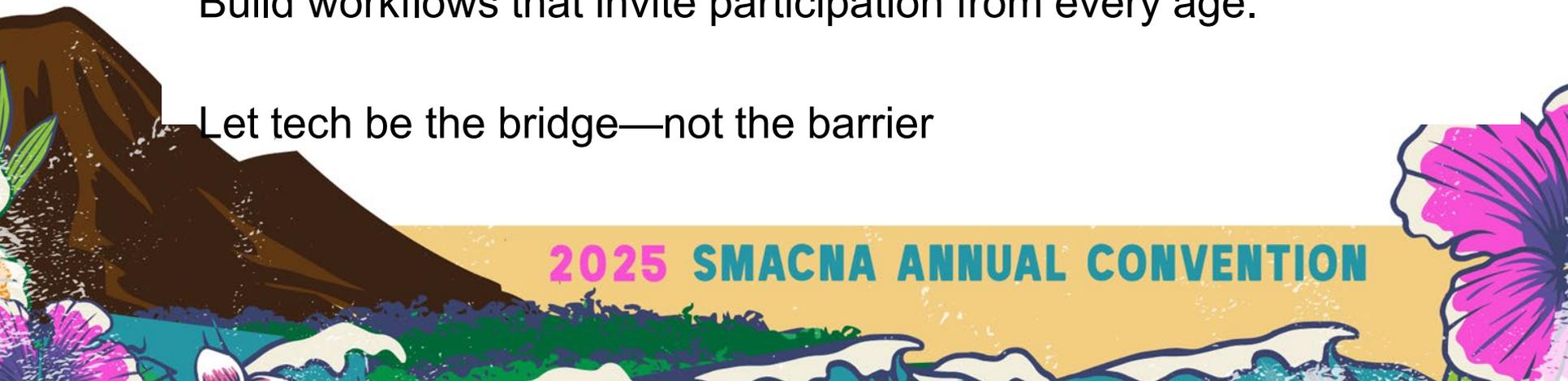
# Embrace Tech as a Unifier

Technology is not replacing experience—it's **amplifying** it.

Use digital tools to pass down knowledge, not walls.

Build workflows that invite participation from every age.

Let tech be the bridge—not the barrier

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Please take a moment to complete the session survey provided to you.

A decorative illustration at the bottom of the slide. On the left, there are brown mountains with green foliage. In the center, there are blue waves with white foam. On the right, there is a large pink hibiscus flower. A yellow horizontal band is behind the text.

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