UT10430 - Panel Discussion: Approaches to Field Asset Management

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Class summary

This class will present attendees with a solid understanding from several customer experiences with field asset management and mobile inspection software. In collaboration with a number of customers in the utilities (electric, water, communications, and gas), we will discuss field asset issues and solutions for utilities including

- Field inspections and data collection
- Image and content capture for ReCap 360 software models directly from the field
- Integration and synchronization with enterprise databases, including GIS
- Training and human factors for field workers
- Best practices for IT requirements, including integration standards and security

Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, we will have discussed:

- Customer stories related to integrating mobile inspection for field assets
- Discuss the business needs through out the industry
- Use of various technologies for mobile inspection
- Best practices and practical approaches to developing, maintaining, and synchronizing data across multiple systems
- The value-added workflow by using APIs to synchronize field asset data

Introductions

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Panelists

- Curtis Folgelman
  - GIS Manager, City of Alexandria
- Deeter Smith
  - GIS Administrator, Okaloosa Gas
- Tom Wilga
  - GIS Coordinator and Field Inspection, Welland Hydro
- Saath Koy
  - Assets and Records Control, First Energy
- Krupesh Kakkente
  - BIM 360 Technology Advisor, CADsoft Consulting

Field Asset Management

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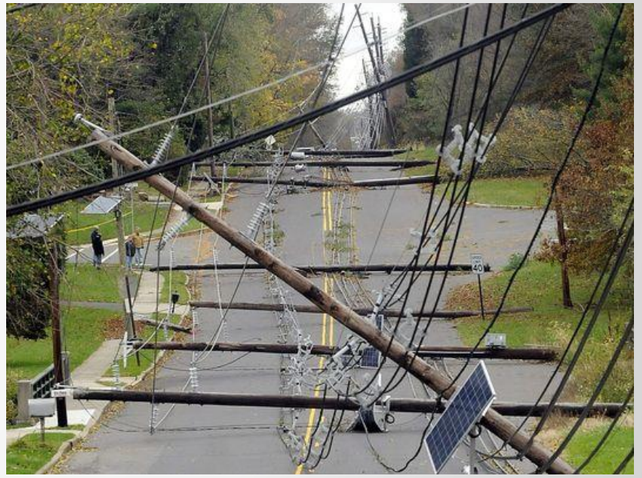
Current State of Field Asset Management and Inspection

- Mixed use of applications, hardware, and paper
- Connectivity to main database is varied
  - Wireless
  - Connection not available
- Input can vary between field workers
- Training on technology applications can have mixed results

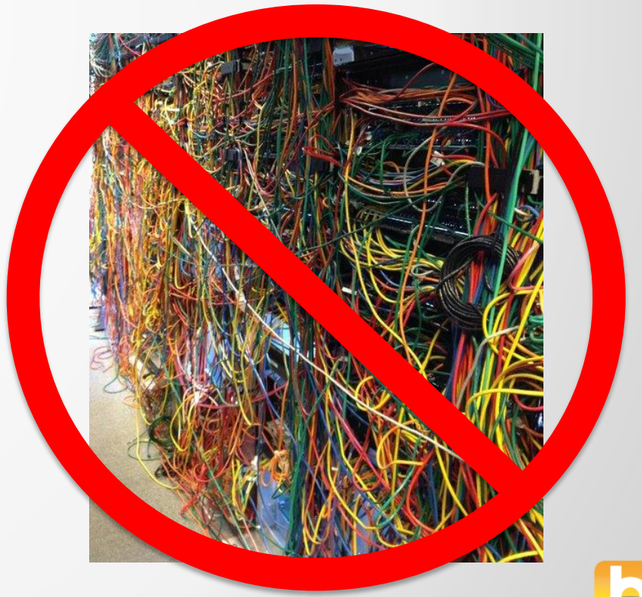
Challenges in the Business Process

- Regulatory changes
  - Mandates from various agencies
  - Changes for assets as well as process being used to inspect
- Environmental Impact Assessment
  - Damage assessment
  - Immediate need for complete picture
- Liability Changes and Requirements



Technology Deployment Changes

- Cloud computing enabling more in the field
- Rapid deployment of flexible inspection processes
  - Quickly add and adjust functionality
- Cost-effectiveness for IT investment
  - Dramatically reduced overhead
  - Limited IT management
- Security concerns
  - How to address them
  - Best Practices



Technology Platform Changes

- Mobility is key
- Everyone has a supercomputer in their hand
  - Can capture wide range of data at very low cost
- Abundant connectivity options
  - Most above ground assets can easily be inspected while connected (except in emergency situations)
- Ability to capture mostly accurate location
- Capture imagery and other details in very easy to use screens

Business Requirements and Mandates

Business Requirements and Mandates

What was the business need that made mobile inspection an urgent requirement?

- Government Mandate
- Inspections need to be consistent
- Renewable Business practices

Details of Inspection Tools

Current Practices

What are the current tools you are using in your inspection process?

- Is it consistent?
- Is it mobile?
- Is it integrated?

Future Tools

What is the goal of your organization for the future of the inspection process?

- Does the process produce consistent data?
- Are the crews able to access data mobiliy?
- Is it integrated?

Improvements and Efficiencies

What improvements has automation brought to your inspection process?

- Data Availability
- Data Accuracy
- Consistent Reporting
- Streamlined Process

The Future of Making Things

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Looking Forward

What is the future you foresee for this technology?

- Mobility Requirements
- Data Gathering
- Reduced level of effort