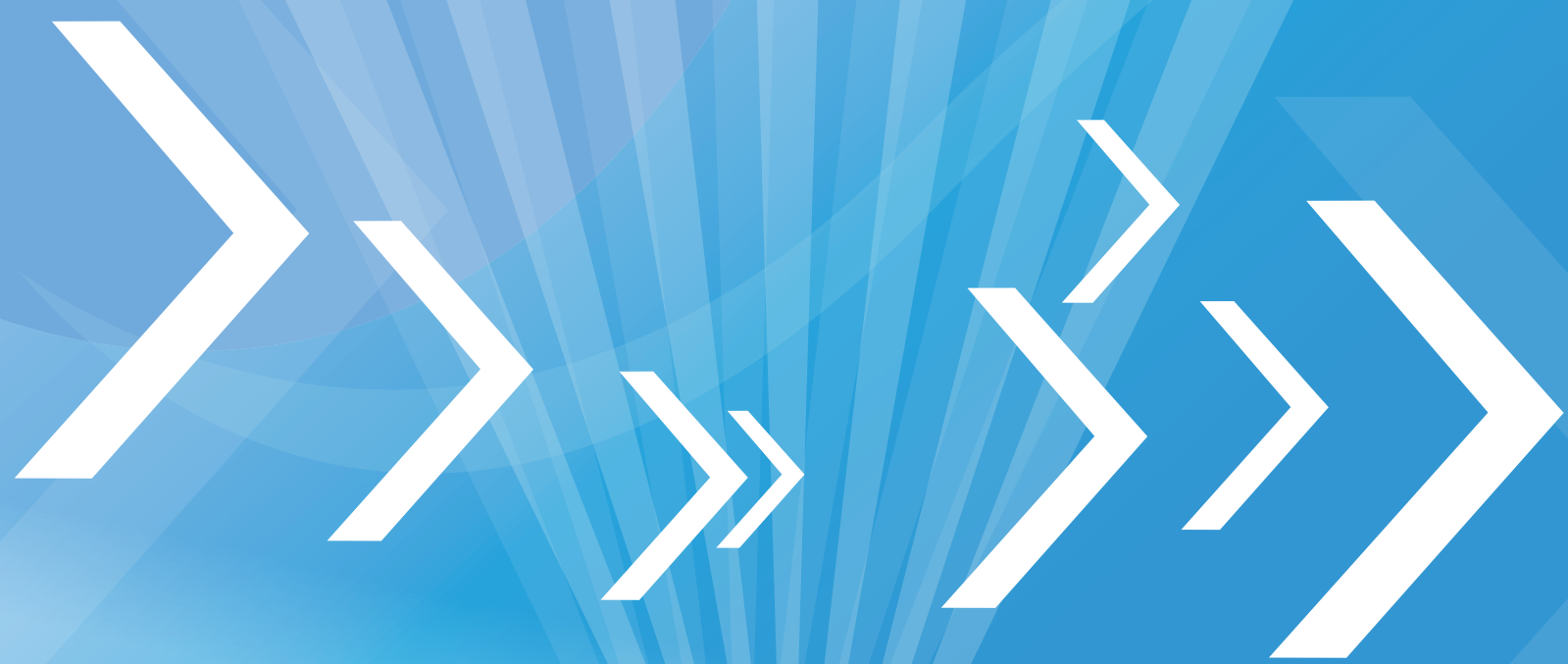


Nunavut Housing Corporation Completes
3,000 Annual Inspections with Konverge
Software and Motion Mobile Solutions



CASE STUDY



OVERVIEW >

Region: North America/Canada
Industry: Government

CUSTOMER PROFILE >

Created in 2000 through the Nunavut Legislature by the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation (Nunavut) Act, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's (NHC) mandate as a Public Agency of the Government of Nunavut (GN) is to create, coordinate and administer housing programs to provide fair access to a range of affordable housing options to families and individuals in Nunavut. The NHC manages 6,000 housing units throughout the territory.

THE CHALLENGE >

In order to maintain quality and ensure suitable housing conditions, the Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC) performs building and condition rating inspections of all housing units. Inspectors would bring clipboards with paper forms into the field, working their way through a checklist and handwriting notes during inspections.

"With 26 local housing authorities overseeing inspections for their own communities, there was a lot of paper and data that needed to be processed and stored," said David Fulgham, financial systems administrator and database analyst, Nunavut Housing Corporation. "Each local housing authority was required to manually input its data into a paper spreadsheet, which was then sent off to one of the three regional district offices. From there the information was manually collected, compiled and sent off to the main NHC office where it was uploaded into a database."

According to Fulgham, the paper-based process was very problematic since forms could be misplaced or lost and handwriting misread, leading to inaccuracies in the data. Data inaccuracies or loss often meant inspections had to be redone.

"The paper process was wasting time, money and resources," said Fulgham.

THE SOLUTION >

In order to mobilize and digitize the inspection process and eliminate paper from its workflow, the NHC chose Konverge to

SOFTWARE FEATURES >

- Collects condition ratings and inventory data directly on tablet
- Captures media data - Barcodes, Notes & Photos
- All data collected is synchronized and saved to a central server
- Reports are generated instantly



Now, instead of carrying a clipboard, paper and pen to sites, the inspectors are equipped with an F5v Tablet PC outfitted in a Motion Carry Sleeve for extra portability and convenience.

design, architect and build a software solution that runs on the Microsoft Windows-based Motion F5v Tablet PC.

Konverge analyzed the current paper-based process, and working with NHC staff developed a software application that seamlessly allows field inspectors to collect Condition Rating and Inventory data onsite without ever touching a pen. Data such as barcodes, notes and photos are all captured using the integrated features of the Motion F5v Tablet PCs.

Information collected in the field is synchronized to the central server, giving NHC an eagle-eye view of the condition of all their assets, and instant reporting capabilities.

THE RESULTS >

Now, instead of carrying a clipboard, paper and pen, the inspectors are equipped with an F5v Tablet PC outfitted in a Motion Carry Sleeve for extra portability and convenience. Upon arrival, inspectors load the inspection that has been assigned to them and using the tablet's integrated barcode scanner to scan a barcode, located on each housing unit's electrical panel, which brings up an inspection checklist and history for the particular dwelling. In order to document wear and tear on siding as well as the condition of the roofs, inspectors are required to take photos of the front and side of each unit using the tablet's integrated documentation camera where they can also highlight where the damage is and add notes using the using the tablet's digitizer pen. Once the inspections are complete, inspectors return to the offices, dock the F5v Tablet PCs, and all information is automatically uploaded to the server and available throughout the NHC.



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SOLUTION PROVIDER >

Konverge Digital Solutions Corporation, with roots dating back to 1994, is a focused Information Technology consulting firm that provides an unmatched level of personalized service and efficiency. Our mission is simple, to build value-creating applications that eliminate the manual business processes in your organization, enabling your team to achieve and exceed business goals and objectives. Our company is focused on your company's ROI.



According to Fulgham, the inspectors never have to worry about battery life as they carry an extra battery with them at all times, and the F5v Tablet PC's hot-swap battery feature allows inspectors to change the battery without having to power down the unit and impact productivity.

“The inspectors also benefit from the tablets' ruggedness and ability to withstand the harsh environment,” said Fulgham. “60 percent of the year is winter with temperatures reaching negative 30 degrees, and the F5v Tablet PCs perform despite these conditions.”

With Konverge's Software Solution in place, the NHC is now able to inspect half of its inventory every year, approximately 3,000 inspections. The ability to complete such a large number of inspections is due to the NHC's vastly increased efficiency.

“By eliminating paper, we've turned a time-consuming process wrought with duplication and the potential for errors into an efficient, automated, electronic workflow,” said Fulgham. “We're saving time, increasing productivity and ensuring safe, quality housing for residents.”

THE CONCLUSION >

The NHC plans to implement the F5v Tablet PCs with the Konverge Software Solution for maintenance management and inventory management for maintenance materials.

Synchronizing this information with the inspection data will provide the NHC with a holistic look into all its housing. Using a digital map, users will be able to click on a housing unit and access all information, including inspection and maintenance history as well as any open work orders.