

Capturx Case Study

G.K. Hills Tank Inspection

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FOR ENERGY FIELD SERVICE INSPECTION



Summary

Customer: G.K. Hills provides a comprehensive tank inspection program that satisfies all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Challenge: Large amounts of data collected need to be streamlined in order to speed up report sharing with customers.

Solution: Capturx Forms Service and digital pens instantly digitizes and sends data to the server.

Results: They can deliver finalized Inspection Reports to customers in days rather than months, and free up more time for customer-focused activities.

G.K. Hills Slashes the Delivery Time of Inspection Reports with Capturx

G.K. Hills is an innovator in upstream petroleum storage tank inspections in the highly competitive region of Western Canada. Timely inspections and maintenance are critical to storage tank owners because of financial, regulatory, and environmental concerns. Managing storage tanks is challenging due to fast changing regulatory requirements and the variety of jurisdictions, codes, and standards.

G.K. Hills differentiates itself in the market with its comprehensive inspection program that satisfies all applicable legal and regulatory requirements. Part of G.K. Hills commitment is delivering finalized Inspection Reports in a matter of days compared to the typical industry performance of months. To manage all the data and meet these timelines, G.K. Hills uses a Capturx digital forms solution with digital pens.

Challenge:

When inspection teams from G.K. Hills inspect storage tanks they collect large amounts of data which needs to be submitted to the main office as soon as possible for processing and reporting. Traditionally, data would be collected on paper forms, which are easy to use in the field, but time consuming to process. The paper needs to get physically sent back to the office, transcribed, and then integrated with reports.

Given the remote areas of many of the tank locations, there can be many delays to submitting traditional paperwork to the main office. In some cases, paper forms are damaged or lost, creating rework and further delays. Finally, the manual data entry is not only time consuming, but can also introduce transcription errors. As a result, many storage tank owners would have to wait months before receiving final Inspection Reports from many of the leading inspection providers.

G.K. Hills sought a new approach to automating their data capture and reporting – one that could speed up processing and scale effectively as the workload expands. Mobile computers and tablets were a natural consideration, but the devices needed to be durable and reliable in the challenging field environments of Alberta.

Solution: Capturx Forms Service & Digital Pens

To streamline paperwork management and speed up report sharing with customers, G.K. Hills selected the Capturx Forms Service and data capture using digital pens. With Capturx, inspectors can continue inspecting tanks and serving customers using their standard paper forms

and digital pens. When their forms are printed, Capturx software prepopulates the forms with customer data and creates a unique 2D-barcode for each page. Those barcodes are recognized by the durable digital pen which scans the information as it is written and automatically links the data back to the original forms. Upon returning to the field office, inspectors simply connect their digital pens to PCs, and Capturx automatically uploads and aggregates all the data in the Capturx cloud-based data management service. All data is immediately accessible in original handwriting and converted data for quick QA review and integration into other systems for customer reports and billing.

Results:

Faster Reporting to Customers – Days vs. Months

By gaining instant access to the data, G.K. Hills was able to complete and deliver finalized Inspection Reports to customers within days rather than the industry standard of months. The faster access to reports is an important benefit for customers and their Integrity Management programs, providing accurate and timely compliance documentation of inspections and infrastructure conditions.



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BETH BRUECKNER
Principal, G.K. Hills
Tank Inspection

"With Capturx we will have completed approximately 900 tank inspections during our first season and produced the reports in record time," said Beth Brueckner, Principal, G.K. Hills Tank Inspection.

Less Time and Money Spent on Paperwork

With Capturx, data collected in the field is instantly sent to the cloud, for easy approval and data processing. Now G.K. Hills can avoid the costs of manual data entry, scanning, filing, and archiving.

Streamlined Operations – More Inspections Means Getting Paid Faster

By streamlining report processing, G.K. Hills was able to gain a range of operational benefits to help their business scale more efficiently. For example, more of the team can focus on customer-focused activities such as inspecting storage tanks and analyzing the results.

In addition to avoiding data entry, the ability to pre-populate forms has helped them to organize work by location and as a result, better manage inspector's billable hours. With project scope and details pre-printed on their inspection forms, inspectors can focus on their service rather than spend time working through logistics. Schedulers can review inspections in the cloud, sorting lists to view inspections for that day – better anticipating and forecasting future scheduling.

Of course, high turnaround on inspections and immediate access to digital records also means that G.K. Hills can better manage invoicing. Faster invoicing yields the obvious benefit of improved cash flow, but it also helps customers stay current and avoid surprises from billing accumulating in the wrong months or worse – arriving after cut off for their budget year.