Niagara Falls Hydro chooses Intergraph technology to streamline operation workflows

G/ELECTRIC SOLUTION PROVIDES NEEDED CAPABILITIES TO BETTER SERVE THE NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO AREA

THE CHALLENGE:

Niagara Falls Hydro distributes electricity to the Niagara Falls, Ontario area and is responsible for maintaining both the equipment and wires that deliver electricity to approximately 35,000 homes and businesses within a 220-squarekilometerarea.

The Engineering and Operations Department within Niagara Falls Hydro is responsible for managing the information of the physical distribution network. The department needed to upgrade its existing AM/FM/GIS system, as it was no longer able to support the existing and future business requirements of planning, estimating, work management, and analysis. The user interface of the new system had to accommodate existing stand-alone processes into one global application, with a seamless integration into the Customer Information System (CIS) and analysis packages.

THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Upgrade the current GIS system to meet existing and future demands
- Store data in a non-proprietary format
- Integrate with the existing business system using a seamless workflow to reduce redundancy

THE SOLUTION:

After researching various GIS systems, Niagara Falls Hydro chose Intergraph's G/Electric solution and consulting services to guide them to the next step in managing their utility requirement. The department now uses the G/Electric solution platform, including G/Electric Administrator, G/Electric Designer, G/NetPlot Server, and G/NetViewer modules. The project took Niagara Falls Hydro through various phases including needs assessment, gap analysis, data conversion, system configuration, implementation and delivery, and on-site training to educate the users on how to better serve the residents of Niagara Falls.

"We selected a replacement GIS in order to streamline our operational workflow and satisfy

PROFILE:

Name – Niagara Falls Hydro, Engineering and Operations Department, Ontario

Web site – www.niagarafallshydro.on.ca

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KEY BENEFITS:

- Reduction in redundant processes
- More efficient process of capture, design, and analysis of network asset information

PRODUCTS USED:

- G/Electric Administrator
- G/Electric Designer
- G/NetPlot Server
- G/NetViewer

future information demands. We also wanted one company to be accountable and responsible for the new integrated environment. Intergraph's turnkey system provided a data warehouse and common repository for all asset information required to support planning, estimating, work management, and engineering network analysis," says John Compostella, former director of Engineering and Operations for Niagara Falls Hydro.

The system continues to save time and money by reducing redundant processes, enabling more efficient capture, design, and analysis of network asset information.

THE FUTURE

Future phases of this project saw implementations of mobile applications through G/MobileViewer and the development of interfaces with the company's engineering analysis applications. Niagra Hydro has also progressed to roll out additional design seats as well as expanding the functionality of data and the integration of Intergraph solutions across the enterprise.

TO LEARN MORE

For more information on Intergraph solutions for utility providers, e-mail sales@intergraph.ca.

ABOUT INTERGRAPH

Intergraph is the leading global provider of engineering and geospatial software that enables customers to visualize complex data. Businesses and governments in more than 60 countries rely on Intergraph's industry-specific software to organize vast amounts of data into understandable visual representations and actionable intelligence. Intergraph's software and services empower customers to build and operate more efficient plants and ships, create intelligent maps, and protect critical infrastructure and millions of people around the world.

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