

Capacity grows to rapidly mobilize geophysical resources

MultiVIEW opens local office to fulfill increasing subsurface data demands

STAFF WRITER

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As a near surface geophysics company, multiVIEW leverages more than 25 years of experience with non-destructive technology to capture, process and analyze a wide variety of subsurface data. Working on geotechnical, engineering, and environmental projects around the world and extensively in Ottawa, the company will soon be opening a local office.

General manager Kevin Vine says though a technician has been active in the city since 2008 and multiVIEW will travel wherever required, increasing Ottawa-area business has created the need for a local office which will allow crews to mobilize quickly to meet urgent demands.

“We’ve had a local presence in the city for years and have worked on hundreds of large-scale projects including mapping subsurface conditions along stretches of Highway 417,” said Vine. “With construction on the rise in Ottawa and a focus on sewer and road upgrades, it’s an exciting time to more actively join the marketplace and bring long term employment opportunities into the city.”

Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) has become an integral part of the construction project planning process and makes up a large portion of multiVIEW’s work. It’s a branch of engineering originally shaped by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard 38-02 and recently reinforced by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) S250. multiVIEW has been conducting subsurface mapping since before the ASCE standard's introduction.

“SUE is extremely effective for managing risk because it allows you to identify



and control the quality of underground utility infrastructure data used in the design, development and construction of a project,” said Vine. “For a SUE project to be successful it has to be integrated and this is a key differentiator for us. We manage every step of the process in-house which saves our customers hassle and provides them with the best possible results.”

In the late 80s, multiVIEW evolved from a geophysical consulting firm specializing in the development of new airborne Electromagnetic (EM) and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) systems. Over the years, the company’s services have evolved to match demand and today, 20 to 30 per cent of the work is underground utility locating services.

Unlike many locating companies, multiVIEW is a full-service geophysics company

and has the in-house expertise to leverage a wide variety of technologies to find subsurface assets that can’t be found using standard induction locating equipment. These include time-domain electromagnetics and seismology. Vine says the company also works with environmental firms to uncover cost-effective environmental engineering solutions for soil and water contamination management, environmental protection and sustainability.

“We can apply a range of techniques including direct current resistivity, electromagnetics and seismic to locate drilling targets for groundwater supply, estimate the depth of water tables, locate groundwater wells and detect contamination,” he said. “Targeting areas of concern allows our customers to focus their sampling investigation and spend their exploration budget wisely.”

MultiVIEW also works extensively in infrastructure assessment. “Using non-destructive technology such as GPR, we’re able to capture subsurface data across vast areas on roads and bridges. This is extremely useful for new construction as well as rehabilitation projects because it provides added insight when assessing conditions and identifying potential concerns. It also minimizes the amount of intrusive testing required.”

Highly trained field technicians collect the data which is then analyzed and interpreted by multiVIEW’s in-house engineers and professional geoscientists. Insights are provided to customers through highly sophisticated reports including CAD drawings, 3D images and other deliverables.

Vine says the technology and software have come a long way. The company has the ability to assess a range of infrastructure features such as pavement layer thickness, base coarse quality, road bed inconsistencies, and concrete pavement degradation over vast stretches of road, often without disrupting the flow of traffic.

The ability to interpret and present data has also improved. “For a SUE project, we provide our customers with a highly visual end product that communicates the precise horizontal and vertical position of buried utilities. We also deliver a utility conflict matrix so that collected utility information can be compared with proposed plans.”

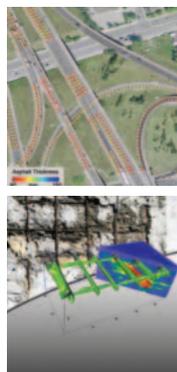
Vine says this ensures there are no unexpected surprises at later project stages. The company delivers for infrastructure inspection “colour contour maps depicting deterioration, rebar corrosion, voids beneath the surface and other potential concerns that are not visible to the naked eye.”

For more information, visit multiview.ca.

- » Over 25 years of experience in the near-surface geophysics business
- » Thousands of subsurface investigations across Canada and worldwide
- » Experts in using non-destructive technology to find even “non-locatable” buried utilities

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Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE): Eliminate the unknown and avoid conflict with underground utilities. Trust a service provider that’s been conducting subsurface utility mapping since 1993.

Infrastructure Inspection: Map subsurface conditions across vast stretches of a road or bridge, with minimal traffic disruption and a reduced need for destructive testing.

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