

# Integrating ChatGPT for Facility Condition Assessments

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## This course will meet the following learning objectives

1. **Learning Objective 1:** Learning how to identify a potential software use case for the A/E industry.
2. **Learning Objective 2:** Understanding how software can be effectively designed for Architects & Engineers.
3. **Learning Objective 3:** Understanding the historical development of AI and how to select a Large Language Model.
4. **Learning Objective 4:** Analysis of AI outputs compared to traditional report generation

### Why do Facility Condition Assessments matter?

- Provides information about the current state of a facility, including its functionality
- Helps determine the long-term needs of a building, such as repairs, maintenance, and replacements
- Provides actionable data for making informed decisions, such as staffing, project timelines, budgets, and capital planning
- Can help lenders or buyers understand how the condition of the building and site improvements will impact the asset's financial performance

### FCA Nuances

- Written reports remains the preferred customer format
- Data collection can be highly variable between inspectors and/or companies

[https://www.newmarket.ca/TownGovernment/Documents/Mulock%20Property/041305\\_Building%20Condition%20Assessment%20Report\\_%2016780%20Yonge%20St%20Newmarket.FINAL%20STAMPED.pdf](https://www.newmarket.ca/TownGovernment/Documents/Mulock%20Property/041305_Building%20Condition%20Assessment%20Report_%2016780%20Yonge%20St%20Newmarket.FINAL%20STAMPED.pdf)

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Table 2. Example of a Stage 1 condition assessment of a borehole water pumping station

Item	Plant unit*	Condition rating (visual)	Performance (operator opinion)	Consequence of failure	Plant action prioritization rating**	Comments/recommendations
1	Buildings	1	1	1	3	No action, normal maintenance schedule
2	Borehole pumps*	1	2	2	10	BH2 valve control to be repaired. Action within 3 months.
3	Disinfection*	1	1	2	6	No action, normal maintenance schedule
4	Contact tanks*	1	1	4	12	No action, normal maintenance schedule
5	Dechlorination*	1	2	3	15	Two SO2 injectors need replacing. Action within 3 months.
6	Phosphoric acid dosing	1	1	2	6	No action, normal maintenance schedule
7	Booster pumps*	1	1	3	9	Rotork valve on booster no. 5 failing to open past 12% on start-up. Planning to replace valve. Action within 3 months.
8	Surge vessel	1	1	3	9	No action, normal maintenance schedule

Rating	Physical Condition	Action Matrix	Score
A	Very Good	Preventive Maintenance	1 to 5
B	Good	Condition Based Maintenance	6 to 10
C	Fair	Repairs	11 to 15
D	Poor	Rehabilitation	16 to 20

**FCI =  $\frac{\text{Renewal Needs \& Deferred Maintenance (DM)}}{\text{Current Replacement Value (CRV)}} \times 100$**

Good    Fair    Poor    Critical

5%    10%    Greater than 10%    Greater than 30%



# 2017



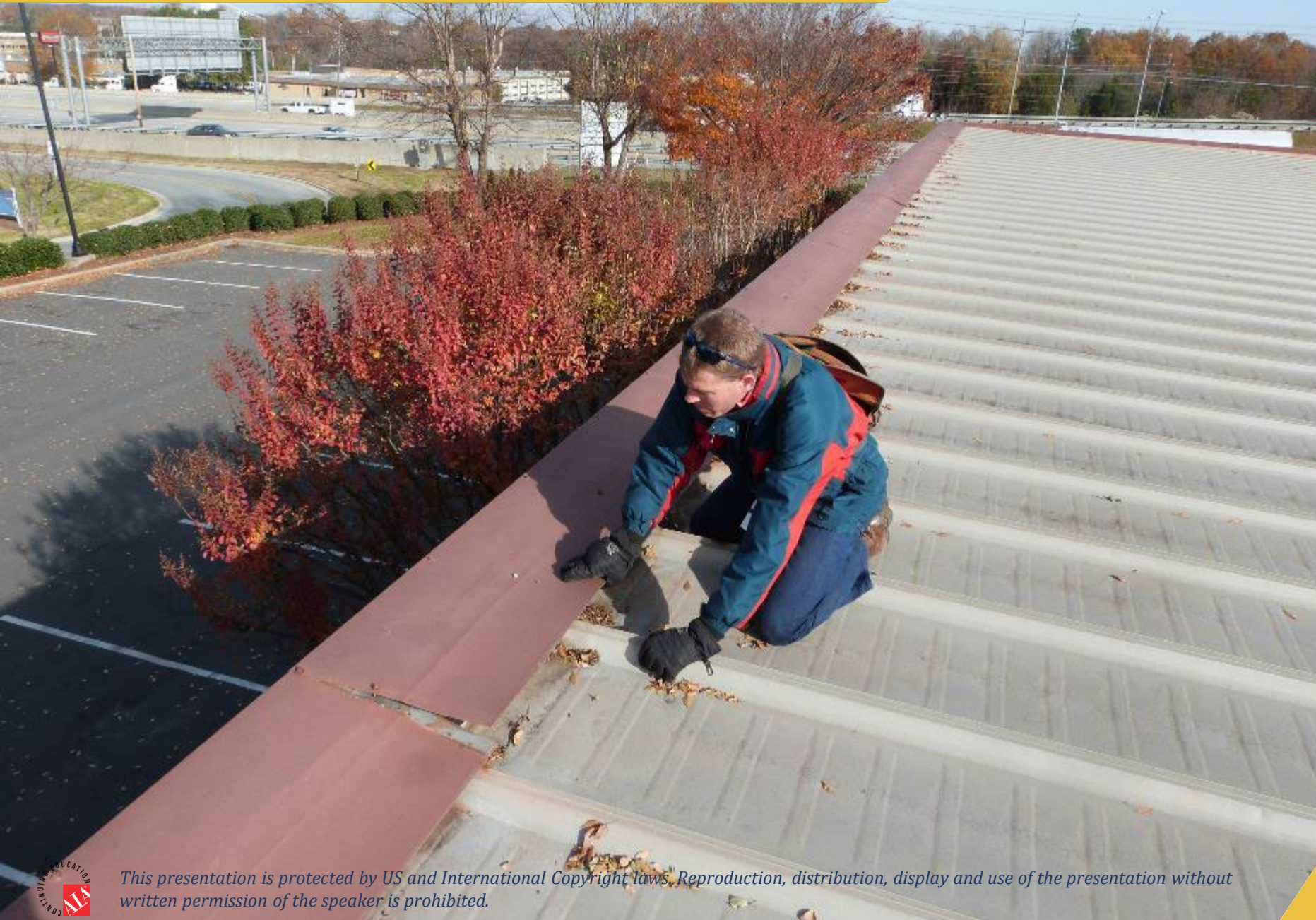
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# Where we started

## Our Approach



### Manual Condition Investigations

- “Par for the course”
- Requires an inspector to be on-site
- To some degree will always be inefficient
- Continues to be the standard mechanism for understanding existing conditions



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# Where we started

## Our Approach



### Digital Data Collection

- The big “advancement” since the 1990s – we now use digital cameras in the field
- Requires the inspector to correlate photographs with other collected data
- Inefficient in file transfers, building a photo log, or tracking information over time

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# Where we started

## Our Approach



### Manual Data Recording

- Still very common across firms, owners, and disciplines
- Some advancements in looking into how to use construction software for digital data collection
- Even if digital, most inspectors are still inefficient when writing reports

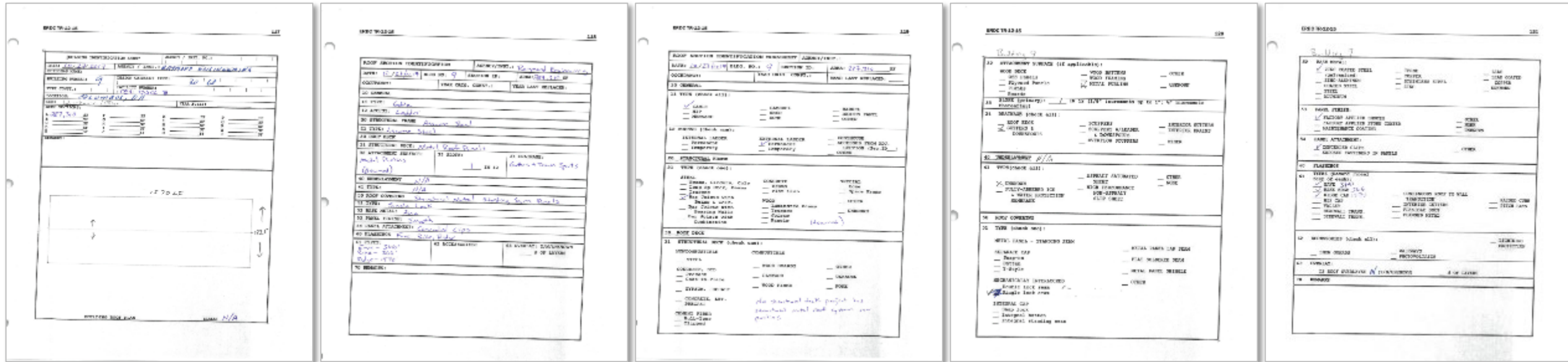


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To this day, some customers still require physical forms to be filled out and submitted, so that hard data entry can be completed in the owner's database



The above examples are the forms required to be submitted for data entry in the Roofer program (within the Builder program), maintained by the United States Army Corps of Engineers



### DATA COLLECTION IN THE FIELD

# 1-2

MINUTES

### REPORT WRITING IN THE OFFICE

# 4-5

HOURS

**EXAMPLE DATA POINT:** In 2017, my team did a roof condition assessment at a DoD logistics site in Ohio – approximately 7M SQFT of metal panel roofs. With a team of four inspectors, we finished the full roof and eave inspection within a week of on-site work. In the field, we averaged about 2 minutes per marked defect. This included marking a hand drawn diagram of the roof with a code and taking a photo. Back in the office, we had GBs of data to review *again*, leading to nearly two weeks of report writing time.

# 2018



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### Starting in 2018, we wanted to solve our inefficiency problem....

#### Commercially Available Solutions

- Did not have a digital data collection solution
- Not designed for A/E condition assessments
- Created additional work time
- Expensive

#### What We Thought We Needed for our Projects

- Enabled an asset management program
- Adapted for real field use and the condition assessment use case
- Customer focused
- Web-enabled

### And that's what we set out to build....

# Where we headed

## The Wrong Approach

Building Name	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
70 - Leighton School for the Performing Arts	6000	2250	1300	11350	201400	1450	1500	1550	1600	1700
70-A	6000	2250	1300	11350	201400	1450	1500	1550	1600	1700
Repairs	5000	1000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Design	0	0	0	10000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Replacement	0	0	0	0	200000	0	0	0	0	0

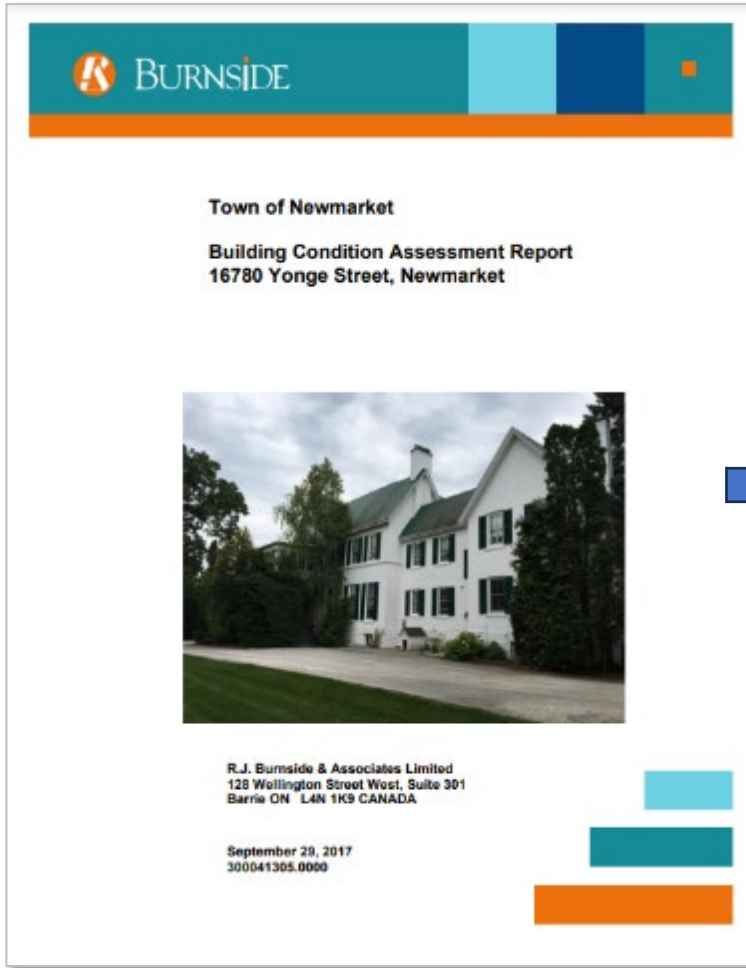
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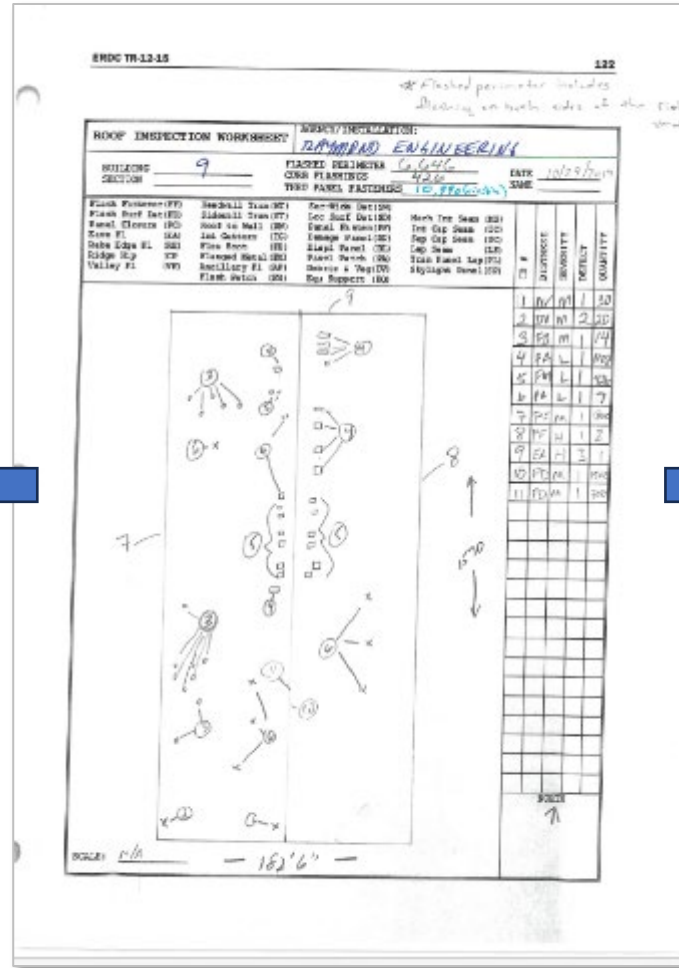
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# What We Realized

Matching Customer Requirements to Ours



Written Report



Geospatial Data



Field-Enabled



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# 2019



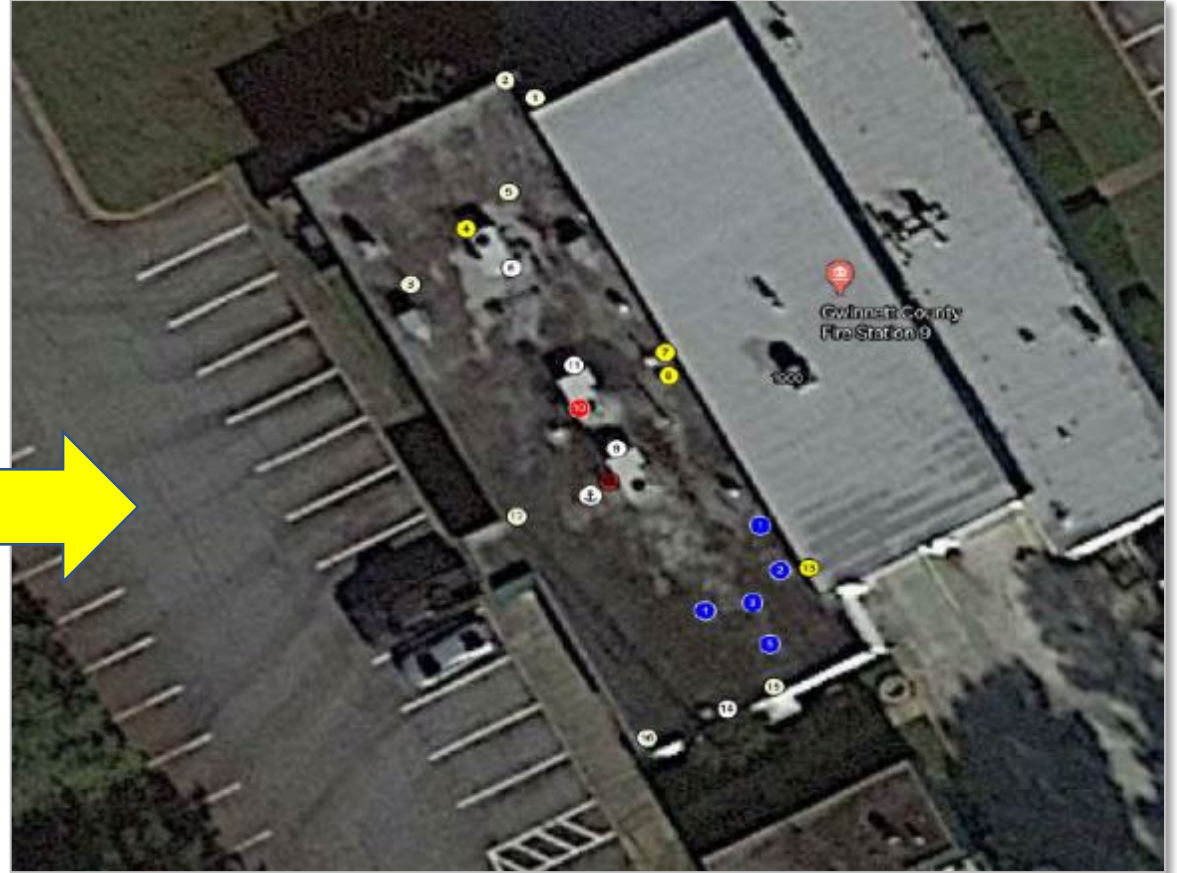
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# What Happens w/Digital Data

## New Use Cases



We could finally achieve 10-15 seconds per data point speeds



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In 2019, we surveyed Millions of Square Feet of roofs, proving that digital data collection was possible, efficient, and easy. However, we were still aiming at the wrong end goal – we kept focusing on populating the customer portal...



### Pros

- We solved the digital data collection issue in the field
- Enabled a web-based asset management platform

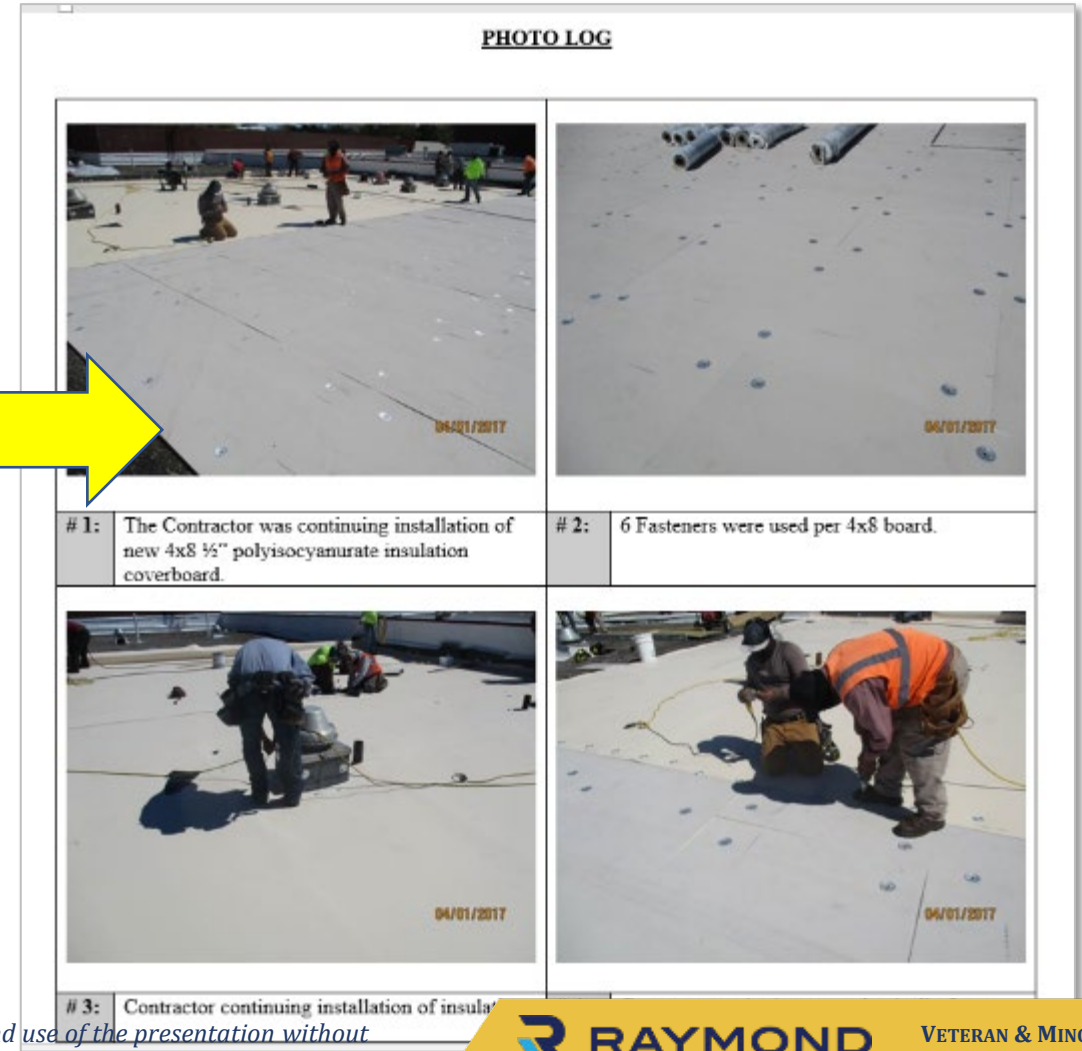
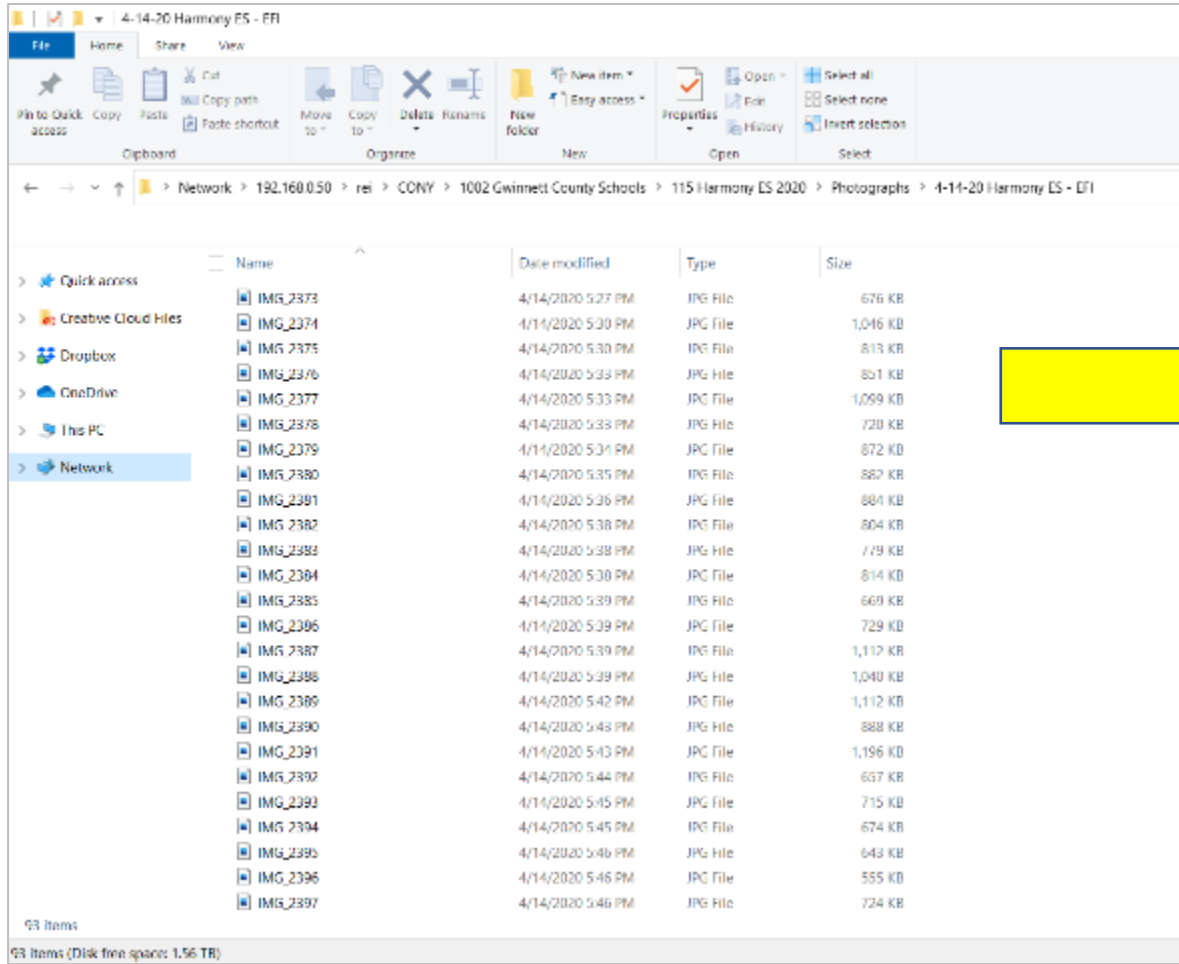
### Cons

- Double work for inspectors
- Didn't meet customer preferences

**Customer feedback told us, owners still wanted reports. And it finally begged the question:**

**Could we automate report writing now that we had digital data?**

Within two months, we had built a prototype to start automated report writing. Efficiency skyrocketed just by being able to automatically build a photo log.



Using a standardized format, automated technical data and photo inputs, and sample stock text, we estimated we could now generate a 70% report

### DATA COLLECTION IN THE FIELD

**1-2**



**10-15**

MINUTES PER DATA POINT

SECONDS PER DATA POINT

### REPORT WRITING

**4-5**



**20-30**

HOURS  
(SIMPLE REPORT)

MINUTES  
(SIMPLE REPORT)

And while training, standardization, quality, and profit margins all increased...we kept hearing that the platform users were still struggling with writing the remaining 30% of the report that wasn't automated...

# 2022



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**AI finally hits “Critical Mass”**

**And what is it best at?**

**Writing**

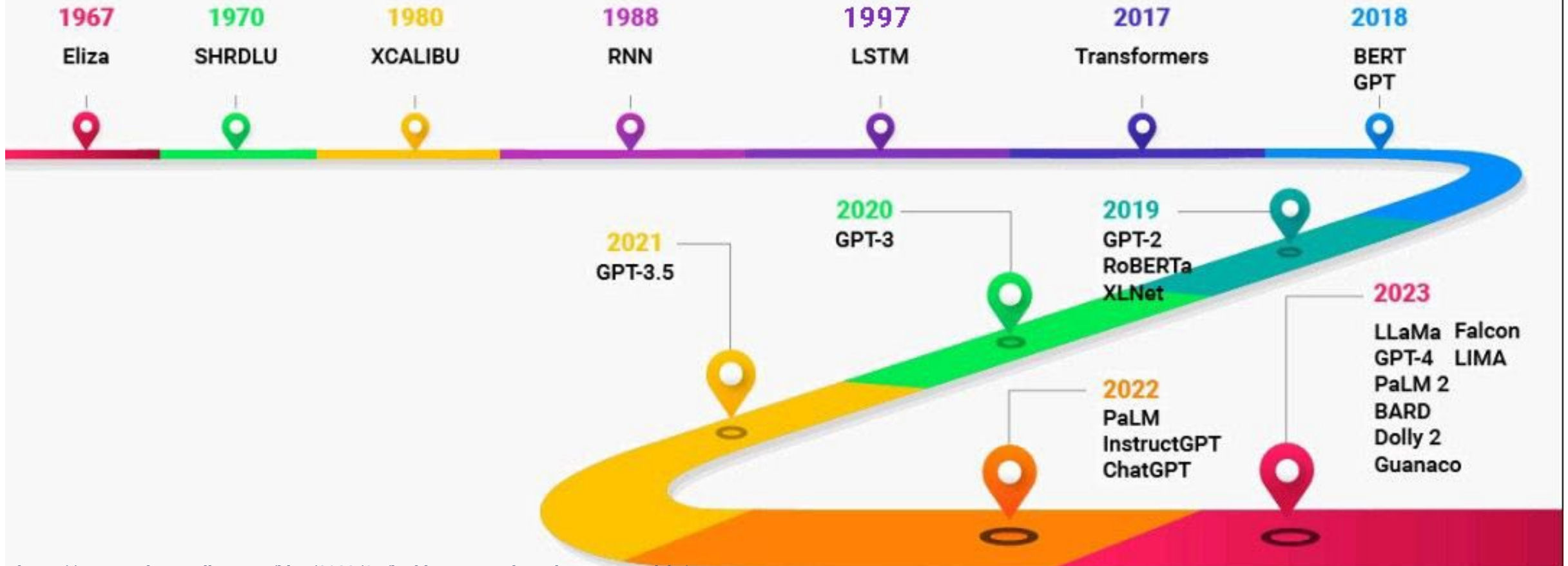


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# Evolution of Large Language Models



<https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2023/07/build-your-own-large-language-models/>

### How Does it Work?

All AI is built on a large language model (LLM), with the specific algorithm using deep learning techniques and large data sets to understand, summarize, generate, and predict content. LLMs are a type of generative AI that uses statistical models to analyze large amounts of data, learning the patterns and connections between words and phrases.

LLMs can perform a variety of natural language processing (NLP) tasks, such as generating and classifying text, answering questions in a conversational manner, and translating text from one language to another. They can also be used to generate original audio, images, video, synthetic data, 3D models, and other non-text outputs.

Some examples of language models include voice assistants like Siri, Alexa, and Google Home, and Google Translator and Microsoft Translate.

### AI Use Cases

- Quickly synthesizes and summarize information from multiple sources
- Uses NLP algorithms to accurately recognize and respond to questions
- Has access to a vast amount of information across a wide range of topics
- Can generate responses based on the user's input
- Can improve efficiency by providing important information in a quick and efficient manner
- Can automate repetitive tasks

### The 2022 Market Leader

ChatGPT is a large language model-based chatbot developed by OpenAI and launched on November 30, 2022. It is notable for enabling users to refine and steer a conversation towards a desired length, format, style, level of detail, and language used. Successive prompts and replies, known as prompt engineering, are taken into account at each stage of the conversation as a context.

**ChatGPT is trained on a massive dataset of text and code, including books, articles, code, and conversations. This allows it to generate text that is both informative and engaging.**



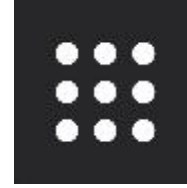
# OpenAI ChatGPT 4.0

### Key Facts

- OpenAI was founded in 2015
- Microsoft has invested over \$10,000,000,000 towards the development of ChatGPT
- GPT = Generative Pre-trained Transformer
- ChatGPT 4 uses 100 Trillion parameters (1 petabyte) vs. 175 Billion parameters (45 terabytes) for ChatGPT 3



Jasper



Perplexity



Writesonic



# 2023



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# The Problem Statement

## Where We Started

Visual Roof Condition Assessment: Fire Station #9  
Project No. 1263.044  
August, 6 2023  
Page #4

### Executive Summary

#### INTERIOR:

Building personnel led the inspector through the condition beneath the roofing. During the inspection, the following locations:

1. Hallway from kitchen.
2. Bunk area.
3. Bunk area.
4. Bunk area.
5. Bunk area.

#### BUILDING Fire Station #9, Roof Area:

From discussions with building personnel, the building was built approximately [XX] years ago. Per Google Earth Imagery the store construction was completed in [XXXX]. Based on our visual observations, combined with the approximate age of the building, the [INSERT TYPE OF ROOF SYSTEM] roof system is in [INSERT CONDITION] condition. Photographs [XX-YY] show and describe conditions and defects observed.

Based on the visual assessment, reported leaks, and the approximate age of the roofing, the roofing system appears to be performing [INSERT ROOF CONDITION]. Leaks appear to be associated with General maintenance can be used to ensure minor roof system deficiencies are properly maintained and the roof system can perform to its expected life span. Minor defects are primarily associated with [LIST GENERAL DEFECT CATEGORIES HERE]. The service life of [INSERT ROOF SYSTEM TYPE] roof system is typically [XX] years. It is estimated that performing the repairs as outlined below and regular maintenance the roof should last [XX] more years.

#### BUILDING Fire Station #9, Roof Area: B:

From discussions with building personnel, the building was built approximately [XX] years ago. Per Google Earth Imagery the store construction was completed in [XXXX]. Based on our visual observations, combined with the approximate age of the building, the [INSERT TYPE OF ROOF SYSTEM] roof system is in [INSERT CONDITION] condition. Photographs [XX-YY] show and describe conditions and defects observed.

Based on the visual assessment, reported leaks, and the approximate age of the roofing, the roofing system appears to be performing [INSERT ROOF CONDITION]. Leaks appear to be associated with General maintenance can be used to ensure minor roof system deficiencies are properly maintained and the roof system can perform to its expected life span. Minor defects are primarily associated with [LIST GENERAL DEFECT CATEGORIES HERE]. The service life of [INSERT ROOF SYSTEM TYPE] roof system is typically [XX] years. It is estimated that performing the repairs as outlined below and regular maintenance the roof should last [XX] more years.

#### BUILDING Fire Station #9, Roof Area: C:

Going back to the 30% that we couldn't generate from our digital data collection, we aimed to use "stock" text to solve some of the problem

From discussions with building personnel, the building was built approximately [XX] years ago. Per Google Earth Imagery the store construction was completed in [XXXX]. Based on our visual observations, combined with the approximate age of the building, the [INSERT TYPE OF ROOF SYSTEM] roof system is in [INSERT CONDITION] condition. Photographs [XX-YY] show and describe conditions and defects observed.

Based on the visual assessment, reported leaks, and the approximate age of the roofing, the roofing system appears to be performing [INSERT ROOF CONDITION]. Leaks appear to be associated with General maintenance can be used to ensure minor roof system deficiencies are properly maintained and the roof system can perform to its expected life span. Minor defects are primarily associated with [LIST GENERAL DEFECT CATEGORIES HERE]. The service life of [INSERT ROOF SYSTEM TYPE] roof system is typically [XX] years. It is estimated that performing the repairs as outlined below and regular maintenance the roof should last [XX] more years.

And while we had hoped to solve "writer's block", we started to see inspectors using it verbatim in reports.

So, we did our first integration with ChatGPT.

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### BUILDING: Fleet, AREA: A

The building has a **mod bitumen** roofing system with a remaining service life **of 3-5 years** and a **fair condition** rating. The roofing system is supported by concrete double tees and has an unknown pitch and age. The roof has several defects, including severe loss of surfacing or minerals, somewhat-severe detached flashing membrane, somewhat-severe ponding, and two instances of somewhat-severe defective repair to the membrane.

### BUILDING: Fleet, AREA: B

The building's roof is a built-up type with a remaining service life of 3-5 years and a fair condition rating. Despite being approximately of age, the roofing system appears to be functioning well based on a visual assessment and lack of reported leaks. However, minor roof system deficiencies need regular maintenance to achieve its expected lifespan. Some of the most severe defects include severe detachment of counter flashing and rusting of the exhaust vent, while there are also several instances of moderate and minimal loss of surfacing or minerals in the flashing membrane.

Veritas Asset Management, Inc. conducted a comprehensive condition assessment of the roof at Fire Station #9. The study focused on identifying areas of concern, particularly those exhibiting similar characteristics. The evaluation revealed the presence of leaks in several locations within the structure, predominantly in the hallway leading from the kitchen and in multiple spots within the bunk area. These leaks were detected in the roof area categorized as 'A', which was constructed using the built-up roofing method. The overall condition of this section was rated as poor.

In addition to the leaks, the assessment also identified various defects in the same 'A' roof area. These included repeated instances of alligating, loose sections, loss of surfacing or minerals, drainage issues leading to water accumulation on the roof, and holes. Other less frequent defects such as rust, damage, the presence of vegetation and debris, deformations, and unsecured sections were also noted. These findings suggest that this section of the roof, despite its construction year, has a limited service life remaining and requires urgent attention to prevent further deterioration.

# A useful feature within ChatGPT is the ability to adjust how much text is written. We started with assuming that our original write-ups would be sufficient, but we later switched to more comprehensive Executive Summaries

**BUILDING: Fleet, AREA: A**

The building has a mod bitumen roofing system with a remaining service life of 3-5 years and a fair condition rating. The roofing system is supported by concrete double tees and has an unknown pitch and age. The roof has several defects, including severe loss of surfacing or minerals, somewhat-severe detached flashing membrane, somewhat-severe ponding, and two instances of somewhat-severe defective repair to the membrane.

**BUILDING: Fleet, AREA: B**

The building's roof is a built-up type with a remaining service life of 3-5 years and a fair condition rating. Despite being approximately of age, the roofing system appears to be functioning well based on a visual assessment and lack of reported leaks. However, minor roof system deficiencies need regular maintenance to achieve its expected lifespan. Some of the most severe defects include severe detachment of counter flashing and rusting of the exhaust vent, while there are also several instances of moderate and minimal loss of surfacing or minerals in the flashing membrane.

ChatGPT 3.5

A thorough condition assessment was conducted by Veritas Asset Management, Inc. on the roof of Fire Station #9. This detailed report provides an all-encompassing account of the findings, focusing on each individual component of the roof and its distinct areas.

The first point of concern is the leaks found in roof area A. Notably, the hallway from the kitchen and the bunk area were among the most affected locations. Given the crucial role of any roof to provide a barrier against external elements, the presence of leaks significantly undermines its function, leading to potential internal damage to the building. The leaks in these areas suggest that the roof's integrity has been compromised and its remaining service life could be shorter than expected. The overall condition of this roof area has been rated as poor.

Moving on to the counter flashing, this component plays a vital role in directing water off the roof and its failure can lead to serious water damage. It was found that roof area A has multiple defects, including alligatoring, loss of surfacing or minerals, holes, rust, and debris. Similarly, roof area B, albeit rated as in good condition, exhibited multiple issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant. These observations suggest that even though the roof might still be functional, the counter flashing is in dire need of attention.

The base flashing, another significant component, was observed to have various defects in roof areas A, B, and C. This component, integral for preventing water penetration at the junction of the roof and vertical surfaces, was found to have alligatoring, rust, and vegetation presence in Area A. Area B and C, although rated as in good condition, presented issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant, and defective repair.

The penetration (round) in roof areas A and B showed similar defects as those found in the base flashing. This component, which allows for the passage of items through the roof without compromising its water resistance, was also found to have alligatoring, rust, and vegetation presence in Area A, while Area B presented issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant.

The overall condition of the roof in Area A was also found to be poor with similar defects to the aforementioned components. The roof, as the main protective barrier of the building, plays a crucial role in maintaining the internal environment and its compromised condition poses a significant concern.

The conduit, equipment cover, and fascia in Area A exhibited similar problems, compromising their functions for protecting roof penetrations and enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the roofline, respectively. The gutter (external) in roof areas A, B, and C, which is crucial for directing water away from the building, was also found to have several defects.

In roof areas B and C, the coping, which caps the wall and prevents water infiltration, showed general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant, and defective repair. The membrane in Area B, vital for ensuring the roof's water resistance, was found to have similar defects.

Furthermore, the rise wall in roof area C showed defects such as debris, deteriorated sealant, and defective repair. This part of the roof prevents water from penetrating the building and its defects could lead to serious damage. Similar defects were found in the penetration (square) and wood blocking in roof area C, which respectively allow for the passage of items through the roof and provide support for the roofing system.

In summary, the condition of the roof at Fire Station #9 is varied across different areas and components. The noted defects, particularly the leaks, pose serious concerns and require immediate attention to prevent further damage and ensure the longevity of the roofing system.

ChatGPT 4.0

**While we provided condition assessment ratings for each roof area, we did not expect expanded language that was accurate to how roofs are prioritized for replacement vs. maintenance**

*Given the poor condition rating and the type of roof (built up), it may be beneficial to consider a comprehensive roof replacement. This could prevent further damage, improve energy efficiency, and extend the roof's service life.*

*However, if the budget or circumstances do not allow for a full replacement, a thorough repair and maintenance plan should be implemented, taking into account the defects identified in this report.*

### INTERIOR

Raymond Engineering has conducted an interior leak inspection at Fleet in several buildings. During the inspection, the team closely analyzed and examined the interior of the buildings to identify any possible leaks or water damage. Unfortunately, they discovered that in Fleet 1, there were multiple leaks present. To ensure the safety and well-being of the occupants of the building, immediate action was taken to repair and address the issue. Raymond Engineering took the necessary steps to ensure that all the leaks were fixed and the building was safe for occupation. The team at Raymond Engineering is committed to providing high-quality services to prevent and solve any issues related to water damage and leaks.

There were several leaks found during the inspection. One of the leaks was found at the flue stack.

The existing roof leaks have been assessed and rated as minimally severe. This means that although there are some leaks present, they are not causing significant damage or posing any immediate risk to the structural integrity of the building. However, it is still important to address these leaks as they can lead to mold growth, decreased energy efficiency, and potential damage to the interior of the building over time. It is recommended to take proactive measures to fix the leaks and prevent any potential escalation of severity in the future.

- The loose flashing membrane, which is rated somewhat-severe, should be repaired immediately to prevent further damage. To fix the problem, first remove any loose materials and debris from the surface of the membrane. Clean the area thoroughly, and then apply a durable, waterproof sealant or flashing tape to the affected area, ensuring that it is fully adhered and sealed. For larger or more complex issues with the flashing membrane, it may be best to contact a professional for assistance.
- To fix failed sealant on the equipment cover, the recommendation is to remove the old sealant and clean the surface thoroughly. Then, apply new sealant according to the manufacturer's instructions and ensure a proper seal. Regular maintenance and inspection can prevent future occurrences of this defect.
- For the minimally severe rust defect on the equipment cover, it is recommended to follow the manufacturer's guidelines and apply a protective coating and/or paint to the exposed surface. This will address general corrosion issues and prevent the defect from worsening over time.
- In order to address the severe defect of a pipe that is not properly sealed, it is recommended that the transition be properly terminated and any necessary sealant repairs be made. This will ensure that the pipe is functioning properly and prevent any further damage or safety concerns.

### ChatGPT

*The Base Flashing also displayed alligatoring and the presence of holes, some of this alligatoring is more severe. We recommend a comprehensive repair or replacement of the affected flashing to prevent water intrusion.*

*The Equipment Cover was found to be unsecured, which is a significant concern. We strongly recommend immediate action to secure any loose equipment covers, as they can cause extensive damage to the roof and building if they become airborne during high winds.*

*Lastly, the Gutter (External) had some debris. A simple cleaning should suffice to ensure proper water flow and prevent any overflow onto the building*

### Inspector

*Significant instances of “alligatoring” and bridging in the base flashing was observed. Base Flashing should be re-covered according to design specifications within the next 3-5 years.*

*Correct attach and secure all mechanical unit doors and covers to ensure the penetration remains watertight.*

*Trim existing trees adjacent to the roof so as to prevent excess debris from collecting on the roof.*

# User Interface

## Design Use Cases

AI Generated Text for Fire Station #9 (BETA)

PLEASE CONTACT WITH FEEDBACK

### Executive Summary

GENERATE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAVE GROUP

ALL OF BELOW FIRE STATION #9

- A
- B
- C

### Recommendations

GENERATE RECOMMENDATIONS

Defect Type

Action Urgency (Repair Required versus Monitor or Preventative Maintenance)

### Topic-Based Writing

TOPIC-BASED WRITING

SAVE INFO

CLEAR ALL

Ability to generate custom Executive Summaries

The User can simply generate a single write-up

The User can choose to group specific areas together that are known to have similarity

The User can choose to generate Recommendations by either the Defect Type or the Defect Action Urgency

Defect Type still consolidates write-ups, while Action Urgency is based on when defects have been marked as higher severity or for repair

The User can ask ChatGPT to write on a specific topic that is need as part of the final report write-up

### AI Generated Text for Fire Station #9 (BETA)

PLEASE CONTACT WITH FEEDBACK

#### Executive Summary

GENERATE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAVE GROUP

ALL OF BUILDING FIRE STATION #9

A  
B  
C

#### Recommendations

GENERATE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Defect Type
- Action Urgency (Repair Required versus Monitor or Preventative Maintenance)

#### Topic-Based Writing

TOPIC-BASED WRITING

SAVE INFO

CLEAR ALL

#### Executive Summary

COPY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY TO CLIPBOARD

Veritas Asset Management, Inc. conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the roof condition at Fire Station #9. We focused on the roof areas and any defects present, discussing these in detail for each component. The function and importance of each component were also examined in detail.

The first component we assessed was the roof leaks. Our assessment found that the leaks were concentrated in the hallway from the kitchen and the bunk area of roof area A. The roof type of this area is built up and the condition was rated as poor. These leaks are a major concern as they can lead to structural damage over time and negatively impact the habitability of the building.

We then turned our attention to the counter flashing. In roof area A, the counter flashing was in poor condition with multiple instances of alligating, loose components, loss of surfacing or minerals, holes, and other defects. The counter flashing in roof area B was in a better state, rated as good, though there were still signs of general corrosion, loose components, and patches/repairs. Counter flashing plays a crucial role in preventing water from entering the roof, and these defects could potentially compromise the building's integrity.

The base flashing in roof areas A, B, and C was also examined. The base flashing in roof area A was in poor condition, with similar defects to the counter flashing. However, in roof areas B and C, the condition was rated as good, but there were still defects noted such as general corrosion, loose components, and patches/repairs. Base flashing defects are of concern.

We also observed the round penetration in roof area B, however, in roof area B, the penetration was in better condition, despite a few issues related to general corrosion, loose components, and patches/repairs. Round penetrations are integral for ventilation and pipe systems and, therefore, these defects could lead to functional issues and water leakage.

Regarding the overall roof, we found that it was in poor condition in roof area A, with a variety of defects. The roof is the primary barrier against weather elements, and given its poor condition, it is likely to affect the building's overall weather resistance.

The conduit in roof area A was also in poor condition with numerous defects. Conduits house and protect electrical wiring, and defects in them can lead to electrical faults or even fire hazards. Similarly, the equipment cover in roof area A was also in poor condition, with numerous defects. Equipment covers protect rooftop equipment from weather elements, and their poor condition could compromise this protection.

The fascia in roof areas A and C showed a variety of defects. Fascia helps in supporting the bottom row of tiles and carrying the gutter, and these defects can affect its proper functioning. The external gutters in roof areas A, B, and C also showed multiple defects. Gutters are crucial for effective water management on the roof, and these defects could lead to water overflow and damage to the building.

The coping in roof areas B and C was in a better state, but there were still issues related to loose components and patches/repairs. Coping protects the roof edges from weather elements and these defects could compromise its effectiveness. The condition of the membrane in roof area B was good, but there were still some defects noted. Membranes are crucial for waterproofing and these defects could impact their effectiveness.

The rise wall in roof area C, the square penetration in roof area C, and the wood blocking in roof area C all showed various defects but were in a good condition. The rise wall helps protect the roof from wind uplift, square penetrations are integral for ventilation and pipe systems, and wood blocking provides a solid base for the attachment of roofing materials. Therefore, the noted defects in these areas could potentially lead to functional issues and water leakage.

## Generated Text

### Repairing Holes in Base Flashing

#### Introduction:

Base flashing is a waterproofing measure often used in construction to prevent water from infiltrating various parts of a building, such as the roof or walls. Over time, due to weather conditions or other environmental factors, the base flashing may develop holes or cracks, compromising its functionality. This report explores the step-by-step process of repairing holes in base flashing.

#### Procedure:

##### I. Assess the Damage:

The first step in repairing holes in base flashing is to assess the extent of the damage. It is important to understand the size and location of the holes to plan the repair process effectively.

##### II. Gather Necessary Tools and Materials:

To effectively repair holes in base flashing, you will need the following tools and materials:

1. Brush or broom for cleaning the area
2. Patching compound or roofing cement
3. Metal flashing strip (if required)
4. Utility knife
5. Caulking gun
6. Gloves and safety glasses for protection

##### III. Clean the Area:

Before starting on the repair, clean the damaged area thoroughly. Use a brush or broom to remove any loose debris or dirt. Any residual dirt may prevent the patching compound from adhering properly.

##### IV. Apply the Patching Compound:

If the hole is small, a patching compound or roofing cement can be used. Using a utility knife or a similar tool, apply the patching compound over the hole. Make sure to spread it evenly, covering the hole and the surrounding area completely.

##### V. Apply the Flashing Strip:

For larger holes, a new strip of flashing may be necessary. Cut a piece of flashing that is larger than the hole. Apply a generous amount of roofing cement on the underside of the new flashing strip and press firmly over the hole. Make sure the edges are well sealed with the cement.

##### VI. Apply a Final Layer of Patching Compound:

Once the flashing strip is in place, apply another layer of patching compound over it. This ensures a waterproof seal and helps to blend the repair with the rest of the flashing.

##### VII. Let it Cure:

Allow the patching compound or cement to cure as per the manufacturer's instructions. This could take anywhere from a few hours to a few days, depending on the product used.

### Testing

1. Our initial testing demonstrated that we could, at minimum, automatically generate a similar output to our stock language.
2. Evaluation of ChatGPT 3.5 vs. 4.0 was key to us choosing how we would implement an AI solution.
3. Length of text generation is a key “toggle” that needs to still be more fully evaluated long-term.
4. ChatGPT can be “grandiose” in its writing.

### Implementation

1. A paid account gives early access to the latest version(s) of ChatGPT.
2. A user cannot simply go through the generic text prompt to generate a condition assessment report.
3. Passing historical writing examples makes the output more realistic.
4. Focusing on specific use cases is key for user adoption.
5. Implementing while giving the user the option to use ChatGPT has been beneficial.
6. We are not providing client-specifics (customer names, addresses, etc.) to ChatGPT.

### Rules of Use

1. This is a **chaperoned** algorithm.
2. ChatGPT does **not** replace the user in the process.
3. All writing, conclusions, and recommendations must be fact checked (by the inspector) during quality review.
4. Senior Reviewers are more critical for both training inspectors and setting expectations.

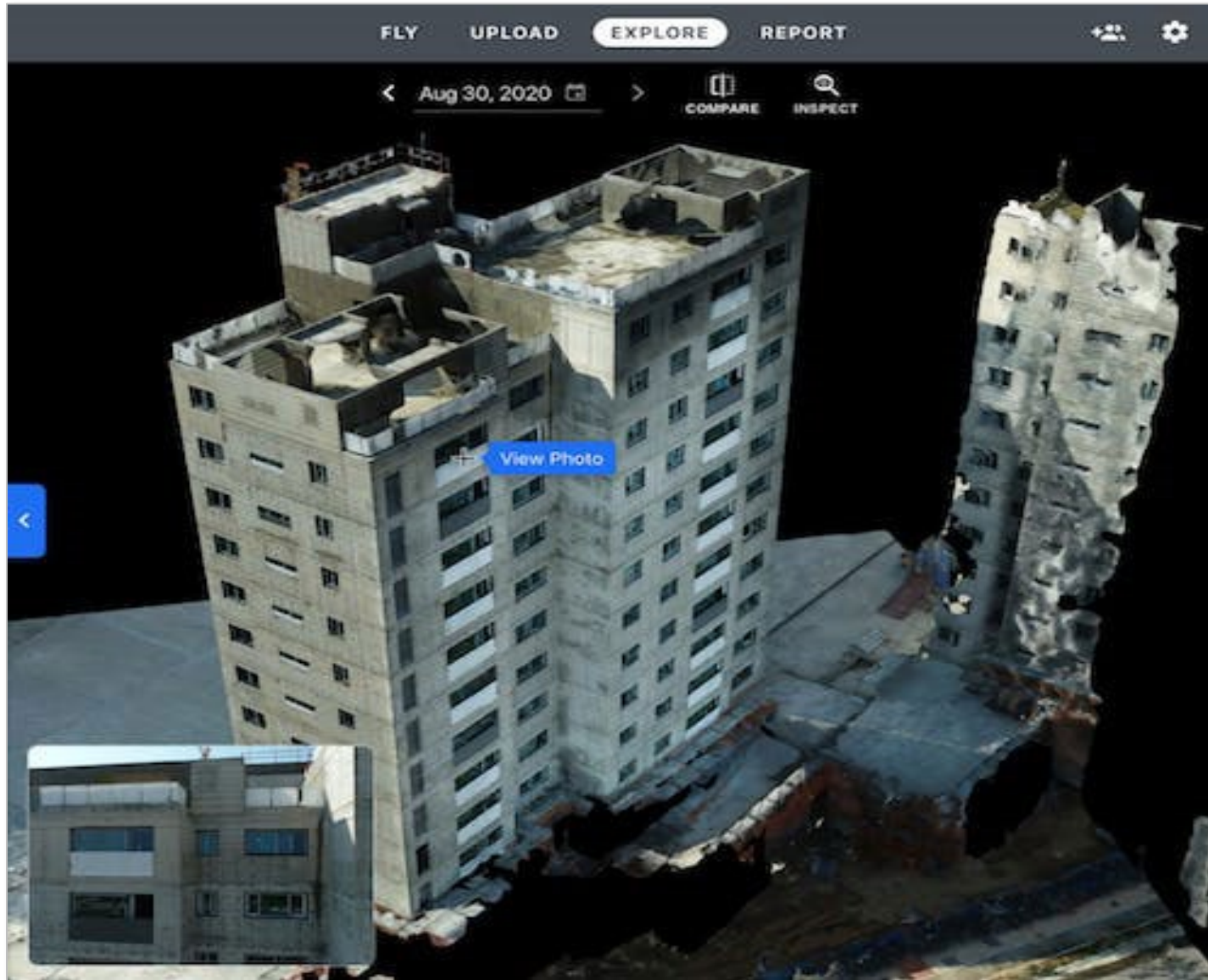
# 2024



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### Multi-Story Façade Inspections

New software does allow for the same three-dimensional rendering of the full building structure, similar to how roofing and walls rendering works (previously discussed).

A key consideration is that this type of image processing is usually offered as an added feature by these software platforms.

Can enable better tracking of defects and issues found during the inspection.



### Autonomous Mapping

- Drone Manufacturer
- Especially popular for original drone models focused on recreational applications and user tracking (e.g., following the user while running, skiing, climbing, etc.)
- More recently focused on autonomous flight operations with applications for automated mapping 3D spaces



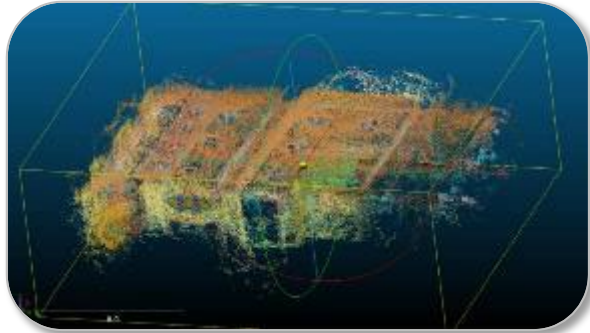
### AI + Image Processing

- Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) company that can process drone imagery to identify façade defects automatically.
- Leverages a trained image recognition model for identifying defects
- Currently building for scale in the cloud
- Pricing is based on cost per square meters and provides subscription asset management
- In-house engineering team provides quality assurance



### AI + Image Processing

- Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) company that can process drone imagery to identify façade defects automatically.
- Leverages a trained image recognition model for identifying defects
- Spin-out startup from Thornton Thomasetti
- Pricing is based on cost per square meters
- In-house engineering team provides quality assurance



Drone & LiDAR Based Mapping of Construction Sites

ConstructN is an automated construction monitoring solution that enables asset owners, contractors, and project managers to have complete, accurate, measurable, and accessible insights into the construction site. ConstructN consumes data from multiple sources such as drones, 360 cameras, Laser scanners, and LiDAR to capture progress.



Rapid cataloging of progress by date & Location

StructionSite is a platform that helps construction professionals document and track jobsite progress, with photos organized by date and floor plan. It allows users to capture photos, videos, and 360-degree documentation of their jobsites. StructionSite's AI-powered algorithms place 360-degree videos on the project drawing.



AI Processing for Site to BIM Matching

OpenSpace provides AI-powered analytics and reality capture tools for builders. OpenSpace's features include: 360° photo documentation, site capture, and analytics. Use AI-powered analytics to help with progress, work-in-place verification, coordination, and risk reduction.

# Where are we heading?

A different end state

In the near-term (i.e., next 3-5 years), we're likely to see more AI integrations into how the consultant uses the existing platforms, which should drive better efficiency, quality, and standardization

## Analysis of Defect Conditions

With more data comes greater potential to build AI image processing that recognizes the building system and defect in real-time, in the field.

Platforms, such as TensorFlow, will be used to move this custom AI model development.

## Improved Platform User Interfaces

Existing platforms tend to be very menu-driven, thus requiring the user to be heavily trained or experienced in using the system for a FCA.

Moving forward, the same AI image processing could be used to dramatically reduce data input times by the user.



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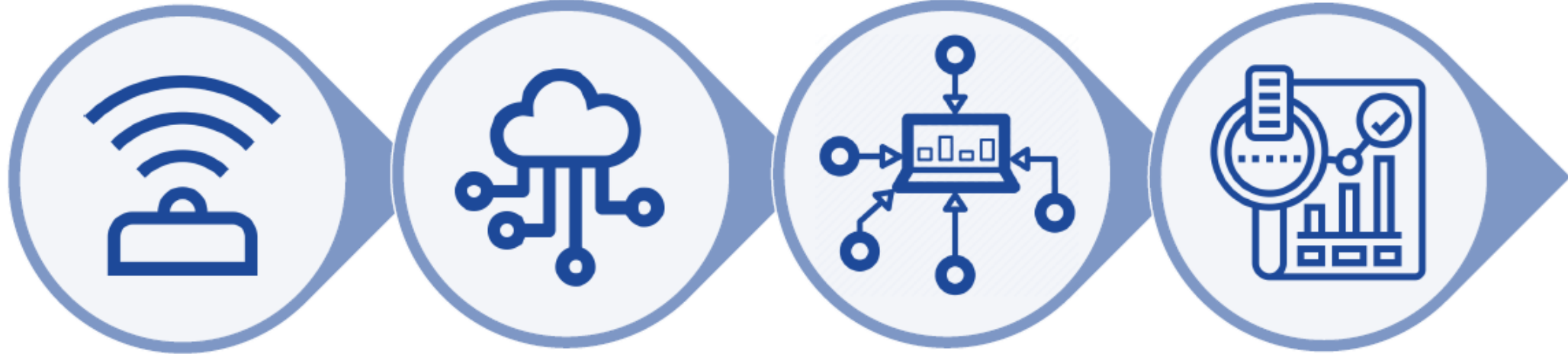


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# Where are we heading?

A different end state

On the Owner's side, a potential end goal for new and existing buildings will be a continued integration of automated sensing and analytic systems to assist in facility management continuously.



**IoT Sensors &  
Beacons**

**Cloud  
Connectivity**

**Data Collection &  
Processing**

**Predictive  
Analytics**

## This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course



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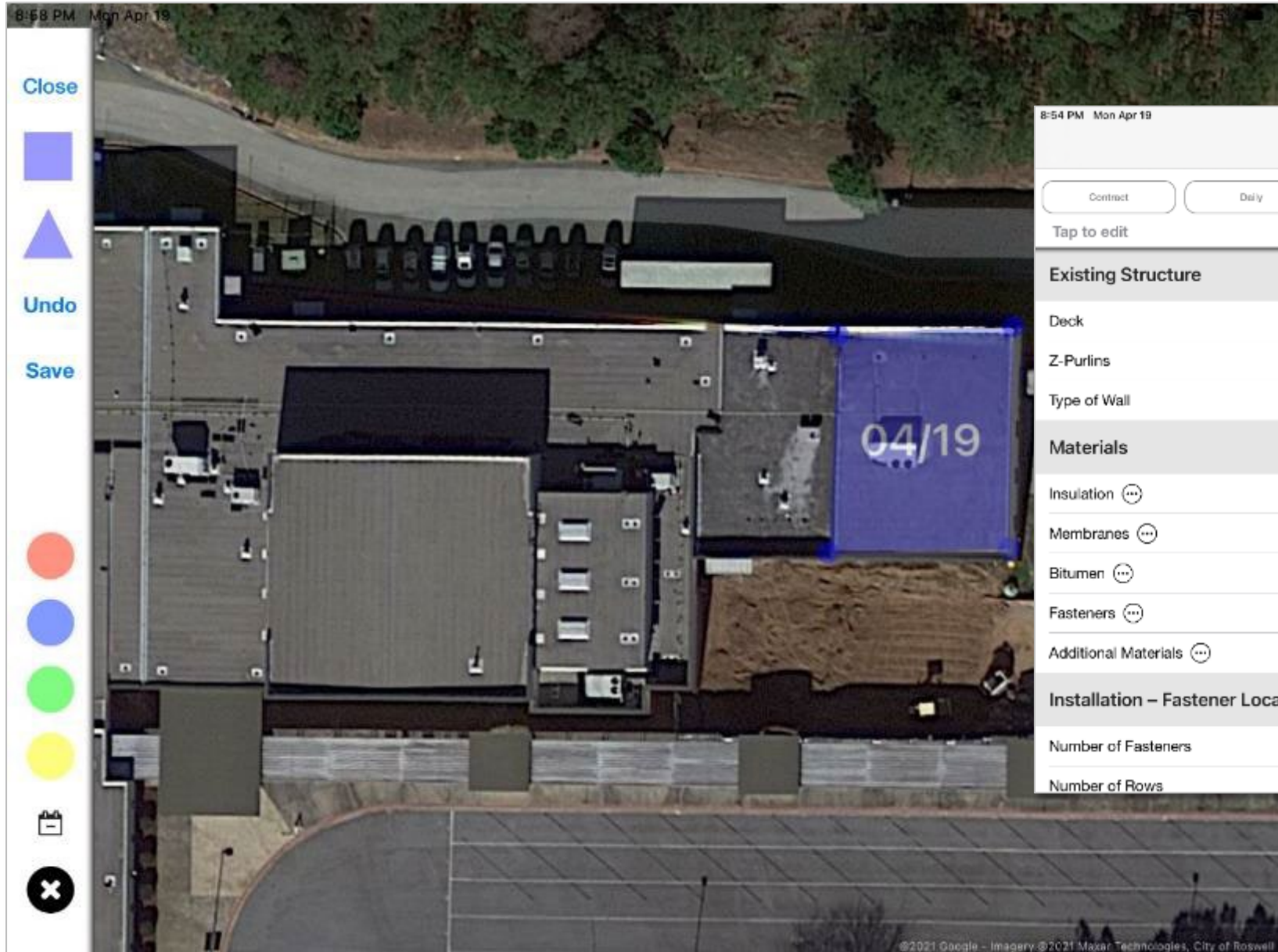
Phone: (518) 368-4611

# APPENDIX

## POTENTIAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Learning how to identify a potential software use case for the A/E industry.
2. Understanding how software can be effectively designed for Architects & Engineers.
3. Understanding the historical development of AI and how to select a Large Language Model.
4. Analysis of AI outputs compared to traditional report generation

# Construction Management



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Tap to edit

### Existing Structure

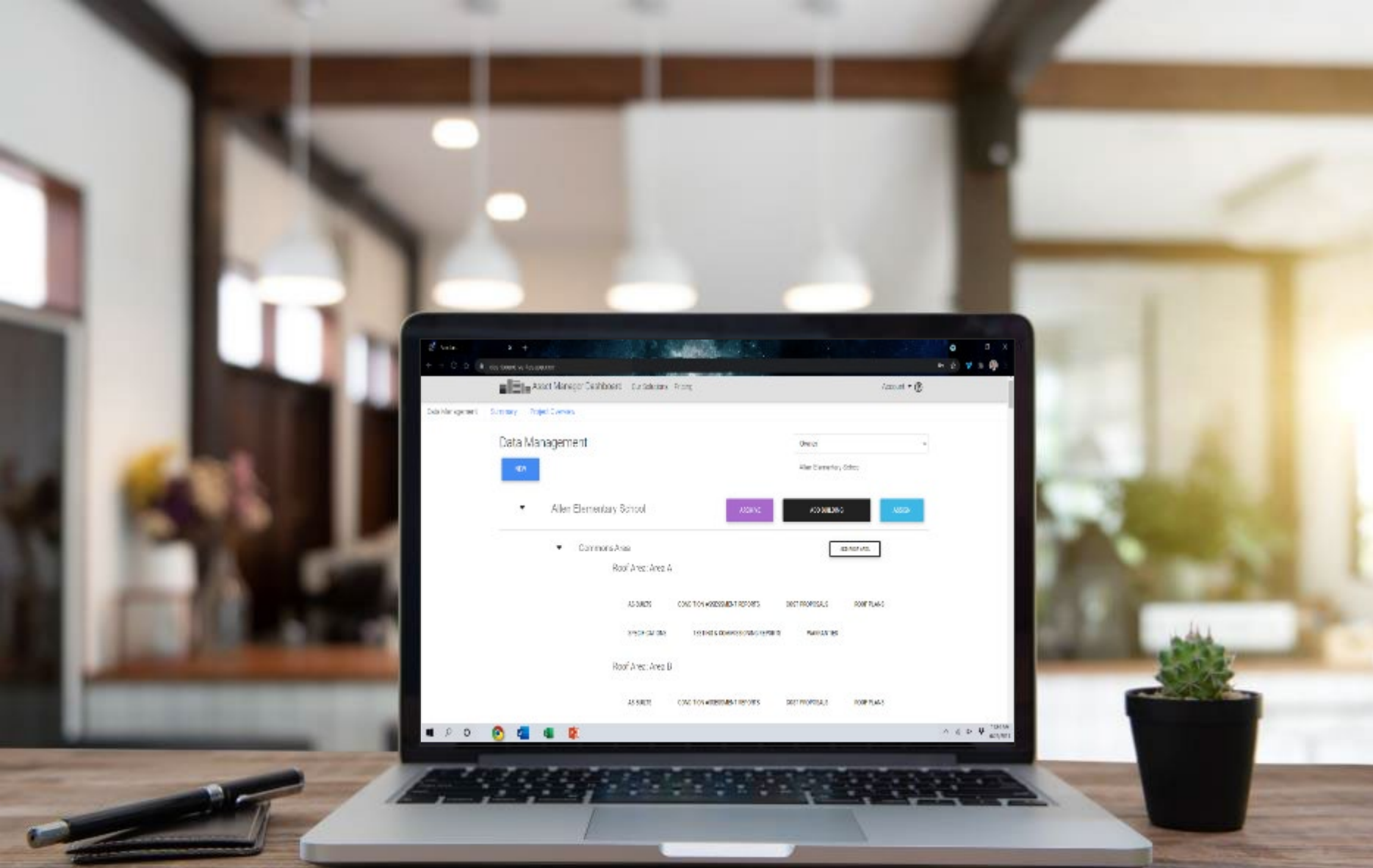
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Z-Purlins		
Type of Wall		<a href="#">i</a>

### Materials

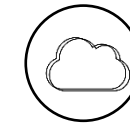
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Membranes <a href="#">⋮</a>	<b>2 items</b>	<a href="#">i</a>
Bitumen <a href="#">⋮</a>	0 items	<a href="#">i</a>
Fasteners <a href="#">⋮</a>	<b>1 items</b>	<a href="#">i</a>
Additional Materials <a href="#">⋮</a>	<b>2 items</b>	<a href="#">i</a>

### Installation – Fastener Locations

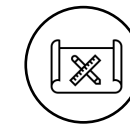
Number of Fasteners		<a href="#">i</a>
Number of Rows		<a href="#">i</a>



## CLOUD-BASED SOFTWARE



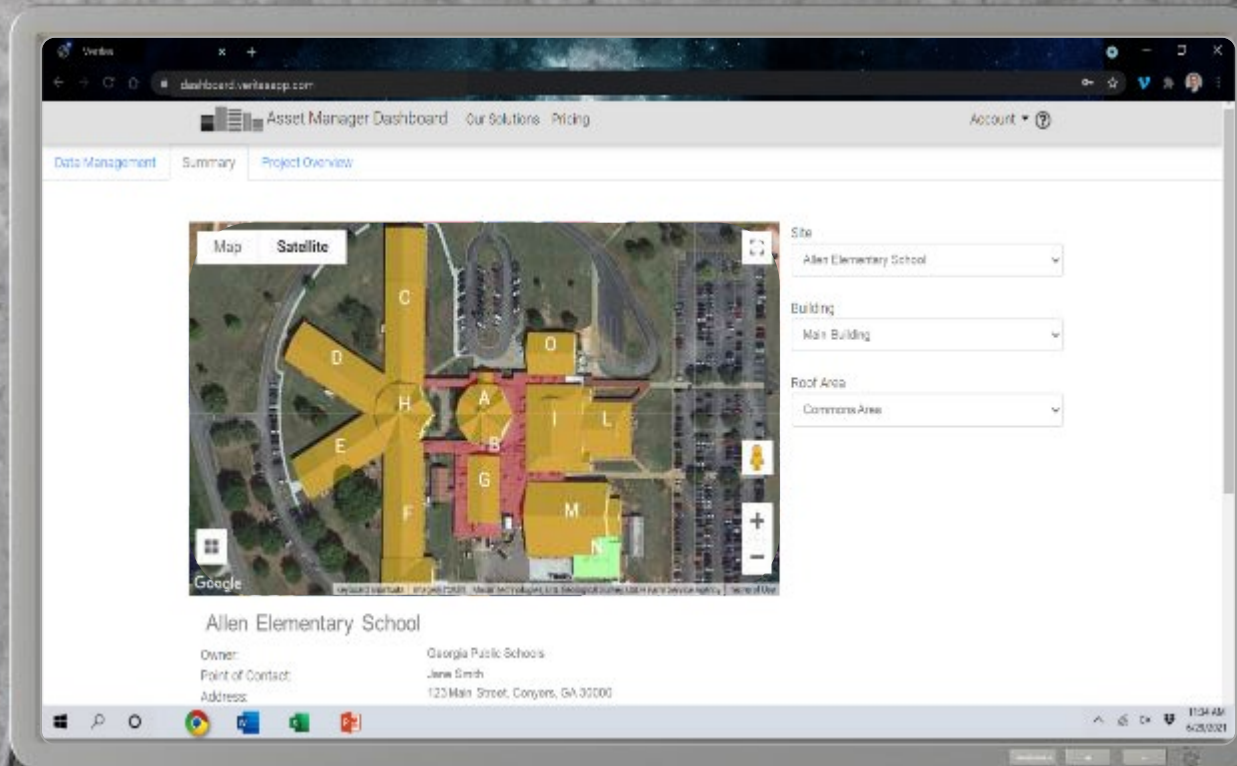
Secure, User Account w/Project & Access Permissions



As-Built, Roof Plans, Specifications, Condition Assessment Reports, Testing & Cx Reports, Warranties, and Cost Proposals Stored by Roof Area



Historical Document Access & Records



## ROOF AREA DASHBOARD



Organized Data Access



100% Editable Data of All Collected & Uploaded Information to Manage Roof Areas in Real-Time



Manage Budgets, Run Reports Across Roof Areas & Sites, Prioritize Repairs + Construction + Preventative Maintenance + Design

The first point of concern is the leaks found in roof area A. Notably, the hallway from the kitchen and the bunk area were among the most affected locations. Given the crucial role of any roof to provide a barrier against external elements, the presence of leaks significantly undermines its function, leading to potential internal damage to the building. The leaks in these areas suggest that the roof's integrity has been compromised and its remaining service life could be shorter than expected. The overall condition of this roof area has been rated as poor.

Moving on to the counter flashing, this component plays a vital role in directing water off the roof and its failure can lead to serious water damage. It was found that roof area A has multiple defects, including alligatoring, loss of surfacing or minerals, holes, rust, and debris. Similarly, roof area B, albeit rated as in good condition, exhibited multiple issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant. These observations suggest that even though the roof might still be functional, the counter flashing is in dire need of attention.

The base flashing, another significant component, was observed to have various defects in roof areas A, B, and C. This component, integral for preventing water penetration at the junction of the roof and vertical surfaces, was found to have alligatoring, rust, and vegetation presence in Area A. Area B and C, although rated as in good condition, presented issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant, and defective repair.

The penetration (round) in roof areas A and B showed similar defects as those found in the base flashing. This component, which allows for the passage of items through the roof without compromising its water resistance, was also found to have alligatoring, rust, and vegetation presence in Area A, while Area B presented issues such as general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant.

The overall condition of the roof in Area A was also found to be poor with similar defects to the aforementioned components. The roof, as the main protective barrier of the building, plays a crucial role in maintaining the internal environment and its compromised condition poses a significant concern.

The conduit, equipment cover, and fascia in Area A exhibited similar problems, compromising their functions for protecting roof penetrations and enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the roof line, respectively. The gutter (external) in roof areas A, B, and C, which is crucial for directing water away from the building, was also found to have several defects.

In roof areas B and C, the coping, which caps the wall and prevents water infiltration, showed general corrosion, loose and deteriorated sealant, and defective repair. The membrane in Area B, vital for ensuring the roof's water resistance, was found to have similar defects.

Furthermore, the rise wall in roof area C showed defects such as debris, deteriorated sealant, and defective repair. This part of the roof prevents water from penetrating the building and its defects could lead to serious damage. Similar defects were found in the penetration (square) and wood blocking in roof area C, which respectively allow for the passage of items through the roof and provide support for the roofing system.