



Asset Edge Moves Technology to the *fast lane* with Google Maps for Work



HEADQUARTERS

New South Wales, Australia

INDUSTRY

Information and Technology Services

NUMBER OF USERS

1-10

SERVICES RENDERED

Google Maps Licensing

Based in New South Wales, Asset Edge provides software to local, state and federal governments. Specifically, the company specialises in mobile software applications that interact with office-based systems. Its "Reflect.NET software" is the industry leader in Asset Inspect and Maintenance Management on roads and highways. This flagship application is one of nine built by the organisation.

CHALLENGES

Mapping has always been a key component of Asset Edge's software solutions. Specifically, the organisation uses maps in its Reflect.NET application to provide clients, typically local councils who maintain the roadways, with a variety of information, including defects and inspection markers.

Until 2012, Asset Edge relied on a proprietary mapping software written for Windows. However, this software wasn't available on Android and iOS, something for which the application's users were looking. These mobile capabilities were particularly important for the users who were out on the roadways reporting incidents.

In order to provide these mobile capabilities, Asset Edge knew it would need to update its geospatial technology.

SOLUTION

After recognising the need to introduce a new mapping solution, Asset Edge began to evaluate its options. This search led the software provider directly to Google Maps for Work, which was one of the only solutions that offered all of the capabilities it needed.

"It had to be simple to use, give us the ability to show points on a map that users could click for more information, allow users to zoom in and out, work for mobile and work offline," Adrian Wheat, a Solutions Consultant at Asset Edge, explains.

Asset Edge found Google Maps through the Android Developer Library and quickly discovered that it met all of these requirements and more.

"Ultimately we decided to go with Google because it was available, ready to go, easy to use and simple to set up," Wheat adds.

Based on this decision, the organisation introduced Google Maps API V1. In order to procure the proper licences for the solution, Asset Edge also decided to work with a partner, and this led the team to Cloud Sherpas.

According to Brendon Stevens, a Solutions Consultant at Asset Edge, the Sherpa team provided significant value by helping with the licensing aspect. "Cloud Sherpas continually provides us with up to date and relevant information briefs, offers

education and related services regularly and enables us to access the latest technology easily and quickly," Stevens shares.

RESULTS

Asset Edge's Google Maps solution has been live for over two years now, and Wheat reports that the results have been fantastic. Additionally, the benefits have increased over time as the organisation upgraded to Google Maps API V2 since its initial launch in 2012.

Overall, Wheat describes the solution as fantastic. "Our clients love it because it gives them a much cheaper alternative to dragging expensive Windows laptops around while doing work. We've really had a fantastic response. Existing clients are adding new users within their councils and more new councils are using the software every month," he reports.

Chris Guintu, also a Solutions Consultant at Asset Edge, echoes this sentiment. While Wheat works heavily on the mobile side, Guintu focuses on the web application, and shares that using Google Maps has helped close the loop between the two and made for a more seamless experience for customers using both the mobile and desktop version of the application.

As a result of this initial success, Asset Edge plans to extend its use of Google Maps going forward. Specifically, Wheat shares that the organisation is looking into introducing navigation to a point of interest and other advanced capabilities made possible by Google.

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