

7 March 2012

Mesa Rugged Notepad[®] Used for Arctic Wildlife Monitoring Program in Nunavut

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board is conducting a community-based wildlife monitoring program where native Inuit hunters are recording valuable wildlife population harvest data throughout the Canadian Arctic territory of Nunavut. International consulting firm IMG-Golder, Nova Scotia based Noreca Consulting, and Juniper Systems have been awarded a contract to assist with the design and implementation of this unique program, including a complete field data collection solution using rugged handheld computers, the development of mobile software, and a web-based database for uploading and accessing data.

Three different remote communities in Nunavut are participating in this wildlife monitoring program: Cambridge Bay, Sanikiluaq, and Arviat. In each community, groups of Inuit harvesters are employed to collect wildlife data using the Juniper Systems Mesa Rugged Notepad running custom software developed by Noreca Consulting. While traveling on the land, the Mesa is used to log travel routes, mark GPS coordinates of wildlife catch and sightings, capture geo-tag photo images, and record a range of other species and environmental data. After the data is collected and the hunter returns to the community, the Mesa is immediately taken back to the office where the data is synced and uploaded to the main database (developed by Noreca Consulting) via the internet.

Extensive product reviews and hands-on testing were conducted in order to select the best handheld device for this project. The Mesa Rugged Notepad was selected based on several criteria, including its large user-friendly touchscreen, integrated GPS, geo-tagging enabled digital camera (ability to embed and emboss photo with date, time, and GPS position), extremely low operating temperature at -30C, audio recording capability, and waterproof and shockproof design.

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Dr. Joerg Tews, PhD
Data Management Project Manager
Noreca Consulting

Customer Story



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After successful implementation of this community-based wildlife monitoring program, researchers and policy makers will better understand the health of Arctic wildlife communities and harvest levels across Nunavut. Users accessing the project database via the web portal are able to access and view geospatially referenced data and images of some of the Earth’s most unique species such as polar bears, walrus, beluga whales, and caribou, as well as the traditional travel routes of Inuit hunters.

IMG-Golder, Noreca Consulting, and Juniper Systems are proud to participate in such a unique approach to wildlife management leveraging the skills and experience of local Inuit communities.

About IMG-Golder Corporation

IMG-Golder is an Inuvialuit environmental consulting company formed in 2001 and based in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. IMG-Golder offers a broad range of environmental and engineering services to its clients in the Canadian North. For more information, visit www.golder.ca.

About Noreca Consulting

Noreca is an innovative environmental and IT-consulting firm based in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Founded in 2006, Noreca offers high quality products and services in the field of environmental information technology, ecological and natural resource modeling, and software and database development. For more information, visit www.norecaconsulting.com.

About Juniper Systems

Juniper Systems is a world leader in designing and manufacturing rugged handheld computers for mobile data collection in extreme environments. Founded in Logan, UT, Juniper Systems has been providing innovative mobile technology since 1993. For more information, visit www.junipersys.com.



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Caribou are one of the many species found in Nunavut, Canada.

