

UTILITIES

SURVEYING TECHNOLOGY AT NBB IN BERLIN: DIGITAL, MOBILE AND HIGHLY EFFICIENT

GERMAN BASED NETZGESELLSCHAFT BERLIN BRANDENBURG (NBB) USES GETAC F110 TABLETS FOR DIGITAL SURVEILLANCE AND DOCUMENTATION TASKS IN THE POWER GRID

/ Challenge /

NBB has a very extensive pipeline network, including the electricity and gas supply networks in the German capital and in large parts of Brandenburg. These have to be surveyed and documented. The quantity of work orders is very high and the surveying work must be carried out reliably in all weather conditions.

/ Solution /

Field workers are equipped with the Getac F110 tablet and GIS and surveying software to work highly efficiently and deliver fast, reliable data and results to customers. Employees receive their work order information directly on the rugged tablet, saving a lot of time.

/ Benefits /

By using Getac tablets, high savings in time and costs have been achieved and efficiency increased significantly. This means that the F110 tablets pay for themselves very quickly. NBB's customer satisfaction has also increased further, as critical data is now available on the spot, which contributes to even greater security.

"With the help of Getac's rugged tablet PCs and Leica's total stations and GPS systems, quality, cost efficiency and data security can potentially be significantly improved for us as a customer."

TOBIAS HAG-SEN
Head of Network Documentation at NBB
Netzgesellschaft Berlin-Brandenburg mbH & Co. KG



Getac F110
Fully Rugged Tablet

/ Challenge /

NBB is responsible for an extensive range of tasks in various areas. To ensure optimum efficiency and safety, the network operator relies on digitalization in the surveying and documentation of the pipeline networks. To ensure the safe operation of the pipeline networks, NBB has commissioned Mettenmeier with the extensive and demanding surveying services, which are to be carried out on site at various measuring points such as pipelines, trenches or construction sites.

Mettenmeier is an established provider of modern and efficient IT solutions and services for operators of supply and disposal networks. In its Berlin office, the IT service and consulting company provides NBB with the surveying of the Gas and Electricity infrastructure. The work order volume is high. High volumes of data such as images, videos and sketches are also recorded as measurement data.

„Our client NBB is demanding and attaches great importance to high data quality and fast information in order to meet the high safety standards. Of course, they want to be able to react quickly where necessary. The results are closely monitored, and no-error-approach is a top priority,“ says Borys Cena, Berlin-Brandenburg office manager at Mettenmeier. That’s why Mettenmeier is continuing to drive forward the level of digitization and, in addition to its own special software, has been using Getac’s robust F110 tablets since April 2022.

/ Solution /

Surveying work is usually carried out on site directly at the construction sites or at the pipelines with a total station. The environmental conditions are often harsh, and at the same time the data collected must be sent very quickly to the office for further processing. The tablets initially used

from another supplier did not meet the requirements. A new Microsoft Windows hardware solution was needed that met the high requirements of robustness and reliability, but also performance and connectivity. Getac F110 tablets were selected.

After the appropriate configuration, which took some time, the company was finally able to optimize digital data capture and processing. Since April 2022, the entire field service has now been equipped with these devices. The solution very quickly proved to be highly efficient, enabling a very high level of digitalization.

Borys Cena says, „Our employees got to grips with the new tablets very quickly. The Getac devices are comfortable and intuitive to use; the training period was correspondingly short. The investment in the Getac devices paid off quickly.“

Employees use the tablets both in the field and in the office, here with a docking station and two screens. This eliminates some of the original rework. In addition, this mobile solution means that field staff are assigned their jobs electronically and can now travel directly from home to the job site. The recorded data on site are processed and visualized in geo-information systems by the office staff.

„It is important to us that the survey team uses the robust and reliable Getac F110 tablets together with the Leica total stations to record data and guarantee real-time transmission,“ explains Tobias Hagen, Head of Network Documentation at NBB Netzgesellschaft Berlin-Brandenburg mbH & Co. KG.

/ Benefits /

The electronic assignment of jobs and all required information to the Getac tablet allows surveyors to drive directly to the relevant job site at the start of work instead of going to the office. This saves a lot of time as well as fuel costs. „Many tasks, especially the time-consuming follow-up work of our colleagues in the field, have migrated completely to the mobile devices,“ says Cena.

In the event of on-site queries, the field staff retrieve all the necessary information via the tablet or now consult with the client NBB via video telephony. Cena adds: „The customer was very pleased that we can point out and solve problems so quickly.“



“Since using the enormously reliable Getac F110 tablets, we have seen a 20 percent increase in efficiency, as it allows us to work much faster and communicate results to the office in real time. Time and costs have been greatly reduced and, most importantly, we ensure that our customer NBB is always provided with up-to-the-minute information and can respond quickly if necessary. We expect the equipment to pay for itself in a few months.”

BORYS CENA
Borys Cena, Office Manager Berlin-Brandenburg
at Mettenmeier in Teltow



The office staff now receives the recorded data on the same day, rather than the following day as in the past. This alone has increased efficiency by around 20 percent.

With the Getac F110, the employees now have a fully robust Microsoft Windows PC with high performance and connectivity, which reliably enables surveying operations for NBB in any weather and at any time of year.

Appreciated for its rugged build quality yet light weight, fast response times, highly reliable operation and high connectivity. „Getac also offers extensive accessories. The carrying straps and docking stations for connecting large screens are very practical. The tablets are extremely fail-safe and have a very long battery life, so our employees can always work without interruption. After completing their tasks on site, they come to the office for a meeting. The coordination meetings are also much shorter now,“ explains Borys Cena.

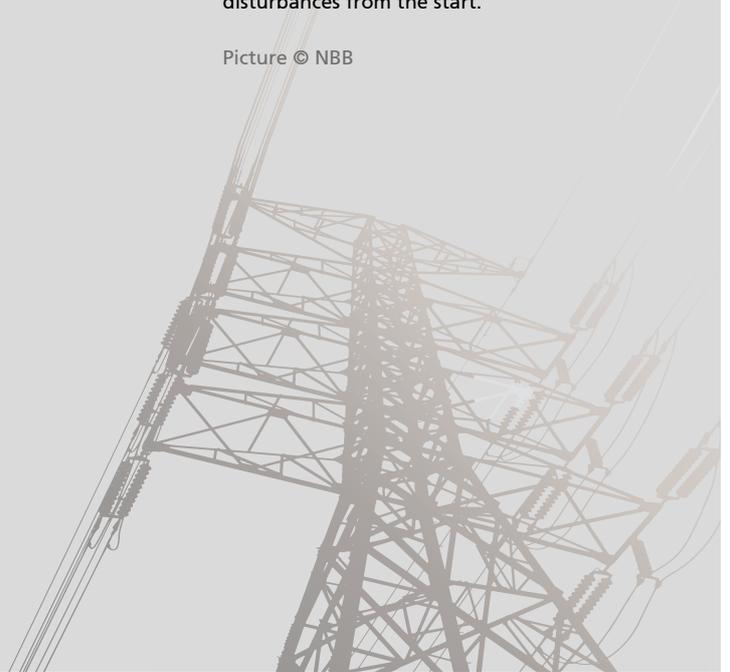
He continues, „The included Getac bumper-to-bumper warranty is probably unique, but so far we have never had to use it. That’s why we stock replacement units on a very limited basis. A very good offer is Getac’s self-maintainer program. Through it, we have free access to small spare parts and can do small maintenance ourselves without any downtime on the tablet.“

It is expected that the initial investment to pay for itself within a few months through direct savings and increased efficiency. And most importantly: „The customer satisfaction has increased significantly as a result. Fast access to critical data increases security. „We receive separate allowances for this and have more time for in-house tasks. This clearly takes pressure off post-processing - with all the benefits in terms of efficiency and quality“ says Borys Cena.



By digitalising the surveillance and documentation of the power grid, the Netzgesellschaft Berlin-Brandenburg (NBB) is seeking to add to the security of the whole system as well as to avoid disturbances from the start.

Picture © NBB



Just like Mettenmeier, the NBB teams also use rugged Getac-Tablets on their missions. At this time, the Berlin power grid operator is successfully using more than 250 devices for various processes. Amongst them the Getac UX10, which serves as the core of communication and intelligence for many activities.

At Mettenmeier, the F 110 is the device of choice due to its high performance and connectivity.

