



City-wide School Structural Inspection and Budget Assessment

New York, NY

Client

New York City Department of Education & School Construction Authority

Problem

The New York City Department of Education (DOE) wanted to assess the state of all New York City Schools for their upcoming budget review. The NYC DOE needed to evaluate the structural integrity of schools so that they could comprehensively evaluate repairs that needed to be made throughout the New York City area as a whole, in order to prioritize and allocate funding. To do this they needed to conduct a large-scale survey and inspection of the 1,600 school buildings in the system and identify structural issues.

Previously, DOE performed this inspection on paper. During the new project, there was a need for more efficiency and higher quality of data so that costing and prioritization of citywide school construction could be very accurate.

DOE looked to a handheld solution to organize and speed data entry, while providing authentication, revision control, and data checks to ensure that high quality data was collected.

Scope

Warshaw Group has been involved in this ongoing project since 1997 in many capacities, including:

- Input and evaluation of the project plan in conjunction with DOE and SCA
- Review and business analysis of previous data collection efforts and development of new strategic data collection methodology
- Provided Warshaw Group's Mobile Validity® questionnaires for mobile data entry deployed on mobile computers, providing authentication and revision controls
- Providing logistical support for data transfer and equipment tracking
- Training
- Ongoing technical support and maintenance

Solution

Warshaw Group incorporated industry-standard inspection methodology developed in tandem with prominent engineering and architectural firms such as Parsons Brinckerhoff, Ammann and Whitney, and WASA.

The system developed by Warshaw Group allowed DOE and SCA to evaluate school structures on site with mobile pen computers. These pen computers were equipped with Warshaw Group Mobile Validity® inspection software to facilitate the collection of critical

data with user-friendly menus and data security features. Warshaw Group Mobile Validity® software provided user authentication, revision control, and quality assurance menus for the inspection data. Warshaw Group provided logistical organization and equipment tracking services and tools to streamline the inspection process and facilitate upload and download of inspection data.

Warshaw Group facilitated and oversaw the collection of data and integration of the data into the system. They also provided all necessary technical support to ensure that the project progressed smoothly, and assisted DOE and SCA in ongoing project evaluation.

