



GridHawk

GRIDHAWK LLC

Case Study: How GridHawk Uses Geolantis To Improve Field Operations

Headquartered in Indiana, GridHawk manages underground utility mapping and GPS data collection across the US. With advanced tech, GridHawk provides its customers with accurate and clean visual maps in real time. Learn more at gridhawk.com.

geolantis360
powered by **PelicanCorp**

“

“We’d been using EM locators and a few other basic tools, but nothing specialized.”

— **Adam Lofton**
Regional Director of Operations

SEEKING A BETTER WAY TO WORK ON PROJECTS

Adam Lofton, Regional Director of Operations, knew that his employer, GridHawk, needed a better solution. Based in Indiana, GridHawk manages underground utility mapping and GPS data collection across the US. But their tools were quickly reaching their limits. “I was tasked to build a map for a customer, and it was extremely cumbersome,” Adam recalls. The project, centered in Mississippi, required precision and organization that their existing systems just couldn’t deliver. “We’d been using EM locators and other basic tools, but nothing specialized.”

The breaking point came during a project with a Texas-based utility company. The GIS department at the utility required a facility map that Adam’s current tools just couldn’t provide, leaving him to build the map himself. “They were confused and didn’t know what to do with the data,” Adam explains. Faced with these challenges, GridHawk turned to Geolantis.360, meeting with Bob Bishop from Geolantis to discuss how the platform could solve their problems. “It was exactly what we needed.”



“

“I used to spend hours dealing with map development issues. Now, it’s just an hour a day.”

— **Adam Lofton**
Regional Director of Operations



2 hours
saved each day

ENTER GEOLANTIS: CLEAN, REAL-TIME DATA COLLECTION

What drew Adam and his team to Geolantis was its ability to streamline the data collection process in real-time, offering a level of organization and clarity that was missing. “Geolantis makes sure everything is clean from capture to export,” Adam notes. “I know when I export off Geolantis, I don’t have to do anything else.”

The quality of the exports and the organized, polished line work saved him countless hours of rework. “I used to spend hours dealing with map development issues,” Adam recalls. “Now, it’s just an hour a day, and that’s only because I’m disciplined about making sure it’s done right.” The Mississippi project, which was initially fraught with stress and inefficiency, became more manageable once Geolantis was in place.

AUTOMATION AND TIME SAVINGS: A CRITICAL SOLUTION

Adam isn’t one to sugarcoat the challenges. “It was a stressful time,” he admits. But Geolantis alleviated a lot of that pressure by automating key parts of the process, including real-time editing and clean data exports. “It’s like having an AI map engineer working for you,” Adam says, reflecting on how much effort the system saved him.

The time savings were significant. “Once I learned the system, it took me about an hour a day for three months to handle the Mississippi project,” Adam explains. “Before Geolantis, that same process would have taken three hours each day.”



“

“As soon as the techs were outside demoing it, they were good to go.”

— Adam Lofton
Regional Director of Operations

SMOOTH ONBOARDING FROM THE FIELD TO THE OFFICE

When Adam first brought Geolantis into GridHawk, the onboarding process was immediate and effective. “We got into a hotel conference room, met the guys, and went over everything,” Adam says.

He appreciated the simplicity of the system, noting that his technicians were able to pick it up almost instantly and add it to their workflow. “It doesn’t take much to train on it,” Adam remarks. “As soon as the techs were outside demoing it, they were good to go.”



CLEAN VISUALS AND REAL-TIME REPORTING

One of the unexpected benefits of Geolantis was its ability to enhance communication with GridHawk’s customers. “Visually, it’s very good,” Adam notes. “When I’m sharing my screen with a customer, I can refresh the map, and the new data just pops up. That helps a lot.”

Being able to show clean, organized line work in real time was a major plus for GridHawk’s clients, who could see the data collection quality as it happened. “I can export the data and layer it over existing maps to compare them,” Adam explains. This feature allowed him to identify mapping errors quickly and share clean reports with his customers. “It’s the tidiness of the collection and the quality of the exports that really sets Geolantis apart.”

“

“When I’m sharing my screen with a customer, I can refresh the map, and the new data just pops up. That helps a lot.”

— **Adam Lofton**
Regional Director of Operations

SYMBOLLOGY, CUSTOMIZATION, AND WALK BACK

A few Geolantis features appeal to GridHawk, like the platform’s custom symbology feature. GridHawk sees the benefit in marking an area with specific symbols, such as valves, meters, manhole covers, and more, to help stakeholders better visualize the data. The walk back feature in Geolantis is also compelling, allowing a technician to easily walk back to an existing line, comparing the current landscape with the location of the subsurface line on the digital map. This cuts the time for technicians to locate key points.

The combination of these two features eases locating significantly. Consider a gas leak in the middle of the night. With custom symbology and the walk back feature, a technician can easily see the shut-off valve on the Geolantis map and physically walk back to the location quickly to turn off the gas line.



LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICIANS EMBRACE GEOLANTIS

From day one, Geolantis was seen as a win by both GridHawk’s leadership and its field technicians. “I couldn’t have finished the project without doing something different,” Adam says, reflecting on how essential the system became for completing the Mississippi project. But it goes beyond that. Adam sees a future where GridHawk continues to integrate Geolantis into more areas of the business. “I think the ideal situation is that we get a customer who wants us to GPS while locating their tickets, and we can build that into our price point,” Adam says. “The industry is moving that way, and I think we’ll naturally move toward more GPS work.”

“

“It’s like having an
AI engineer working
for you.”

— **Adam Lofton**
Regional Director of Operations

EXPANDING THE USE OF GEOLANTIS ACROSS GRIDHAWK

As GridHawk looks to the future, Adam sees the potential to expand Geolantis across more projects and teams. Already, the system has proven invaluable on multiple projects, including work in Shreveport, where the platform has exceeded expectations. “We’re using the system even more in Shreveport than we did in Pascagoula,” Adam says. “It’s been perfect.”

For GridHawk, Geolantis isn’t just a tool—it’s become a partner in their success. “It’s like having an AI engineer working for you,” Adam repeats, noting how critical the system has become to their operations. As the company continues to take on more projects and grow, Geolantis is poised to play an even bigger role in ensuring their success.





AT A GLANCE: GRIDHAWK LLC

GRIDHAWK: CHALLENGES	HOW GEOLANTIS HELPS	BENEFICIAL OUTCOME
Challenges maintaining accurate maps, particularly with GIS errors	Geolantis ensures clean collection and accurate exports, integrates easily with GIS systems	Provides neat, organized line work without extra backend work
Inaccurate or messy line work due to less than ideal collection processes	Enforces clean processes for capturing data in the field	Collection process ensures quality exports with minimal manual editing
Time-consuming manual map development	Automates data collection, reducing manual input	Saves time with automated exports and tidy line work
Lacking quality assurance during mapping	Ensures real-time quality control during data collection	Real-time updates allow immediate corrections
Multiple platforms used for mapping and data exports	Geolantis smoothly integrates with platforms like Google Maps™ and Esri® ArcGIS®	Easy export across multiple systems with consistent formatting
Need for user-friendly tools for technicians	Geolantis is simple to use, even for non-technical users	Techs quickly adapt to the system, reducing training time
Inefficiency in managing GPS data across projects	Provides centralized platform for managing and accessing GPS data	Time-saving and straightforward user experience
Maintaining accurate data for future use	Stores all collected data for long-term access	Permanently stores data, eliminating the need to redo work



Upgrade To A Real-Time Utility Mapping Solution

Learn more at geolantis.com