



Burford Building Consultancy uses Clarinspect for residential and commercial building inspections.



Saving significant time on reporting



Structured approach to data collection



Consistency and brand continuity

Introduction

After many years in the building sector Ian Burford established Burford Building Consultancy in 2017 to enable him to truly utilise his extensive experience in construction assessments.

Burford Building Consultancy provides a wide range of services including but not limited to; property assessments, structural assessments, pre-purchase inspections and weather-tightness inspections. Burford Building Consultancy inspect both residential and commercial buildings throughout the Canterbury region

What Burford Building Consultancy needed

The Managing Director and registered building surveyor, Ian Burford, knew that by using the best technology available that time could be saved on his inspections; time that could be used for improving the quality (consistency and coverage) of inspections which would provide a superior product for his clients in a shorter timescale.

Shortly after starting his new venture he started to build his library of inspection types with Clarinspect.

Burford Building Consultancy inspectors survey for maintenance requirements, as well as weather-tightness, pre-purchase and building-condition - lots and lots of reports to write!

Before switching to Clarinspect, the inspection details were all captured onsite using pen and paper with a separate camera for photographs. This was followed by meticulous report-writing back at the office and a frustrating time locating and importing the correct, corresponding photographs. As Ian Burford, Building Surveyor, says: "Building a report and then proofing it took about 4 hours, and a massive amount of double-handling of photos."



Ian had worked with automated inspection systems before and so knew what was needed - as well as what wasn't.

"We needed something where we didn't have to buy a big expensive machine just to use the software and where we could keep on tailoring to our unique needs."

Ian had heard great things about Clarinspect and contacted the company with a view to automating aspects of the surveying process.

The Clarinspect approach

Clarinspect uses the client's existing report templates as a guide for generating the output documents and work with the client's staff to identify how they work in the field. This results in a set of inspection forms on the mobile device and an automatically generated report that places the photos in all the right places, sized and formatted ready

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Ian Burford,

for the staff to review and add their expertise.

Clarinspect worked closely with the Burford Building Consultancy staff to review the inspection forms and turned around the first prototype on the device in **under two hours**. Burford Building Consultancy reviewed this prototype allowing Clarinspect to create the next version, again in a matter of hours, along with the final Building Condition report.

Using Burford Building Consultancy's own templates ensures consistency and brand continuity. Because Clarinspect reuses data where possible, the same inspection can produce a variety of reports and outputs based on client requirements.

Business outcomes

Switching to Clarinspect has enabled Burford Building Consultancy to ensure a more structured approach to their data collection during inspections. All information ends up in the final report which is easier to follow, with the correct photos and captions locked in place.

Despite the standardisation of forms, reports are still very specific to a site with an introduction and conclusion - but the biggest part of the report, the bulleted list of defects and captioned photos, is produced by the Clarinspect software with a time-saving minimum of 2 hours per report.

Inspectors apply their expertise to ensure the client has the best information – rather than wasting their time importing images and formatting reports.

The efficiency and ease of report generation, and Clarinspect's high level of continuous support has impressed Burford Building Consultancy.



"One of our priorities, along with the capacity to capture multiple photos with multiple captions per photo, was to have the defects listed with that photo, and to also have a succinct defect list on the first page."

*Ian Burford,
Building Surveyor*

As Ian says, using Clarinspect is ... "Sweet, simple, easy."

"I could have saved 3 hours per report, but it's more like 2 hours as I can now spend more time onsite taking better notes and details. This means the final report is now definitely better."

- Ian Burford, Building Surveyor, Burford Building Consultancy

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