Around the world, a growing number of companies are using unmanned vehicles (UAV / drones) for asset inspection. In doing so, they greatly reduce labour hire, improve schedule, prolong the life of their assets and more importantly keep their personnel and assets safe from harm.

Industries using the drones include oil & gas, mining and metals, utilities, infrastructure, construction and building, land survey and many other market areas.

Drone capabilities include safety, surveillance and or exploration inspections on various assets including:
- Offshore Platforms, FPSO / FLNG Assets
- Onshore Assets (pipelines, plant, infrastructure)
- Gas testing
- 3D Mapping
- Rail networks
- Electrical cable and junction boxes
- Bridges
- Buildings
- Local Government

CLIENT BENEFITS
At Stork, we use drones for asset inspection which provide a number of substantial improvements over traditional inspection methods, including benefits to safety, efficiency and data quality:

SAFETY
- Many applications for drone inspections include dangerous area access, where a plant will either need to be shut down or special access is required (i.e. Flare tip inspections, bridges and buildings, transmission towers, wind turbines, etc.).
- Drone inspection is a safer way to inspect, there is no rope or cage access needed. Being remotely operated, there is minimal safety risk to the inspector(s).

COST REDUCTIONS
- No need for expensive scaffolding or similar access facilities.
- UAV systems are perfect for inspections allowing examination of critical structures with zero downtime.

REMOTE AND DIFFICULT LOCATIONS
- Advantageous for inspection of areas which may be hazardous to human health.

IMPOSSIBLE INSPECTIONS NOW ACCESSIBLE
- Some tasks previously thought impossible can now be completed with ease and efficiency and without putting anyone in harm’s way, often within a matter of hours.

For more information, please contact Paul Smith, UAV Lead for Stork Australia, paul.smith2@stork.com, +61(0) 455 278 760.