

Newmarket's Digital Pen initiative recognized by MISA Ontario for its technological excellence

Digital Pen initiative receives 2016 Excellence in Municipal Systems Award

NEWMARKET, Ontario, Monday, June 13, 2016 - The Town of Newmarket's Digital Pen initiative was recently awarded the 2016 Excellence in Municipal Systems Award at the annual [Municipal Information Systems Association of Ontario \(MISA\)](#) Conference.

"Congratulations to the Town of Newmarket for being recognized for its excellence in the use and delivery of technology for its Digital Pen initiative." says Mayor Tony Van Bynen. "This award and the Digital Pen initiative represents our commitment to innovation and our forward-thinking vision that continues to make Newmarket even better for our community."

The [Excellence in Municipal Systems Award](#) is presented to municipalities who have successfully undertaken a significant initiative or set a new standard that other municipalities may follow.



About the Digital Pen Initiative

The Digital Pen initiative is a project between Public Works Services and Information Technology departments. This project has since helped increase work efficiency by 500 per cent for the Water and Wastewater division and 1200 per cent for its Fleet division for particular processes.

The digital pen is a pen that works like any other pen but smarter. The digital pen is able to record anything that the user writes on a paper template designed using the pen's software. Once the digital pen is returned to its docking station, information recorded during its use is digitally transferred onto the Town's secured cloud platform that is automatically uploaded, archived and made searchable through an easy-to-use web interface.

"The digital pen has become an integral piece of technology that embodies a strategic partnership between Information Technology and Public Works Services and has dramatically improved some of our core business practice." says Mary-Anne Wigmore, Acting Director of Information Technology.

Learn more about the Digital Pen Initiative by reading our [feature article in the 2016 Edition of Municipal Interface](#), or our previous [media release about the digital pen](#).

About the Municipal Information Systems Association of Ontario (MISA)

MISA is organization founded on concepts of sharing best practices, collaboration among peers and volunteerism relating to technology.

Every year, MISA recognizes municipalities and individual within a municipalities and organizations for excellence in the use and delivery of technology. A panel made up of representatives from various municipalities selects award recipients from all nominations received.

For more information about MISA, and the annual awards, please view the [MISA award webpage](#).

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TOWN OF NEWMARKET

Images of the digital pen



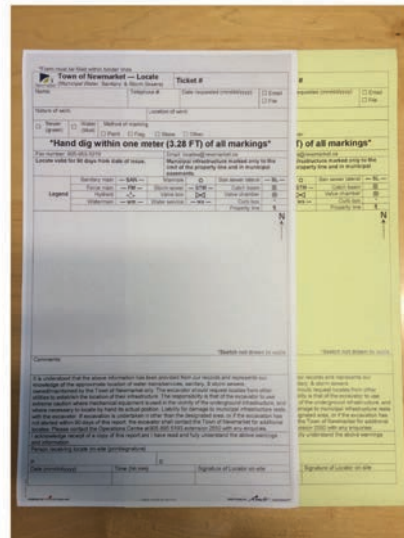
The digital pen



The digital pen in comparison with a highlighter



The digital pen's docking station



A sample of a Public Works Services customized form created using the digital pen's software and printed using a PostScript 3 printer.