

For Immediate Release
February 2020

INDRO MEDIA RELEASE

Stratocom's Canadian Technology Cuts Utility Companies' Carbon Footprint by **85%**.

Vancouver, B.C. – A simple change in how customers' meters are read could **cut the carbon footprint of power and natural gas utilities as much as 85%**.

Stratocom Solutions, a Vancouver-based provider of aerial data capture, has seen that traditional door-to-door meter readers in Canada generate large amounts of CO2 and other costs, with land-based businesses driving large distances over several hours to reach destinations.

Using an aircraft to collect meter data means a completely different story. The efficiencies of wireless technology and flight add up to massive economic and environmental savings, says **Darren Miller President and CEO of Stratocom.**

"Many people are talking about what we can do to reduce Carbon Emissions," Darren Miller says, addressing the intense climate reality facing all businesses. "We're all concerned about the environmental impact of needlessly driving. We know that flying a small plane with a wireless scanner over a rural route has proven time and time again to reduce utility costs and increase efficiencies and now we've crunched the numbers to show the environmental benefit. We can do this in urban areas too."

Further, he encourages, **this is technology available out of the box, right now.** "This is not something in a lab, but something we've been offering for nearly a decade with great success," he says. It works like this: Stratocom flies a small fixed-wing aircraft, like a four seat Cessna 182R, over customers' homes and businesses to wirelessly collect their meter readings. **It's simple, it's easy, it's accurate.**

Traditionally, utilities send a car and driver to collect the data, a slow, expensive and emissions heavy process, with engines running for longer periods than Stratocom's plane flies. The car also travels further, constrained by roads and traffic signals.

Stratocom assessed through calculations that the land-based approach saw meters read seven hours a day, 20 days a month with an average speed of 40 km in a modest vehicle. Using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency research, this would generate .373g of Greenhouse Gas Emissions per kilometer.

Over a year, using 38 vehicles (the average for utilities engaged in meter reading) that's 952.49 tons per year in vehicle emissions. **By comparison** the Cessna needs to only fly 100 hours a month due to efficient data collection, a vastly faster and greener process, generating a mere 133.37 tons GGE annually. "That's an 85% saving," Darren Miller states.

Cutting Carbon Footprints can be done in simple and easy steps, such as opting for greener processes that Stratocom offers. Waiting for the promise of new technology to hit a home run is a luxury that businesses no longer have, Darren Miller has seen.

“If we look at incremental change, where it makes sense, then Stratocom is a solution which not only cuts emissions, it actually saves costs,” he says. “Our calculations are at their genesis with precise data accrual ongoing but we’re confident our research reflects real world experience, in that we’ve shown we can reduce meter data capture costs by 85 per cent and now we can save 85 per in emissions. That’s a win-win.”

The data was drawn from the US Environmental Protection Agency Climate Leaders Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol Core Module Guidance, Optimal Emissions from Commuting, Business Travel and Product Transport (EPA430-R-08-006) in Appendix A.

For more information or for videos and to arrange interviews, please, contact: media@indrorobotics.com or dmiller@indrocorp.com.

ABOUT STRATOCOM

Stratocom pioneered the use of aerial meter reading in 2011. Starting with one Natural Gas Co-op in Alberta with 3,200 meters, the testing revealed a reduction in time of 85% over the traditional drive-by method to collect the reads. Since then, Stratocom has refined the process and developed other patent pending technologies.

Stratocom’s mission is to use technology to provide industry real time, economic efficiency, best in class data collection and management services that support achieving strategic and financial goals: “Intelligence Through Smart Data”.

Stratocom is part of the Indrocorp Group of Companies.

ABOUT INDROCORP

Based in Vancouver, B.C. **Indrocorp** is a global assembly of companies providing data collection, monitoring, and leading-edge technology services to a wide spectrum of client sectors and industries.

In addition to Stratocom the Indrocorp group includes:

InDro Robotics, a provider of full-range unmanned aerial, water and land services, as well as a range of mission specific sensor packages to address the unique needs of the globe’s most complex issues. Our team of seasoned drone and manned aviation pilots, Ph.D.’s in remote sensing, GIS/IT professionals, engineers, and other specialists are key to deploying effective unmanned services - with a network of partners designed to further complement our in-house skill set.

Bravo Zulu provides customized solutions for Commercial, Defense and Military sectors, seeking cutting-edge technology to enhance their delivery of security, intelligence and Electronic Counter Measures (ECM), as well as training and service packages for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).