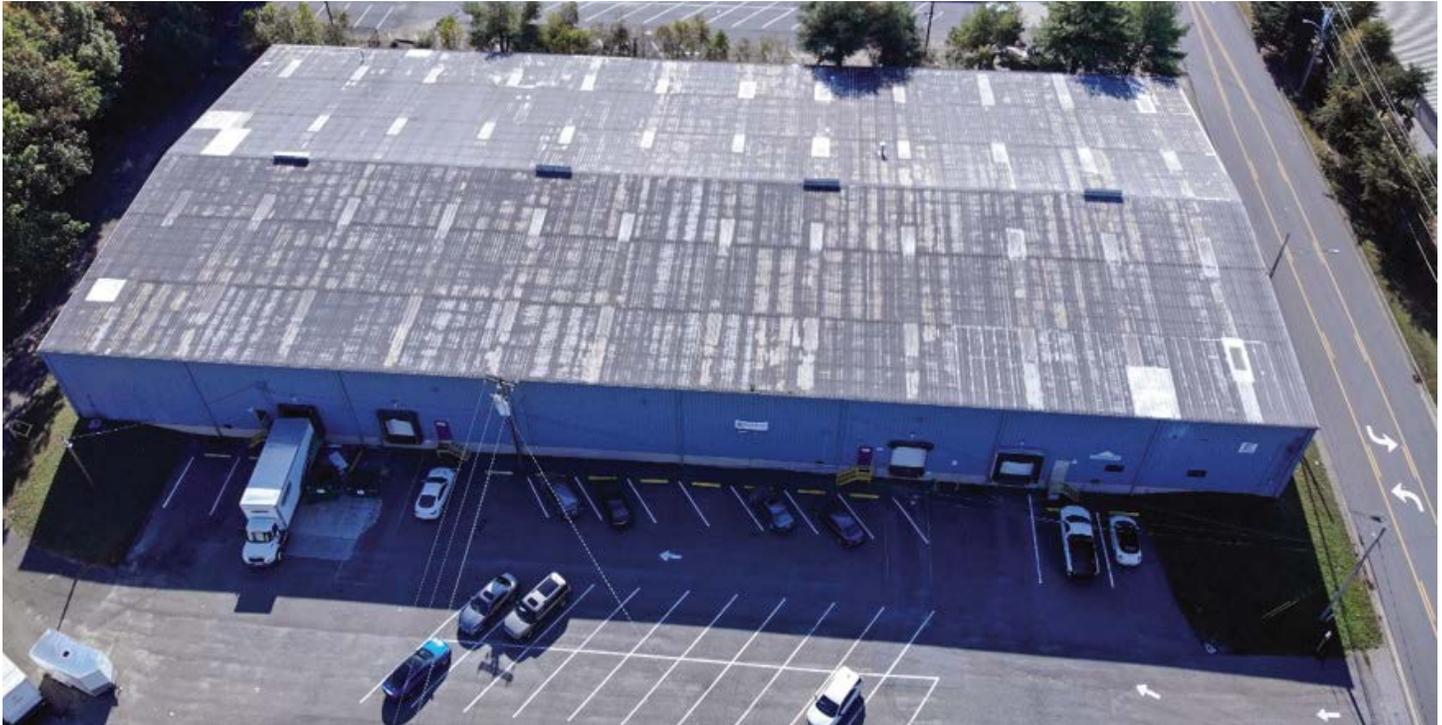


# HICAPS Highlights

Providing a centralized approach to project management

Spring 2020



*Our Building Diagnostics team recently used a drone to complete a roof and property inspection. Unmanned aerial vehicles or UAVs (also known as drones) are incredibly useful in construction and maintenance applications.*

## It's a Bird, It's a Plane! It's Actually a Drone

**W**hat is that buzzing sound? It almost sounds like a "weed eater." You look up and see what looks like something out of a science fiction movie, blinking lights and all. Looking around you see the operator with the command module. Upon further inspection, you realize that it is a professional building inspector using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) or drone to complete a roofing assessment!

Unless you have been living under a rock, chances are that you have heard about the drone craze. Professional building inspectors and contractors are finding many uses for this new technology.

UAV roof inspections are accomplished through piloting a drone equipped with a high-resolution camera into the air and capturing images which are compiled into detailed aerial maps of the inspection subject. This method is common with large buildings and properties with multiple buildings. The result is an incredibly detailed model of the property and its structures which clearly reveals the condition of each roof and can be used to create accurate plans for repair and replacement.

Drones can also fly extremely close to structures, making the inspection of roofs with complicated designs and hard to reach areas, such as skylights, much more efficient and accurate.

Recently, members of our Building Diagnostics team used a drone to evaluate the condition of a roof system as part of a property condition assessment. One of the main concerns about the building was accessing the roof system to complete the inspection. With no safe, reliable access to the roof, the use of a drone was our only option. With the help of HICAPS Project Engineers Jonathan Layton and Adnan Diwan, we were able to provide photos and video, giving our client an accurate depiction of the roof system's condition.

Do you have a building or property in need of an inspector? Please feel free to give us a call to learn how our Building Diagnostics team and our drone technology can serve your needs!

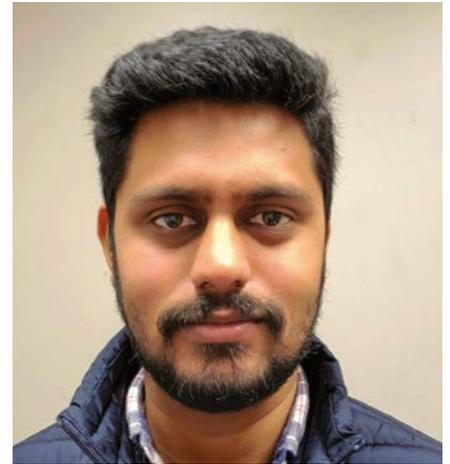
# Welcome to the HICAPS Team!

HICAPS recently welcomed two new team members: Anirudh (Ani) Chandrasekaran and Elizabeth Vargas.

**Anirudh (Ani) Chandrasekaran** joined HICAPS this January as a Project Engineer in our Construction Management/Building Diagnostics Division.

Originally from India, Ani graduated from Anna University with a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering. He started off his career working in the residential sector for two years undertaking a range of engineering and administrative duties. He then went on to pursue his Masters Degree in Construction Engineering & Management at North Carolina State University. Upon graduation, he started working for a specialty concrete contractor as a field engineer. During that period, he was involved in the Mitchell Filter Plant repair project for the City of Greensboro where he supervised the renovation of more than 100,000 square feet of 50-year-old concrete water tanks. According to Ani, this was one of the most challenging projects he had in his career and also the most memorable project because of the people he

*continued below*



*Anirudh (Ani) Chandrasekaran*



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## Welcome... *continued from above*



*Elizabeth Vargas*

worked with. Ani then moved to the beautiful coastline of Oregon where he started working on bridges along scenic highway US 101. Not long after, he decided to move back to the East Coast to make North Carolina his home base.

Ani is also a numismatist who has more than 150 rare coins in his collection, an interest he has been pursuing since childhood. He believes his family is his most prized possession and loves spending time with them.

**Elizabeth Vargas** joined the Telecommunications team in November of 2019. She is a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in public health. She decided to shift her career towards construction management in 2017, while working for a local industrial flooring company. During her time there, she managed industrial flooring projects in the food industry all around North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee for companies like Butterball, Tyson Foods, and Koch Foods. Currently, she is pursuing a Masters of Business Administration at the University of North Carolina Pembroke. She resides in Kernersville, NC with her husband, Luke, and two dogs, Nacho and Cheese.

