

Birdsview x Asplan Viak: What's Inside the Concrete?

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Part of AI Leaves The Office - And Enters The Building Site



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Scanning inside concrete let a stalled school renovation move forward

Åsne Ådland-Dale of Birdsview argued that work on older concrete structures starts blind. Her slides said 64M buildings and 20M bridges need retrofitting and maintenance globally, and that concrete retrofits can run 3x over budget, largely due to poor upfront inspection. She named four causes: subjective visual inspections, slow testing tools, destructive core drilling and missing drawings.

Birdsview's answer combines GPR radar, lidar and camera in one scan, then uses AI analysis to detect rebar, diameter and cover with millimetre accuracy and build a 3D model of the structure inside and out. In the case study, a school renovation at Krøderen had stalled because the original drawings were missing. Birdsview and Asplan Viak scanned the critical points, and together with visual observations and the original calculations this let the project move forward without further destructive investigation.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Concrete retrofits can run 3x over budget, largely because of poor upfront inspection.
- Visual inspections reveal nothing about rebar, and core drilling damages structures and gives only point data.
- One pass combines GPR radar, lidar and camera; AI detects rebar, diameter and cover automatically.
- Results come as a 3D model on any device, exportable to PDF, CSV or BIM, the same day.
- The Krøderen case started a broader innovation partnership between Birdsview and Asplan Viak.

3x

how far concrete retrofits
can run over budget