How to save time and money through effective contract management <u>Your questions answered</u>

Q. Where do you see the real cost savings with this new way of working?

A. Major cost savings can be realised through eliminating the need to constantly resurvey and re-create the asset register, the condition of the assets, and the work that's been done to them. This is a huge waste of time and resources. Additionally, we are able to pull in asset registers from a wide range of file formats, which is particularly helpful for those managing legacy buildings.

Q. Surely building owners are not going to set up the maintenance schedules, as they likely won't have the understanding to do this?

A. The Facilities-iQ software solution is designed to be flexible. Maintenance regimes can be created by anyone e.g., FM consultant or provider with the appropriate license and then handed over to the building owner or contractor to do the work. This allows for a collaborative approach, with experts setting up the initial framework and then empowering others to manage the works.

Q. Does it integrate with other systems that are not custom systems, such as finance and procurement systems?

A. Absolutely! Our API provides open connectivity, allowing integration with any system. We freely provide the API to any organisation that wishes to build an integration. The API gives access to asset information, maintenance regimes, schedules, and even estimates on task completion times, which is valuable for tendering and procurement.

Q. If you manage your asset register, you shouldn't have an issue for business continuity, should you?

A. One of the key benefits that Facilities-iQ offers is that if you change your systems in the future then the information can be passed between those different systems and Facilities-iQ keeps all the information to maintain your golden thread and ensure business continuity. While SFG20 don't aim to be a CAFM provider or own the asset register, we can manage the complexity of multiple providers and systems, keeping all information in one place.

Q. Would the asset register link directly to the relevant maintenance schedules, even if those schedules get changed or updated?

A. Yes, we update our schedules when the law changes, but we also allow flexibility for users to choose when to implement changes depending on their risk analysis. We provide the ability to identify what changes have been made to schedules and how they differ from the existing ones for your assets, allowing for informed decisions on when to update.

Q. Where do you see the real-time savings coming from with this new software?

A. Significant time savings come from automating data input from various formats, mapping assets to SFG20 schedules, and integrating with CAFM systems. We are also building exciting new reporting capabilities, which will tie back to legal requirements and save time on interpreting data and ensuring compliance.

Q. Which FM systems integrate with Facilities-iQ?

A. Our integration partners can be found here: Digital Partner Programme.

Please contact your provider to ask them when their integration will go live. If you don't see your system listed, then ask your provider to get in touch with us. The API is freely available, and we help with the integration process.

Q. How can Facilities-iQ help specifically with legacy buildings?

A. Our powerful search engine helps identify relevant SFG20 schedules for assets, even with limited information. We can then create a baseline digital record for legacy buildings that may not have well-organized data, aiding in future management.

Q. And finally, how can this benefit service providers?

A. Facilities-iQ allows service providers to work more quickly and efficiently and to reduce the cost of mobilisation of a contract. They can also offer added value to clients by proactively identifying changes that may affect compliance or cost, fostering a stronger and more informed client relationship.

Q. If a company comes and maintains assets for a number of years and their information is stored on the engineers PDA but then that company loses the contract, how does that information on the engineer's PDA gets transferred over to new co?

A. Great question! Actually, the data isn't stored on the PDA, it passes information back to the FM system (CMMS, CAFM, IWFM etc.). PDA's don't have sufficient storage to retain this amount information. Because the CAFM is connected to Facilities-iQ via the API, the information is retained within Facilities-iQ for the long term and building information doesn't get 'lost'. Please contact us if you'd like to discuss this further.

Q. If integration with our CAFM system doesn't happen, does Facilities-iQ have alternative export options?

A. There's no reason why your CAFM shouldn't be able to integrate. There is no charge involved for them to do so, we provide an API document to guide them through the process, and we offer support. As a client, you would be missing out on key time saving benefits of the Facilities-iQ software, such as automated SFG20 updates, by letting your CAFM provider take the easy option!