

“There will be one trillion rows of data expected to be produced daily by 2035, compared to one billion in 2010 – this is a thousand times greater. How do building managers make the most of more data rather than risk being swamped by it?”

With increasing recognition that “more” doesn’t always equal “better” in this era of ‘Big Data’, multiple data sets that should enable an improved grasp of the facts and, therefore, more accountability can often lead to the exact opposite. EMCOR UK brings customers, and the supply chain, an objective view on source systems. This independence means that we can identify the most appropriate solution from amongst many that, if implemented separately, can sometimes conflict.

There is a rapid evolution in progress amongst building managers regarding the management of modern workplaces, as organisations strive for continuous improvement in performance and efficiency. This process is being driven by a powerful combination of influences, including a desire to drive down building operation and management costs and a need to comply with an expansive and stringent regulatory framework. One result of this is that the distinctions between different aspects of building management such as security, facilities, and IT are becoming increasingly blurred in modern workplace buildings. In tandem, there has been a drive to generate more data, especially as assets become increasingly interconnected. However, there is a large risk that more data does not necessarily lead to better decision making. Indeed, this risk increases as the amount of data that is being produced grows exponentially. To put this into context, it is extraordinary to note that there will be one trillion rows of data expected

to be produced daily by 2035, compared to one billion in 2010 – this is a thousand times greater. How do building managers make the most of more data rather than risk being swamped by it?

When it comes to building management, facilities management operators such as EMCOR UK, are often at the heart of the data supply chain process. This gives us a first-hand understanding of the type and amounts of data being generated. For example, the data process will be notified as soon as an employee enters the building, with their chip card telling us that they have arrived on site. In addition, integrated facilities management will normally be monitoring the various physical functions of the building. This might include systems providing notifications that it is running low on water, or requires cleaning. But it also encompasses all the services required and expected of a modern working environment, including cloud-based data systems, fixed and wireless networks, and application interfaces that are customised to meet the needs of specific customers. All of this functionality has the potential to generate a lot of data, but its value is minimal if it cannot be rationalised and used to better inform a practical facilities management strategy.

A recent report by the International Data Corporation (IDC) estimates that by 2025, 40 per cent of the digital universe will be generated by machine data and devices. At the same time, the report indicates that less than one per cent of data being

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collected is actually useful or being analysed by organisations. This is the reality of living in an era of ‘Big Data’, where data sets are becoming so large or complex that they are difficult to process using traditional data processing techniques. Therefore, a key challenge for facilities management operators, like EMCOR UK, is to make our customers’ lives easier by adapting the way we analyse and interpret data in order to identify the data that is most valuable to them.

EMCOR UK focuses on finding practical and bespoke solutions to data management issues for building management. Experience has taught us that, where possible, the key to getting immediate benefits is to design a process that ensures all relevant data is collected into one central point. In this way we can analyse accurately how the performance of one building management function impacts on the delivery of another – either directly or indirectly. In doing so, we can set efficiency goals and strategies that have a greater chance of being delivered, simply because they are properly integrated.

EMCOR UK advocates a simple approach to the provision of data by recognising that customers and supply chain partners increasingly want to work with a common set of data. This facilitates more accountability, greater collaboration, and quicker shared learnings – a combination that should lead to finding better solutions, faster.

In addition, a key value that EMCOR UK brings to customers and the supply chain is that we have an objective view on source systems. This independence means that we can identify the most appropriate solution from amongst the many on offer that, if implemented separately, can sometimes conflict.

To conclude, there is an increasing recognition that “more” does not always amount to “better” in this era of ‘Big Data’. Multiple data sets that should enable an improved grasp of the facts and, therefore, more accountability can often lead to the exact opposite. The key is to keep your eyes focused on what really matters and to ensure that important data information is protected and not missed.

DELIVERING FM DATA OFFERING SIMPLIFICATION

EMCOR UK promotes a simple approach to the provision of facilities management data. By taking a results-driven view on source systems, we ensure that the relevant information is analysed and reported to our customers in an **easily accessible, timely** and **accurate** manner. Some of the UK's largest companies trust EMCOR UK to simplify their complex building management systems and **streamline** their data. It's like **threading a needle** - it's all about the **skills** of our people and the systems we deploy.

With technical know-how and experience, we ensure the relevant data is reported in your language. So whether you need asset management systems, or more visibility of management information, we are here to help. And with our buying power, we can offer you the most cost-effective systems for maximum value.

To get more from your facilities management data, get in touch with EMCOR UK. Visit www.emcoruk.com or call +44 (0)845 600 2300.

Making our customers' lives easier



Ensuring the data supply chain

