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Do More with Less: 5 Areas to Maximize Your Resources

A strategic guide to using data to achieve
operational efficiency



With a shifting workforce, aging infrastructure, and tighter budgets for equipment and assets, navigating constrained resources means prioritizing time, accelerating workflows, and maximizing efficiency.

In an environment with little margin for error, you need to make smarter, data-driven decisions to optimize funding and maintain safety and service for the organizations you support. By adopting the right technology in the right areas, you can maximize resources, justify budgets, and elevate your operations.

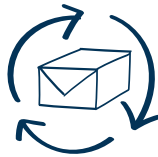
Keep reading to discover how data can revolutionize service delivery and productivity across these five key areas.



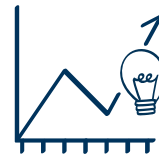
1. Daily operations management



2. Preventive and predictive maintenance



3. Inventory management



4. Energy management



5. Capital project management

4 Common Challenges Impacting Efficiency

With changes in resourcing, staffing, budgets, and health and safety protocols, there is a lot to balance as an operations professional in today's environment. Some of the common challenges include:

Budgetary Restrictions

With a tighter budget, there's less room for error. The average operations professional has to be smarter with the budget they have to make it go further — all while balancing the level of service and safety you need to prioritize for those you serve.

Lack of Resources

From fewer staff to tighter budgets for equipment and assets and even overall infrastructure, operating with a lack of resources means that your time, workflow and efficiency are critical.

Change in Personnel

Whether you're dealing with a reduced workforce, remote staff members or other changes, you are being expected to be more flexible than ever with your team. And communication can make the difference between a well organized staff and one that is wasting energy and work hours.

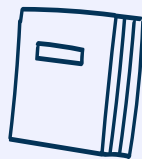
Aging Infrastructure

All infrastructure is aging, and the sad news is that most western economies are rated at somewhere between a C+ and a D- on an A to F scale when it comes to infrastructure. A lack of funding for this infrastructure so in need of fixing pushes repairs beyond their due date. Aging infrastructure breaks down more frequently, resulting in repair that costs more and requires more time to fix. Infrastructure that's out of order means lower service levels and less desirable and safe communities.

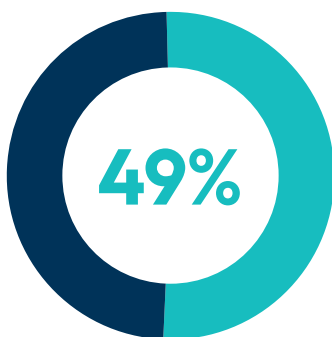
Report

State of U.S. Asset & Facilities Management for 2025

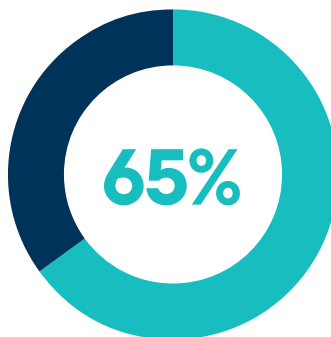
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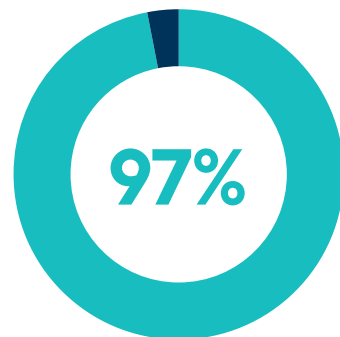
Your Changing Workforce



of facilities personnel are resistant to change



of facilities personnel lack sufficient training to support asset management plans



of managers have a plan in place to sustain their workforce against turnover

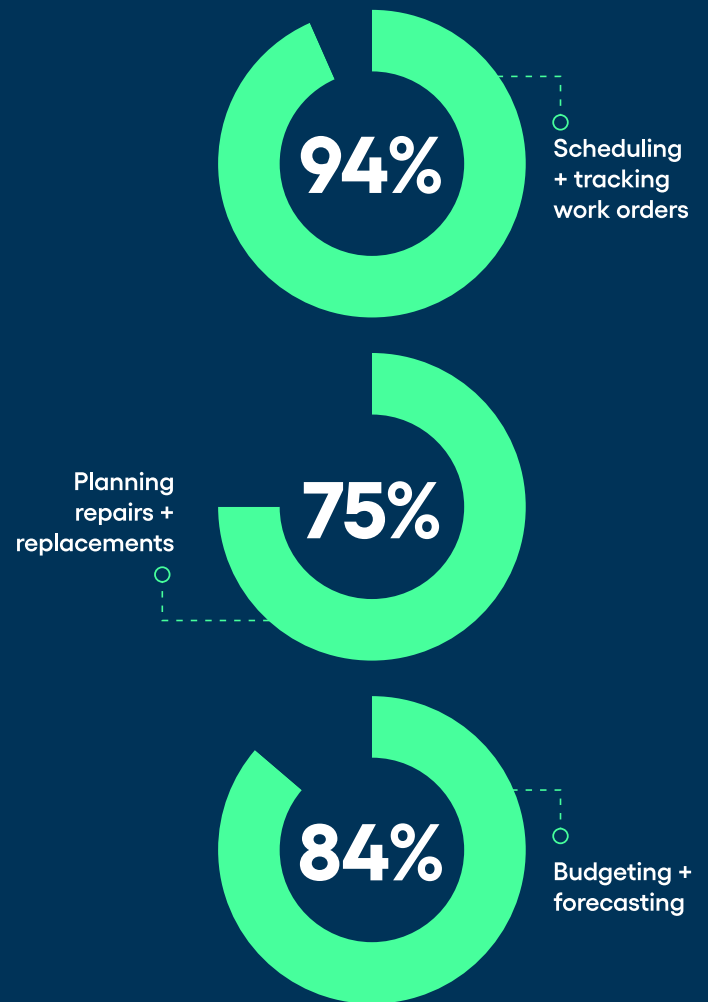
How technology fits in

As technology adoption accelerates, so do expectations for efficiency and clarity. Thankfully, organizations can implement simple tools to streamline operations, prioritize work, provide visibility for stakeholders, aid budget planning, track employee performance, and manage capital planning and equipment life cycles.

The right technology can help stretch resources, justify budgets, and create better environments for staff and those you serve.

Read on to explore technologies that are helping operations leaders transform service delivery and productivity.

How Operational Leaders are Using Asset Management Technology



1. Daily Operations Management

The workforce is changing rapidly. Retirements, recruiting challenges, and understaffed teams force organizations to do more with less. Skilled labor shortages across industries compound the issue and job seekers are choosing to prioritize better benefits, pay, and access to modern tools, operations teams face increasing competition.

But despite hiring challenges, the work doesn't stop. Cleaning schedules, asset inspections, and inventory management must go on. But without the right tools, tracking tasks, prioritizing projects, and justifying budgets can be daunting.

A [computerized maintenance management system \(CMMS\)](#) changes the game. By centralizing data, a CMMS empowers teams to:

- Track daily, weekly, and monthly workloads.
- Balance preventive and reactive maintenance.
- Manage backlogs and asset histories.
- Monitor labor and contractor costs.

Sufficient training on CMMS utilization is crucial to helping teams get the most of our their system. But as data is collected and centralized, asset and facilities managers can leveraging the technology. 79% are using their CMMS data to support workforce sustainability planning for the future.

A CMMS doesn't just organize data—it helps justify budget requests, improve efficiency, and keep up-to-date information centralized and easy to access for current and future use.



2. Preventive & Predictive Maintenance

Many maintenance teams fall into a reactive cycle—fixing assets only after they break. This approach is costly, stressful, and inefficient. [Preventive and predictive maintenance](#) can help you get ahead of potential issues, saving time and money while reducing unplanned downtime.

Regularly scheduled tasks like inspections, cleaning, and part replacements catch small issues before they become major problems. PM minimizes equipment failure, downtime, and costly repairs.

Predictive maintenance uses historical data and machine learning to predict failures before they happen. This proactive approach reduces downtime, improves reliability, and enhances safety.

With the right tools, [preventive maintenance](#) organizes tasks in a clear, automated schedule, while predictive maintenance leverages data to anticipate failures. Together, they help you move from reactive to proactive operations—boosting efficiency and making the most of your resources.

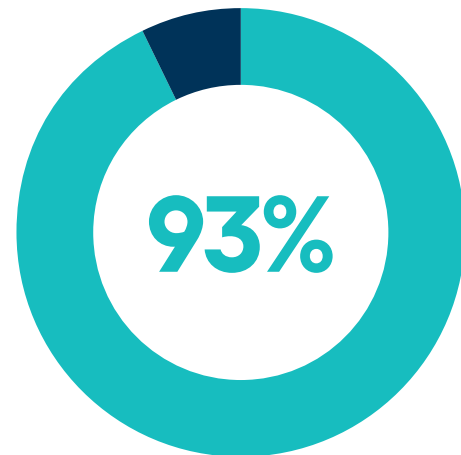


As a result [of preventive maintenance], our equipment has far exceeded the industry standard life expectancy and we receive fewer work order requests because our equipment is well-maintained.

Curtis Orndorff

Frederick County Public Schools

[Learn more](#)



of asset and facilities managers leverage data to predict when their assets will need to be replaced

3. Inventory Management

For many organizations, inventory management is a critical area to streamline. Understanding fast-moving, slow-moving, and inactive inventory levels can uncover opportunities to save time and money.

Inventory management isn't just about knowing where spare lightbulbs are stored. In today's resource-constrained environment, improving how you manage inventory can significantly reduce expenses and boost productivity.

An effective [inventory management system](#) ensures the right items are in the right place at the right time with minimal effort. It provides visibility and historical trends to optimize inventory levels through:

- Organizing storage and simplifying item location
- Accurately documenting inventory details in your CMMS
- Automating alerts for minimum/maximum stock levels
- Using mobile barcoding for efficient input

The result? Better control, optimized resource allocation, and a clearer view of the true cost of ownership.



Our constituents want to understand the total cost of ownership of our buildings ... This is how much we're spending on preventive maintenance, on reactive maintenance, in inventory, [etc.]. School districts need to be able to tell that story so that you can justify the resources that you need.

Monique Roumo

Executive Director of Operations, Baltimore City Public Schools

[Learn more](#)

4. Energy Management

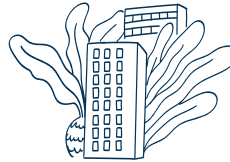
With rising costs across the board, energy is one of the largest expenses for many organizations—often leading to unnecessary spending. But what if you could pinpoint utility waste, prioritize actions, and make smarter operational decisions through centralized utility management?

A strong [energy management strategy](#) can cut utility costs, extend asset lifecycles, and reduce your carbon footprint. For organizations committed to sustainability, understanding energy usage can also lower greenhouse gas emissions and help mitigate climate change risks.

Your energy data is already available—it just needs the right platform to turn it into actionable insights. An energy management solution helps operations teams track trends, costs, and usage, enabling smarter, more sustainable decisions.

By rethinking how utilities are managed, organizations can unlock efficiencies, create savings to reinvest elsewhere, and better prepare for future needs, including capital investments and regulatory compliance.

Energy efficient buildings can save organizations:



\$0.60
per sq. ft.

on annual operations
and maintenance costs



\$0.53
per sq. ft.

on annual utility
expenses



There's a tremendous amount of data available with utility bills, but in reality, what's the best use of our time to draw out? [An energy management solution enables us to] dedicate our time to the analytics for the things we care about.

Mark Clinch

Director of Facilities & Energy Management
Town of Normal, IL

[Learn more](#)

5. Capital Planning

Planning a 5, 10, or 20-year capital expenditure forecast can feel overwhelming. For operations leaders, large expenditures leave little room for error, making accurate data and informed decision-making essential.

But looking ahead and planning for future capital expenses is critical, and your data holds the key to a more secure and strategic future.

Advancements in technology now make it easier than ever to create accurate, prioritized plans. [Strategic asset management](#) helps you understand today's needs while forecasting 5–20+ years into the future. The right tools can:

- Predict asset life
- Justify funding requests
- Compare different funding scenarios

With a strategic asset management system, you can model lifecycle scenarios, balance budgets and assets, and align plans with expected levels of service—empowering better data-driven decisions for capital planning.

“

We all face diminishing budgets, less manpower and deteriorating buildings. [Operations management software] can make operations more efficient and help justify keeping resources and job positions to management and your CFO.

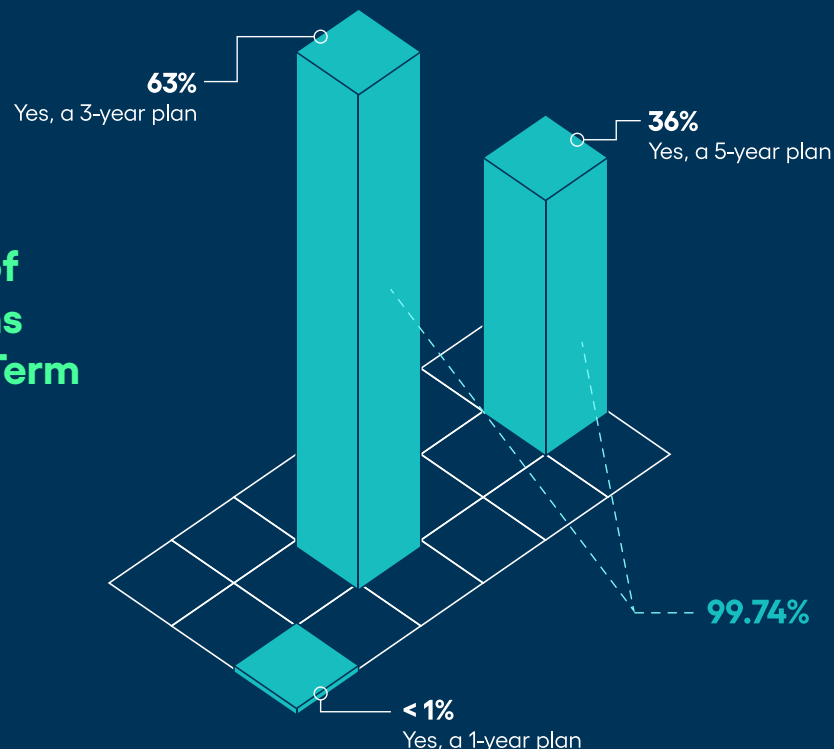
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Barry Hipp

Cleburne Independent School District

[Learn more](#)

Percentage of Organizations with a Long-Term Capital Plan



Enhance Your Operations with Brightly

At Brightly Software, a Siemens company, we understand that the right tools can transform how your operations teams work—helping them tackle challenges with greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Our powerful solutions provide clarity into ongoing work for management and key stakeholders, support department leaders with budgeting and FTE planning, and simplify capital planning and asset lifecycle management.

The true value of these tools lies in one critical advantage: access. By breaking down data silos and enabling employees to access the information they need from anywhere, Brightly empowers your teams to make smarter, more informed decisions.

Ready to see the difference Brightly can make?

[Schedule a call with one of our experts today.](#)



Sources

1 2025 US State of Asset & Facilities Management Report
brightlysoftware.com/resource/state-us-asset-facilities-management-2025-report

About Brightly Software

Brightly Software, a Siemens company, enables organizations to manage the entire lifecycle of their assets, facilities and infrastructure. As the global leader in intelligent asset management solutions for more than 25 years, Brightly's sophisticated cloud-based platform is expertly designed to improve capital planning through smarter, data-driven decision making, empower technicians to predict, prioritize and manage preventative maintenance activities, and support organizations to achieve sustainability, compliance and efficiency goals. Combined with award-winning training, legendary support and managed services, more than 12,000 clients worldwide depend on Brightly to optimize their teams, operations and strategic planning initiatives. For more information, visit brightlysoftware.com

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