



What is Information Management?

Information Management





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Introduction

 Information management is not the latest concept in computer industry

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 need for successful organisation and execution of construction projects.

 Construction - the most information dependent industry which obtains information - detailed drawings, cost analysis sheets, budget reports, contract documents.

...Introduction

 During project life cycle, a lot of information generated and exchanged even for a small-size construction project.

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 Information management - can highly influence cost, time and quality.

 Information management - have a significant impact on the success and profitability of the entire industry.
e.g. manufacturing, aerospace and defence industries.

Information Management

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Management Evolutions



Why managing information?

 First - traditional methods have not always worked.

- Late supply of information common occurrence.
- Contractors claim for an extension of the contract period, to be paid by clients.
- Construction personnel can cheat many others when information was badly managed.

Why managing information?

- Second the scale of construction work has changed.
 - It is easy to manage information when projects are few and small.
 - For 1 million project might involve 100 drawings, but for 200 millions project could easily generate 10,000 drawings.
 - Become worse when the members of the project team try to cope with several projects at once.
 - Pressure from clients to complete quickly and competition within the industry.
 - The numbers of people and organisations that any individual has to communicate with also increased.

Why managing information?

Construction projects involve large numbers of people in different disciplines working on instructions passed on by others.

- It is important, those instructions are received when they are needed, where it needed, easily understood, and leave a clear record to show who has authorized what.
- If information correctly managed, it provides the framework - everybody knows what his responsibilities and when to do it.
- Or at the right time, right place and to the right person.

What is information management?

- IM concerns on communication system within a project
- cover the acquisition and dissemination of information – the analysis, design, implementation, evaluation and management of information.
- IM means ensuring information is communicated to whoever needs it, whenever they need it, in whatever form they need it, so they may meet their objectives for the project.
- Information eg. drawing, specifications, bills of quantities, schedules, financial statements

Project co-ordination & benefits

Project co-ordination is the planning of a project, well in advance of the start of precontract work and the control of the project through all its stages.

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Why ?? - to provide a smooth flow of info among the project's life cycle stages efficient in communication.

Project co-ordination - increase in efficiency, which can generate several benefits.

... Project co-ordination & benefits

A study by NBA (The National Building Agency) in UK, the benefits are;

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- o *Better communication* improved appreciation of the work of each participants involved;
- o *shorter construction time* getting specifications, schedules and details to the contractor at the right time;
- o *Earlier occupation* earlier completion of the project.

Project Info & Info Technology

- Project information defined as the information that describes the physical facility (product) and is required for managing its process.
- PI include site survey, drawings, specifications, BQ, project planning, and facility management.

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- It usually handle by different departments within one organisation or different organisations, resulting in long loops.
- These loops can cause lengthy delays and inconsistencies of data used by different departments.

Project Info & Info Technology

 Large amount of project information are generated and used during the various stages of a project life cycle.

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 Sharing and maintaining this info in multiple disciplines and throughout a project's life cycle is a complex and difficult task

 IT becomes a vital tool for manage the info - computer and comm. technologies applied in the storage and retrieval of information.

 In the construction industry, it has been proven that the use of IT could reduce the fragmentation problem.

Managing the flow of information



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- construction industry gain large benefits from the automation of info flows and the shared knowledge.
- By sharing information, the industry will increase its rate of learning and increase profit level.

 It will also create a more efficient market that will improve the industry performance and the quality of the product.

...Managing the flow of information

 Project central database - one of the solutions for sharing the information.

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 The principle of a database is that it is a single centralised source of information.

 Such central databases are usually developed as information networks and can be used either at the project, enterprise or industry level.

 Many different users of information can share access to the same information from the database

The role of IT for managing the info

 ICT is comp & comm. systems which transmit, exchange, retrieve, manipulated, calculate or display information.

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Conclusion

 Electronic management of information through the use of IT is the most effective way to manipulate information.

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- It allows users to store and retrieve information easily, gain faster, complete and accurate response, and be better informed of the relevant issues.
- However, the effective use of IT in the construction industry relies on the ability to exchange and share information among the project participants

Activity 1

- 1. Search and list 5 examples of the application of information management?
- 2. Explain the concept of information management that been applied in the application.



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Activity 2: Answer the questions with your friends

- 1. What is information management?
- 2. How do you manage the information?
- 3. Why we need to manage the information?
- 4. What are the differences between data and information?
- 5. Explain the evolution from data management to knowledge management.
- 6. What are the benefits of IT in managing the information?

