

Checklist for Maintainability: An Owner's Perspective for Design and Construction

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State Construction Conference || March 26, 2015

What is Maintainability?



Facility Maintainability is the practice of **integrating operations and maintenance experience** into the project planning, design and construction process to achieve ease, accuracy, safety and economy of maintenance task through the life of the facility.

What Is Maintainability?

- Durable and long lasting
- Cost effective, TCO
- Flexibility
- Renewable
- Replaceable
- "Bad" experience produces "Good" results
- Build It As If It Was Your Money. It Is!



Why Maintainability Matters

- Operations Funding down 40% over 10 years
- Maintenance staffing = 50% of industry standards > 75,000 gsf.
- Housekeeping Staffing >37,000 gsf
- SCO FCAP = DM&CR backlog of \$5.4 billion
- Extended Equipment Lifespans
- Low Capital Reinvestment
- State Projects Are Different!

Sustainability

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

- More Sustainable = More Maintainable
- Proper selections of building material
- Are materials recyclable after use?
- Are the materials locally sourced?
- Are we designing for disassembly/ replacement over lifespan?



Why Sustainability Is Important

- Energy costs continue to escalate
- 75% of a building's total cost is the operating cost over its lifespan
- State buildings will not be torn down in 30 years
- Systems will be replaced 3 times during the building's life
- Healthy environments



Maintainability Starts With Design





Have I Reviewed the Owner's Design **Standards?**



No, seriously, read them AND use them.

What are the Owner's Expectations?



100-year shell, 30-year interior

DESIGNING FOR MAINTAINABILITY

Has Cradle to Grave Life Cycle Approach Been Incorporated Into Design?

Pre-Building

- Manufacture, package, shipping

Building

- Construction, Operations

Post-building

- Disposal, recycle, reuse





DESIGNING FOR MAINTAINABILITY What Do You See?

Mechanical Contractor

- Excellent workmanship

Design Engineer

 Beauty – I am the greatest designer ever!!!

Maintenance Manager

- Space to access equipment
- Room to replace equipment
- Clearly identify systems
- Determine issues at a glance

Architect

 Wasted Space - I could have improved the Net to GSF Ratio



Is it accessible for maintainability and operations staff?



If we can't get to it, we can't maintain it.



Is it accessible for maintainability operations staff?



If we can't get to it, we can't maintain it.



DESIGNING FOR MAINTAINABILITY

Is it accessible for maintenance and operations staff?



Fume Hood exhaust fans - Primary life safety devices!

DESIGNING FOR MAINTAINABILITY



Is it accessible for maintenance and operations staff?



Why do you think it took so long to correct the too hot issue and repair the leak.



Is it accessible for maintainability operations staff?



Would you go in here?

Designing FOR MAINTAINABILITY Does the layout enable accessibility?

- Additional items required to make system fully functional
 - Valves, electrical junction boxes and radius bends, pipe flanges, pipe & duct insulation, I-Beam support thickness, condensate drains
- Block, Single line, or dimensioned detail
 - What is needed to convey the requirement?
 - What does the designer need to do to ensure it fits with adequate access?

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Is this compatible with existing systems?



High-tech building systems



Does the design include unnecessary gadgetry?



Use it on another client's project.



Is the design versatile?



Who knows how the building will be repurposed in 50 years?



How do I help the contractor visualize the design?



Provide a 3D model.

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Other Tips for Owners and Designers

- Show areas to remain clear on drawings
 Coil pull, items in ceiling, aisles, etc.
- Avoid underground duct and 'pits'
- 'Walk through' (on paper) the Maintenance Tasks that must be performed – Include operations staff early in the process
- Discuss how equipment will be replaced
- Detail worst/tightest conditions

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M Is the design simple and straightforward?



If designer can't understand how it works, don't expect the maintenance staff to.

Construction with Maintainability in Mind







BUILDING FOR MAINTAINABILITY Have I asked, 'Does This Make Sense?'



North entry door is equipped with an automatic opener, although it is otherwise inaccessible.



Did We Get the Basics Right?



Have the installers been trained?

Did We Get the Basics Right?



Are the details on the manufacturer's data sheets?



Did We Get the Basics Right?



Fix it now or fix it later.





Is the Building Material Proven and Durable?



So much for this roofing membrane lasting through its 2020 warranty

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Have Proprietary Materials Been Avoided?



Remember, it has to last us 30 years.



Have We Followed the Plans?



Why it's a bad idea to decide on location changes of duct work late in a building project.

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Have We Coordinated Overhead Piping & Ductwork?



Coordination drawings are better than ductwork mods

Have Important Areas Been Inspected?





Horizontal Kitchen Exhaust



Have We Followed the Plans?



If the design says install 1.5 HP pump, please don't install a 1/2 HP pump.

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Have We Followed the Manufacturer's Specification?





Pump motor orientation

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Have We Followed the Manufacturer's Specification?





300 HP Motor w/ roller bearings. Ball bearings were specified.

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Do Submittals Meet the Specification?



Two Piece Flashing Substitution



Have We Followed the Plans?



Site fabricated brick falls away from building due to freezing



Did We Get the Basics Right?



Flashing Details

Skids Are Easy For Designers



Not for maintenance staff.

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Have you talked with those who will be operating and maintaining the building?



They need a seat at the table.



What Have We Learned?

Major Takeaways

- Know and Understand the Owner's Standards
- Ask What the Owner wants; don't Assume that you know
- Take Life Cycle Cost Decisions seriously -- in all parts of the design, not just systems
- Design for flexibility of use and renewal over the life of the building
- Are you designing for access and efficient maintenance?
- Are you training construction trades on expectations?
- What will future maintenance staff say about your design? Your construction?

Discussion