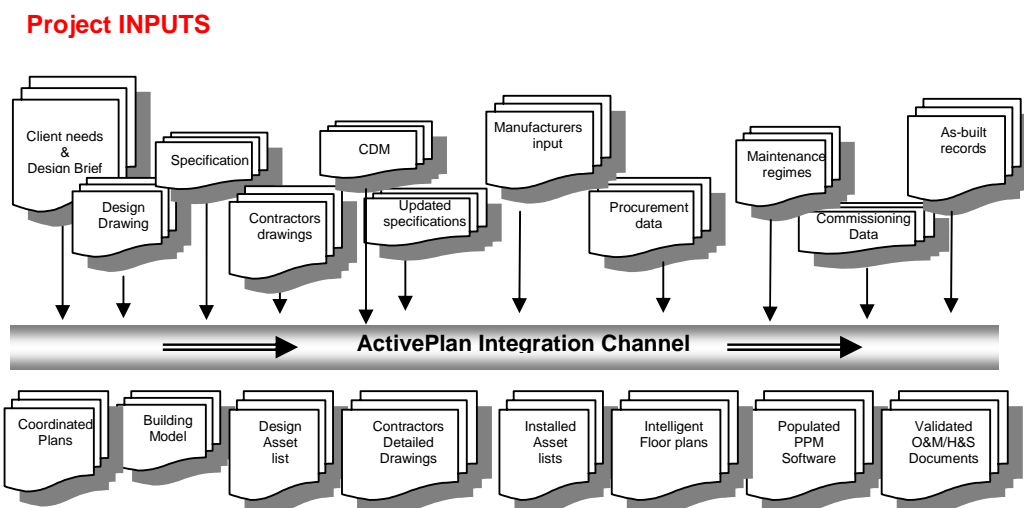


A project has many stakeholders during its life, all using different software and not providing the next person in the chain with the data in a usable format.

Projects can fail due to misunderstandings and inaccurate or incomplete information. Risks can be reduced by more effective use of IT and better processes that contribute clarity, accuracy and agility to react to necessary change.

The ActivePlan solution focuses on the quality and structure of the data produced by each application, not the applications themselves. Drawings are generally the largest problem and attempts to impose data conventions, such as layering, across the supply chain, invariably fail. To overcome this, ActivePlan has an “importer” that allows a user to select parts of a drawing (or the entire drawing) establish them as database objects. A template is then saved so any subsequent drawings that come from that source are automatically mapped.

ActivePlan acts as a “glue” that allows previously incompatible software applications to be linked together and provide clients with the means to understand how their space is being used, what impact it is having on their core business processes and also give them the opportunity to experiment with “what if’s” to arrive at the optimum layouts going forward. The fact that ActivePlan works with existing data sets, being onwardly generated and maintained by established processes, implementation is far easier both in terms of initial data assimilation and overcoming the natural concerns of individual departmental stakeholder who actually become keen to see their data contributing to a wider whole that will be used by senior management to steer the business.



ActivePlan DELIVERABLES

ActivePlan is now being used to create a master database of all the equipment and materials (at a generic level) that are used in the rooms and spaces that make up a school. This database property information such as size, rating, material, finish, maintenance regime, H&S, durability/lifecycle and CAD symbols (in 2D and where appropriate 3D) that can be used in AutoCAD, Microstation and the other leading CAD platforms but, most importantly, will use some form of commonly agreed coding, allowing suppliers to create and maintain links to their catalogues.

Designers and contractors will then be able to test their designs (at the earliest possible stage) against currently available equipment to ensure it fits, there is no adverse effect on the environmental requirements and perhaps that they can afford it.