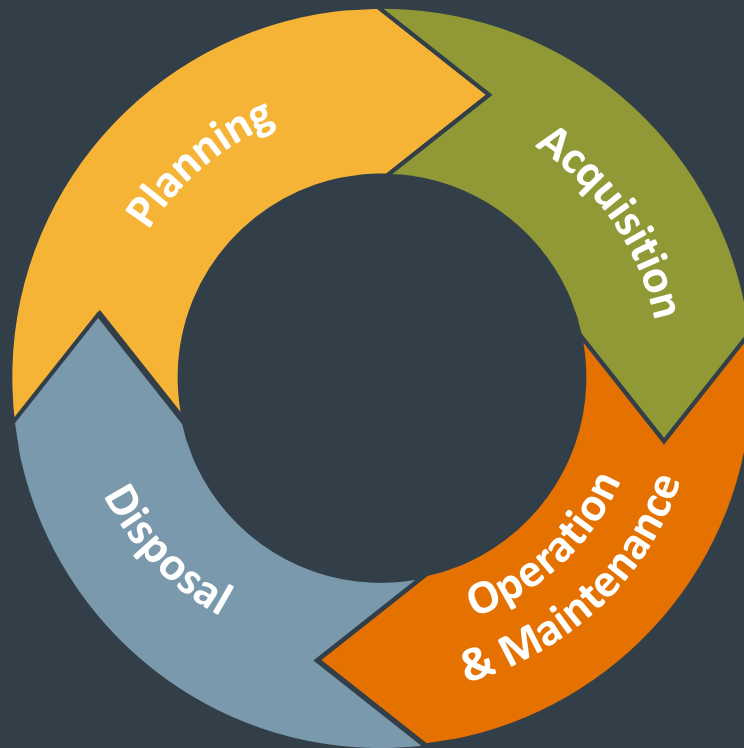


The Asset Lifecycle

In today's competitive economy, organizations are under constant pressure to minimize costs and maximize return on investments. To gain a competitive advantage, many forward-thinking companies are utilizing asset lifecycle management to reduce maintenance costs, improve asset performance, enhance decision making, and extend useful life.



PLANNING

In the first phase of the asset lifecycle, the need for an asset is identified. The asset is then evaluated, based on relevant criteria including utilization. The planning phase also involves asset design, coordination of operations and maintenance requirements, and strategic long-term financial planning.



ACQUISITION

During this phase (also called procurement), the asset is acquired. It is installed, built, and/or delivered to the appropriate location. At this stage, relevant cost negotiations may also take place, ensuring that the asset meets the approved budget and time frame requirements.



OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

At this point, the asset has moved into the usage stage, where it provides the intended service to your organization. Maintenance and upgrades should be provided routinely. Based on government regulations, items in place and in use must be tracked and accounted for across the lifecycle. Depending on the asset, this phase of the lifecycle may last from months to decades. As the longest stage of the lifecycle, it often requires greatest attention.



DISPOSAL

When an asset has reached the end of its useful life, or if its operational/maintenance costs become too high, it moves into the fourth and final phase of the asset lifecycle: disposal. This should be done in a planned, organized manner, with a focus on financial and environmental sustainability.

To find out more about the asset lifecycle, or to learn how an asset management solution can benefit your organization, visit assetworks.com/asset-management/ today.