

Overview of Discipline Facility Management

Facility management is the practice of coordinating the physical workplace with the people and work of the organization/utility.

Responsibilities include the following, which cover several major functional areas:

- Long-range and annual facility planning
- Facility financial forecasting
- Real estate acquisition and/or disposal
- Work specifications, installation and space management
- Architectural and engineering planning and design
- New construction and/or renovation
- Maintenance and operations management
- Telecommunications integration, security and general administrative services

Computer Aided Facilities Management (**CAFM**) software can be linked to the 3D model to automate the collection and maintenance of facilities management information.

CAFM systems provide the tools to track, report and maintain information on the following:

- Floor plans
- Building and property information
- Space characteristics and usage
- Employee and occupancy data
- Workplace assets (furniture and equipment)
- Business continuity and safety information
- LAN and telecom information

Another area of interest, which is generally overlooked, is the huge benefit that the 3D model can be to emergency services.

By being able to access the 3D model, they are able to identify and determine the location of access and escape routes, critical areas, hydrants, drainage pipes, electrical services, etc.

The speedy location of any or all of these essential services can be crucial in the event of a fire or some other life/property threatening situation - all of which could save lives and property.