

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a red and black plaid shirt, is shown in profile from the chest up. She is holding a tablet computer with both hands and looking at the screen. The background is a blurred workshop or garage with various tools and equipment. A red banner is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

3 Major Benefits of an Integrated Fleet System

AssetWORKS

When you look back at your tenure working in the fleet management industry, what accomplishments or special moments stand out?

Was it when you had an unusually calm winter and your technicians finally got a break? Was it when your fleet got its first fuel management system and you started seeing immediate results? Or was it when you realized that your fleet can do better, and you optimized it with all of the latest and greatest technology?

Did that last one sound a little far-fetched? Thankfully – it's not! As fleet management software grows, adapts and develops, it starts to offer more functionality for end-users. Do you want mobile apps that allow you to take your data wherever you go? Do you want to be able to manage other assets, like roadways or telephone poles? Maybe your financial or procurement office wants to perform complicated life-cycle cost analyses for predictive purchasing – all at the touch of a button.

It's never too late to learn more about what's out there. So sit back, relax and enjoy this trip into the possibilities of effective and integrated fleet management.



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Mobilizing your fleet through mobile technology across different roles

If your fleet technicians are incredibly busy, they're probably also tired of not having an easy way to manage all of their tasks and information from the shop floor.

Their jobs demand that they run back and forth from their vehicle work to the parts room, from the shop to their supervisor's office, and from the loading bay to the computers. A lot of time is wasted running from place to place and waiting for the information they need.

It doesn't have to be like this, there's a better way for them.

With integrated mobile applications, users from across your organization can access all of the information they need to at any time, on any device. In an inspection checklist app, employees can easily perform state inspections in rapid time. No more pen and paper and no more manual entry at the end of the day trying to decipher handwriting. As they go through each item on the list, they can easily tap them as complete. If they require a part or service, the technicians can use a work-order based app to submit a service request, or view the inventory and determine if the part is available through a parts inventory app. Technicians can even take pictures of the tasks as they are being completed and upload them to the ongoing work to create a detailed report for later.

But on-the-go integrated apps aren't just for technicians or inspectors. A fleet manager can use a dashboard app to view configured KPIs, threshold warnings, a responsive results display and more. They can even save these reports as favorites for quick viewing and reference later, like on the way to a business meeting. But of course, accidents happen, even if everyone is taking precautions. That's where an accident or collisions app comes in. With just a few taps of the fingers, users can document the entire incident so that it is all on record and filed away accurately. Here they can input location, parties, driving conditions and more.

With the mobile freedom of integrated fleet technology, your management and work can continue wherever you go, on any device.



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How fleet and public works departments can work together

In the public sector, effective fleet management revolves around budgeting, and remaining successful depends on your ability to make the most out of limited budget dollars. The proven path for success involves not only how well your organization tracks and manages its fleet vehicles, but also how well it manages all of your other physical assets and their maintenance needs. After all, your fleet organization consists of more than just vehicles!

The Key to Effective Public Sector Fleet Operations

In the fleet world, your assets typically come to you (vehicles entering the shop), but in the public works world, your employees are traveling to the assets (vehicles traveling to fix a pothole in town). With enterprise asset management features, fleet organizations can track where your employees are traveling to and why. With visual mapping capabilities, you can visually display all of your assets (buildings, parks, highways, etc.), open Work Orders and Service Requests.

Work Management

More often than not, there is a major disconnect between what happens in the back office or shop floor and what happens in the field. A fleet vehicle could leave the lot for a maintenance task across town, and your staff in the back office aren't connected to what happens in the field. With an integrated fleet and EAM system, you can complete the picture. From your computer, tablet or smartphone, you can see Asset #1 (a fleet vehicle) driven by Employee #2 (a member of your maintenance crew) working on Asset #3 (a damaged street sign).

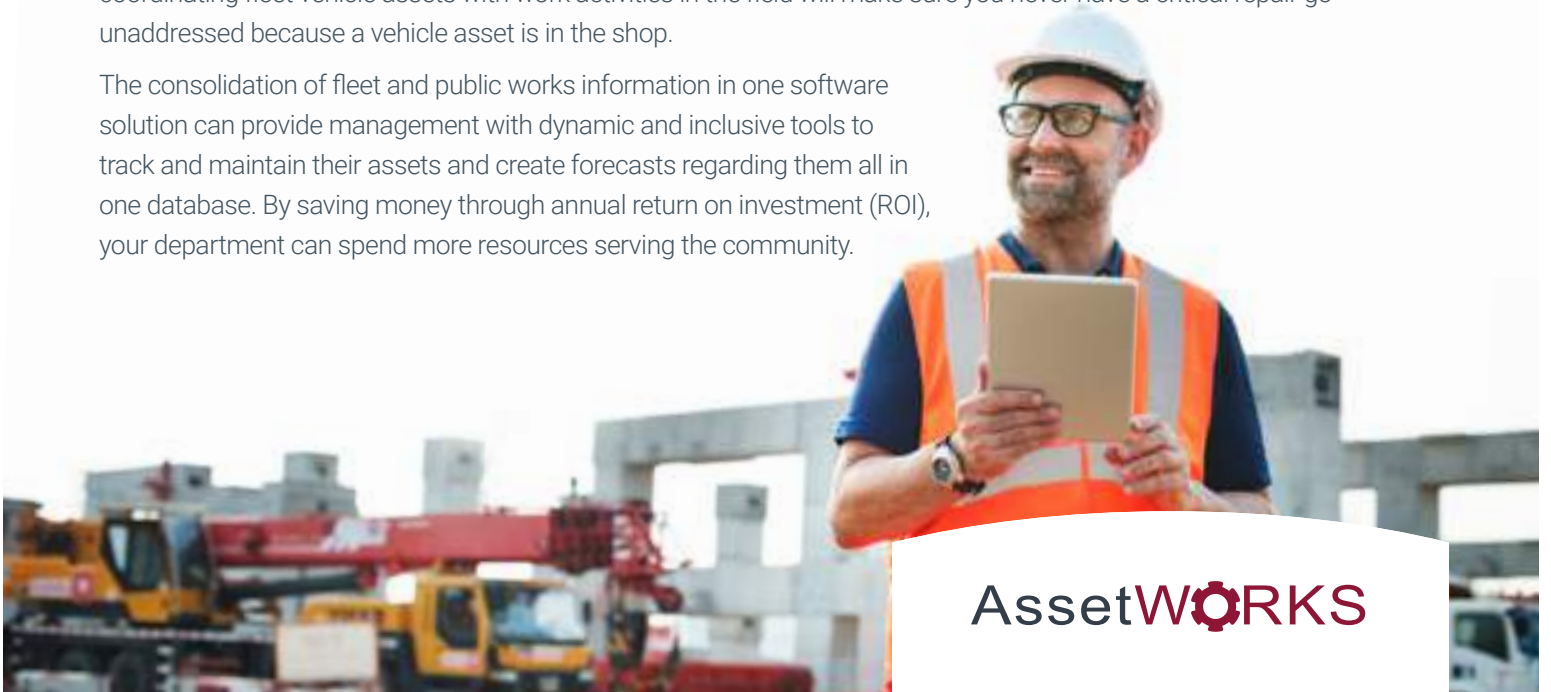
With integrated fleet and asset management software, work management features also allow for scheduling of work activity, crews and employees in a calendar view. By integrating asset management with your fleet management activities, you will be able to view activity and track costs while your vehicles are not only in the shop, but also when they are performing activities and being used out in the field.

Cost-savings

Significant cost-savings stem from public works and fleet organizations sharing data. After integrating fleet management systems with enterprise asset management systems, detailed work information, like repair costs, routine maintenance costs, MPG, depreciation and more, can be analyzed using reports. These asset cost analyses benefit both organizations by providing needed information between different groups within an organization.

This information is also critical to planning work activities in the field. Vehicle assets (light and heavy duty) are usually needed to perform repairs and maintenance on other organization assets (highways, facilities, grounds, etc.) and coordinating fleet vehicle assets with work activities in the field will make sure you never have a critical repair go unaddressed because a vehicle asset is in the shop.

The consolidation of fleet and public works information in one software solution can provide management with dynamic and inclusive tools to track and maintain their assets and create forecasts regarding them all in one database. By saving money through annual return on investment (ROI), your department can spend more resources serving the community.



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How technology can automate life-cycle cost analysis so you can make the best decisions for your fleet

Life-Cycle Cost Analysis (LCA) helps fleet managers measure the long-term economic sustainability of their organization's assets. When you calculate the total cost of ownership over the life of an asset, you not only improve your organization's bottom line, but you also find the answer to the age-old question: should I hold onto or sell this asset? This minimizes the cost of investment and maximizes the profitability an asset will return.

Do you feel like you're wasting time manually extracting and transforming data in order to calculate life-cycles? Integrated life-cycle cost analysis software has the functionality to accurately and automatically do this for you. No longer will you have to suffer through pulling data from your maintenance system and cleaning it of maintenance costs. Instead, the data is sent straight to a life-cycle cost model within the system and is aggregated with annual operating and capital costs for a comprehensive report.

LCA in Practical Use

Since, in most cases, capital resources are scarce, fleet managers can use LCA to examine the best ways to use their budget. LCA can help fleet managers to understand how much an asset really costs to own and operate. Rather than focusing on the purchase price, LCA serves as a more long-term, exhaustive measurement of economic viability over each stage of an asset's life cycle.

The acquisition of an asset is only part of the total cost of ownership to take into account when weighing benefit cost vs. "do nothing" scenarios. Depreciation, interest, maintenance, repairs, fuel and downtime are examples of life cycle costs that will have an impact on an asset's net value to an organization.

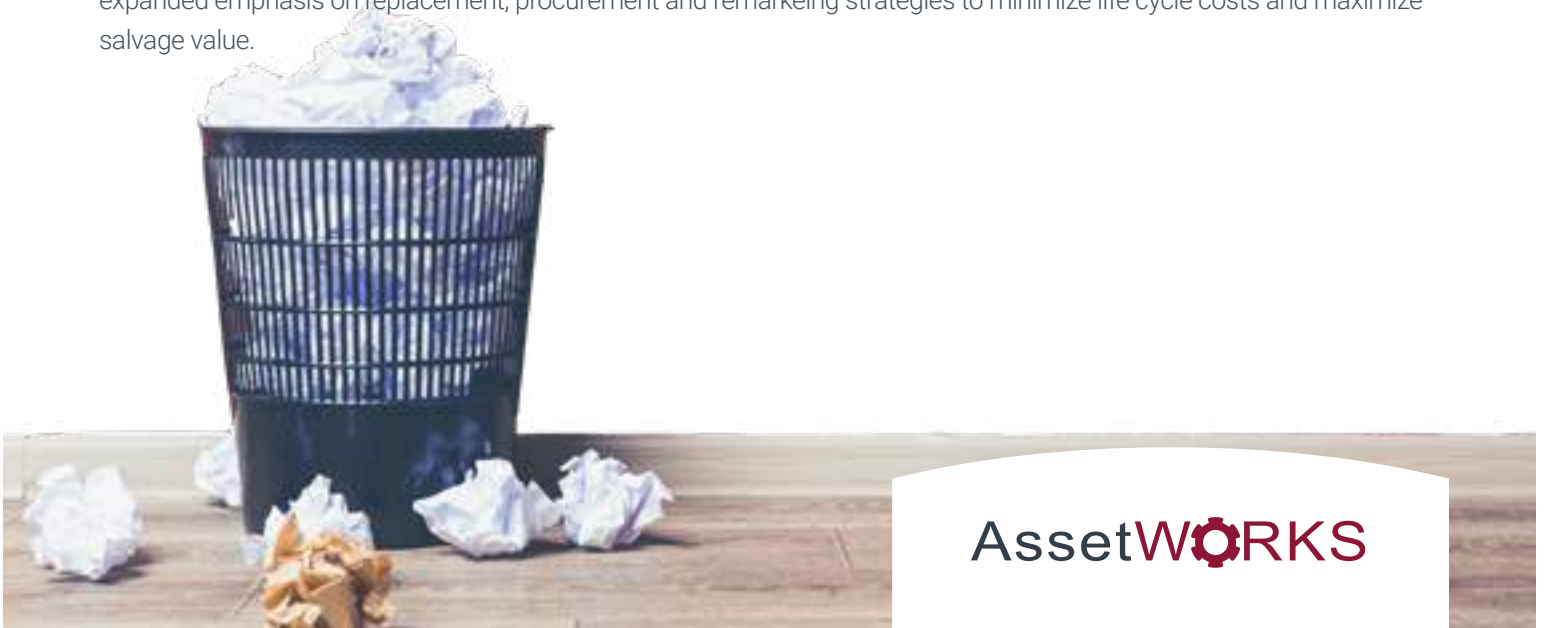
LCA gives fleet managers a method to measure how much a vehicle or equipment costs through its full life cycle by factoring all of these additional costs and reveals the optimum replacement point for fleet managers to minimize investment, maximize profitability, and limit an asset's total cost of ownership.

Corporate Policy Evaluation

LCA serves as a tool to review the impact of corporate policy decisions on an asset's life cycle. For example, LCA can weigh the upfront cost of implementing an alternative fuel in a vehicle vs. the fuel savings over the life cycle of the vehicle.

Comprehensive Asset Management

Asset management is evolving from a more narrow maintenance management approach to a broader and more exhaustive asset management approach. Instead of managing only operating and maintenance expenses, there is an expanded emphasis on replacement, procurement and remarketing strategies to minimize life cycle costs and maximize salvage value.



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AssetWorks takes fleet management seriously. Our acclaimed fleet management software, FleetFocus, gathers your vehicle data and presents it to you so you can make the best decisions for your fleet. Yet, technology advances and adapts on a daily basis – so must AssetWorks. We have expanded the services and products that we offer so that your fleet never feels like it's not supported. From telematics to mobile data, and from predictive analyses to fuel management, AssetWorks has your fleet covered, always.

**To learn more about AssetWorks'
integrated fleet management solutions,
visit assetworks.com/fleet.**



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