

ONLINE COLLABORATION AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Online collaboration is transforming the face of facilities management around the globe, as demand grows for intelligent, intuitive systems that make complex project management easier. Innovative providers of online project collaboration already enable companies to share, track and archive all documentation and correspondence throughout the life-cycle of a facility or project. Following are two examples:

ACONEX

SAVES TIME AND MONEY

An independent report by Ernst and Young shows that a project team can save at least 1.1 percent of total project value through effective online collaboration. Significant savings are found in direct costs such as printing, document distribution, archiving and administrative staff time, with further savings made through productivity gains and minimised risk of exposure.

TEAMWORK

Streamlined information sharing within cross-discipline teams, contractors and multi-site consortiums significantly boost productivity. By storing information in a centralised public area, managers can share documents, but also restrict access where appropriate.

On Aconex, all correspondence and documentation are fully integrated into the transparent central system, including models, plans, drawings, faxes and emails. A fully searchable documentation trail can be produced, locating the latest version of a document, as well as the full document revision history.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Online collaboration systems such as Aconex enable facilities managers to oversee many projects at once. Balancing budgets, a growing challenge for facilities managers, becomes easier as the intelligent system tracks and correlates the activities of all users and enables a comprehensive overview that can highlight potential budget overflow or delays. This enhanced transparency also improves collaboration and accountability with contractors, reducing disputes over information sharing and action.

ACCESS: ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

With online collaboration, facilities managers and approved contractors gain the freedom to view information at work, on site, at home or from the other side of the world. This feature overcomes normal geographic boundaries and limitations, and allows specialist contractors to contribute to a facility or project from any location. Even the smallest industry participant can access project information without the need for specialist software or powerful computers.

FACILITY HISTORY

Costing disputes over changes to plans and quotes cause delays and complicate budgets. On Aconex, changes to building plans and drawings are clearly tracked and dated to individual contractors, providing a comprehensive history and accountability through the design, construction, renovation and ongoing management of a building.

SECURITY AND DISASTER PLANNING

As disaster planning and recovery becomes an increasing priority for facilities managers, confidence that all documentation and archives are held on a secure, remote, online system provides significant peace of mind. Comprehensive reporting and overview tools also assist in disaster planning. Aconex provides secure, unlimited storage for all documentation at no additional cost.

FAST-TRACKING COLLABORATION

Workflow tools fast-track the standard document approval process, identified as a point of time wastage by Aconex clients. Through an automated process, staff and contractors can receive, approve and distribute plans, drawings and documents in the required order and timeline.

The online storage of all documents also fast-tracks these processes, as the printing and distribution of plans by couriers is eliminated.

TAILOR-MADE

Online collaboration systems can be shaped around project requirements, applicable for both large and small facility managers, small businesses, and subcontractors. Aconex is a flexible system constantly evolving alongside industry innovations and consultations with our clients.

ABOUT ACONEX

Established in 2000, Aconex is the leading market provider of online collaborative business solutions for the Australian construction, property and facilities management industries.

Designed and built by industry experts, Aconex is an intuitive, intelligent and secure system that is easy to use and has excellent customer service support. Aconex is an innovative, profitable company with a rapidly expanding international client base, serving over 10,000 clients working on projects at a value of over US\$20 billion.

Major client projects include Waterfront City with ING; White City, the largest shopping centre development in Europe, with Multiplex; Southern Cross with Multiplex; Eureka Tower with Grocon; the Bahrain Financial Harbour with Grocon; Woolworths Norwest Commercial Centre; CH2 with Hansen Yuncken and the Melbourne City Council; Queens Plaza with The Gandel Group; The Towers of Chevron Renaissance and the Artique Tower with the Raptis Group; Darwin Underground Power Project with Savant; Jindalee Shopping Centre with Stockland; North South Bypass Tunnel with Brisbane City Council and Aldoga Aluminium Smelter with Multiplex.

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