



Asset Management Services

Asset management is a business approach designed to align technical decisions with business objectives. Asset management initiatives within particular utilities can take on many forms, and Quanta Technology has expertise in each including organizational design, goal formulation, risk management, project selection, portfolio management, maintenance management, life-cycle costing, outsourcing, and others. Quanta Technology is different in its approach to asset management in that it focuses on implementation and results rather than software and metrics. Quanta Technology typically customizes each project based on specific customer needs, but the following describe typical engagement areas.

Maintenance Management. Many utilities are finding that there is not enough budget or resources to perform periodic equipment maintenance based on manufacturer recommendations. Our experts have helped many utilities shift from this time-based maintenance approach to condition-based and reliability-centered maintenance. Implementing the right mix of policies, procedures, systems, and guidelines, typically results in far fewer equipment failures for far less cost when compared to traditional approaches.

Project Evaluation & Selection. Most budgeting processes end up with too many projects, an inability to prioritize projects, and an inability to dynamically adjust spending plans. Simple benefit-to-cost ranking has failed at many utilities due to an inability to handle multiple performance metrics, compare capital versus expense projects, consider resource constraints, and accommodate risk-based spending. We have a robust and proven approach to project evaluation and selection that ensures efficient spending with regards to cost, benefit, risk, and return.

Risk Management. Most utilities are more interested in avoiding rare but high impact events than they are in average system performance. Our experts have a range of rigorous processes and probabilistic techniques that allow utilities to manage infrastructure risk using the same tools that the financial industry uses to manage financial risk. Since utilities are constantly pushing their systems harder, risk exposure is rising and risk management capabilities will continue to increase in importance.

Aging Infrastructure. Left alone, aging equipment will result in higher maintenance costs and worse reliability. Addressing aging infrastructure is difficult in traditional utility budgeting processes. Our experts are experienced in quantifying the future impact of aging equipment and developing justified multi-year plans that are acceptable to regulators for inclusion in the rate base.

Asset Utilization. Many utilities have recently strived to “push their assets harder.” At the same time, many infrastructure assets remain underutilized. Highly loaded equipment can be desirable, but must be balanced against reliability, operational flexibility, loss of life, and other factors. In addition, an asset utilization plan must anticipate future load growth and continued equipment aging. Asset utilization standards have a large impact on both cost and reliability, and it is critical that utilities approach this topic in a rigorous and justifiable manner.

Audit and Roadmap. The goal of an asset management audit is to assess the current state of the organization, define the desired future state, and identify potential issues that need to be addressed before the future state can be realized. A roadmap lays out a plan, metrics, and milestones so that the desired state can be pursued with a high chance of success. An audit and roadmap are good first steps. They can identify low hanging fruit, organizational barriers, and competence deficiencies. They can also clarify the vision of asset management so that all stakeholders have similar expectations.

Training. Our instructors have taught asset management to hundreds of utility engineers and managers around the world. Training courses can be tailored to the specific needs of each utility, but commonly include one or more of the following topics: theory, history, state of the industry, cost management, performance management, risk management, asset planning, budgeting, project selection, accounting, finance, data & information systems, and making asset management work.

About Quanta Technology. Quanta Technology provides expert-based management and technical consulting for utilities, heavy industry, and related entities. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Quanta Services (NYSE: PWR). Quanta Services, employs about 18,000 people and is both the largest utility union contractor and non-utility contractor in North America.

For more information contact:

James Blackman
Director of Business Development
919-334-3044
jblackman@quanta-technology.com