The Importance of Establishing an Asset Hierarchy within Your CMMS

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Computerised Maintenance Management Software (CMMS) solutions help organisations improve management and performance of an organisation's assets. To make sure this a reality for CMMS users, there must be an underlying hierarchical structure that provides a foundation for those assets.

Hierarchical asset structures are not a copy-and-paste solution, but a system in which people or groups are ranked one above the other according to status or authority. A lot of thought must go into the process to decide why hierarchical structures make sense for an organisation, and what connections can be made between assets.

With the right asset hierarchy, an organisation can greatly improve asset performance. More effective scheduling of preventive and predictive maintenance activities, the ability to charge costs to the lowest possible asset level and the fact that hierarchies allow for Failure Mode & Effects Analysis (FMEA) are just a few examples of the benefits possible.

Asset structures can be set up in a variety of ways, but there are a few underlying principles that any organisation can use. Developing asset hierarchies is all about “starting with the end in mind,” putting in time to establish unique relationships between assets, monitoring asset performance, and prioritising improvement areas.

Hierarchical Asset Structures are a process, and take a lot of work to flesh out. Once your organisation begins to see results from the relationships you construct, new levels of communication can develop. With meaningful data about assets to help drive repair vs. replace decisions, and a way to group equipment PMs to help make the most of your time, your asset organisation and management may skyrocket.

During this session, eMaint Sr. Consultant Roy Rothwell will share his advanced insights into understanding hierarchical structures in CMMS, the importance of structuring three main levels and how each level is used to support RCM activities.