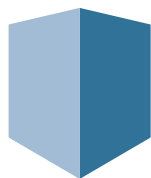


Managing your smart building networked assets and infrastructure

Blog Article



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Based on the predictions of [Research and Markets](#) and [MarketsandMarkets](#), the *smart building* industry, also known as *building automation*, will [grow between 23%](#) and [34%](#) by 2025. Although smart buildings offer significant advantages, managing the networked assets and infrastructure in a smart building poses real challenges.

This article describes what a smart building is, and illustrates the typical challenges with the management of their related infrastructure. Following this, it outlines how a suitable software solution can help you overcome these challenges.



What is a smart building?

A [smart building](#) is a structure with automated and centralized control of the building's operations such as heating, ventilation, lighting, air conditioning, humidity, security, and work space control. These operations are optimized for the occupants' comfort and safety, while energy and maintenance costs are minimized.

To implement these operations, networked devices, such as sensors, controllers, and actuators (some of which are referred to as [IoT devices](#)), are embedded in the smart building network infrastructure. The amount, variety and inter-dependencies of these network devices can constitute a very complex system, that is vulnerable to failure if not managed correctly.

How to successfully manage a smart building?

Typically, the initial focus will be on implementing a [Building Management System \(BMS\)](#), which makes sense when it comes to managing and monitoring the devices themselves. However, a BMS won't track the end-to-end physical layer connectivity (including the patch panel and switch connectivity) and whereabouts of the devices, and this leaves a gap in the capability to effectively troubleshoot and manage operational changes. This can be overcome with the implementation of a cable and asset management software solution to supplement the BMS.

Supplementing the BMS with a cable and asset management software solution

Key requirements of a cable and asset management solution to supplement the BMS are:

- **Integration capabilities:** to achieve the benefits of the systems working together, the solution should offer extensive bi-directional API (Application Programming Interface) capabilities.

