



URI-AMS Asset Manager Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are the advantages of the URI-AMS solution compared to other systems?

URI-AMS is a true web based system that is highly flexible and provides an operational view of an asset across the enterprise. URI-AMS lists all assets and sub-assets by location and shows all pertinent data (maintenance data, deficiencies, life-cycle data, projects, Purchase Orders, Invoices, Leases, Warranties, Insurance and partnership data etc.) pertaining to an asset in a single tool with ease. Assets and all information can be easily transferred by a “drag & drop” approach within the location tree.

What is meant when you say that you provide an operational view of an asset across the enterprise?

Most asset management systems/modules are geared towards providing financial aspects of an asset. The focus is typically on tax structures and reporting. URI-AMS is focused on the utilization, deployment, and preservation of the asset and provides operational data such as warranties, lease information, projects associated with assets, documentation, maintenance history, maintenance schedules, etc. such information is provided in a single window that helps the personnel at the plant/operational level make better informed decisions.

What type of return-on-investment or benefits can I reasonably expect using the URI-AMS?

The return on investment from using URI-AMS is significant and will often be supported by a pay back period of less than a year. The maximum benefit is achieved when all operational data is provided in a single place. This alleviates the need for an organization to maintain several reports from a variety of systems to get to the data URI-AMS is presenting. Typical areas of return include reduced manual effort, improved asset-related decision making and asset service delivery, increased business responsiveness, and various cost avoidance factors.

How are costs established for implementing the system?

The Total Cost of Ownership consists of a one time enterprise-wide license fee, implementation fee and an yearly maintenance fee that is about 20% of the license fee. The Implementation fee typically includes gathering requirements, configuring the system and developing required interfaces. The license fee is typically on an enterprise basis, related to the number of facilities and users, and is often a fraction of competing, comparable solutions.

If we already have an ERP system, what does the URI-AMS solution provide?

In typical ERP systems assets are managed purely from a financial perspective. Many times assets are pooled by wherein the identity of individual assets/sub-assets are lost. URI-AMS maintains the identity of the assets and all pertinent information as well as provides a GIS/CAD interface to location management and asset management. Assets are managed primarily from location but all information is consistent with that contained within the financial systems. All relevant information for assets is accessible by location/asset level and can be presented over the web with a few clicks. URI-AMS can also be used to set up new assets into the ERP system.

Can I sort on a specific category or type of asset to identify all assets of a certain type?

Yes, as long as a standardize nomenclature is being used within the organization. Typically, the tag number or equipment identification number used in other systems provides the necessary nomenclature.

How much effort is it to integrate this solution into my other applications?

URI-AMS is built around the latest ODBC compliant database. This enables us to link to other systems easily by using web services for ODBC compliant systems on a real time basis. With other systems that are not ODBC compliant, we use traditional methods to synchronize data via batch mode.



If we have already deployed a CMMS, is there any value I receive from deploying an additional asset management solution?

Yes. The CMMS systems tend to be very much work order processing centric. In order to obtain asset related operational data often times one has to build reports to view and present operational data. URI-AMS provides that feature easily and can integrate with CMMS systems in the front end to collect maintenance requests and / or present maintenance related data on the back end.

What ERP and other financial systems have you integrate into?

URI-AMS currently integrates with major ERP systems such as SAP and Oracle. Since the system is developed using .Net framework, it is relatively easy to integrate the application with most other ERP systems on a real time basis.

Who do you most frequently compete with?

Our competition is mostly ERP systems such as SAP, CMMS systems such as Maximo and Facility Management systems such as FM Systems and Tririga.

Would it not be better to utilize the asset management and facility management capabilities of my ERP system?

Typical ERP systems do not have strong facility management modules. Facilities are often identified by functional location and are identified by a number.

The asset management functionalities are geared towards financial analysis rather than operational aspects of an asset.

How does the URI solution fit with SOA ?

SOA is an architecture approach that is designed to integrate loosely coupled dynamic applications. URI-AMS uses Web services and Microsoft's .Net framework that makes Service Orientation mainstream and practical.

Can I use the URI-AMS solution to enter asset identification and properties into my other systems?

Yes. Actually this can be accomplished via a hand held device to collect asset related data through a barcode/RFID interface. Once the data is collected, it can be synchronized with the back end ERP/CMMS/Other system for update.

What is the interface that would exist with a document management or CAD system?

CAD and Document Management systems store the documents on their individual storages. URI-AMS stores the index of all these documents at the appropriate object level for ease of locating and viewing the pertinent documents.

How do I use the system for software asset management and what advantage does the URI solution provide over a network management system capabilities?

In URI-AMS, software products are identified as a sub-asset to a parent asset, e.g., a computer (PC, midrange or mainframe alike) and URI-AMS stores pertinent data related to the particular software. Such data could include license key, version, manufacturer, expiration date, warranty, etc. This information is not readily available in many of the network management systems. URI-AMS can interface with the network management applications to provide more complete data for business decision making on optimized software needs for an enterprise.

If I have outsourced my maintenance management or MRO functions, is there any value in implementing the URI solution?

Yes. Even if a company outsources asset maintenance it may need operational data for its assets. Being a web-based solution that can attach the operational data from multiple sources to an asset, URI-AMS is an ideal solution.



We are currently operating with multiple financial systems within the company and different equipment id structures as a result, can you give us a consolidated view of our various assets?

Yes, there are two approaches which can be taken depending on degree of consolidation you are looking for. First, we can either approach it with interfaces back to the respective financial systems where you would have access to all information by location but you may not be able to sort for common items across the total organization. As an alternate approach, we can take one system as primary and build equipment identification translation tables relating the various equipment id structures to the primary. In this manner, you could have a single view of all assets across the entire organization and could sort for specific items enterprise wide.