



Probably the largest Asset Management Project in the UK!



Customer Focus

Project: Swindon Borough Council

Local Authority:

Swindon Borough Council

The project:

The project was in preparation for the introduction of Single Education Plans in 2005. SBC was seeking to improve its Asset Management Plan information base. This asset planning process would ensure the high level of investment in schools was prioritised in a rigorous, fair and transparent manner, based on a full survey of the needs of all schools.



During 2005 Cad-Capture undertook, for Swindon Borough Council (SBC), what is probably one of the largest Asset Management projects ever in the UK, with a contract value in excess of £725,000.

Following publication in OJEU and a competitive tendering process, Cad-Capture was awarded the contract by Swindon Borough Council for its 'Swindon Schools Asset Management Project (SSAMP)'.

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The plan aimed to be responsive to local priorities and to government policies and objectives. Effective capital investment in schools, which ensures they are in good repair, fully maintained and sufficient and suitable for modern learning and teaching needs, would support all other policies and strategies to raise educational achievement.

A total of 79 schools (65 Primary, 8 Secondary and 6 Special) were included in the project, with a total building GEA (Gross External Area) in excess of 215,000 m² and a total site area in the region of 2,000,000 m².

There were a number of surveys to be undertaken as part of the project including:

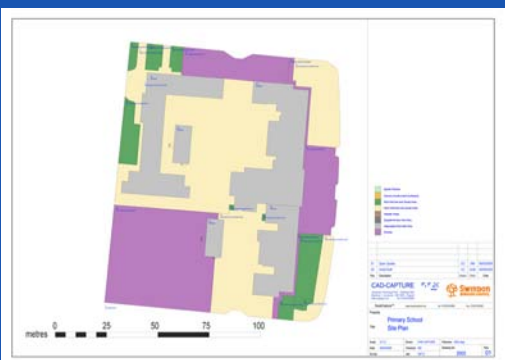
1. Full measured building surveys and external site surveys
2. Condition surveys:
 - a) Building
 - b) M & E (plus the preparation of an Asset Register)
3. Accessibility Audits
4. Suitability Assessments

As a result of the full measured building surveys and external site surveys, SBC also required accurate and detailed floor and site plans in AutoCAD format together with accommodation schedules for all the schools.



During the tendering process, due to the complexity of the project and the number of surveys required, Cad-Capture decided to partner with NPS Property Consultants. NPS is an industry specialist in the areas of Condition Surveys and Accessibility Audits.

Having successfully worked with NPS on other contracts and with Cad-Capture's vast and proven experience in managing large scale data capture and conversion projects, it was felt that this partnership would be the best and most ideal way of fulfilling all the project requirements.



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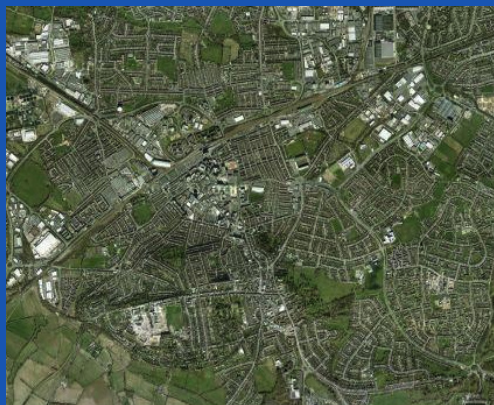
Customer Focus

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Cad-Capture was required to implement its expertise in:

- 1) Building Surveying
- 2) Creation of Intelligent CAD Files
- 3) Asset Management Software Consultancy
- 4) Integrating Intelligent CAD Files into the Technology Forge Asset Management System



This approach, the vast experience of both Cad-Capture and NPS on other Asset Management projects and the Intelligent CAD Files™ offered by Cad-Capture, were the main reasons SBC selected Cad-Capture (in partnership with NPS) for the 'Swindon Schools Asset Management Project (SSAMP)'.

By carrying out the full measured surveys and producing the Intelligent CAD Files™ first, and then using them as the basis for all the other surveys, ensured there was a consistency of room/space numbering on all the other survey data. It also meant accurate maintenance costs were arrived at by using precise spatial information exported from the Intelligent CAD Files™.

Another requirement of the project was that all the data collected during the surveys and the CAD files had to be capable of being loaded into SBC's existing database.

As the project progressed, it became apparent that the existing database was not best suited for the storage and retrieval of the survey data and the viewing of the CAD files.

Therefore, SBC decided to go out to tender for the supply of a dedicated Asset Management Software package. As a result of the tendering process a short list of two possible suppliers was drawn up. The two potential suppliers were then invited to present their solutions to the SSAMP Project Board.

Realising Cad-Capture's experience in working with most of the industry leading suppliers of Asset Management Software, the SSAMP Project Board asked if Cad-Capture would attend the presentations and assist in its selection of a preferred supplier.

The presentations and recommendations of both Cad-Capture and the SSAMP Project Board resulted in the selection of The Technology Forge's (TF) Asset Management software package.

It was felt that the TF solution offered the best way of storing and retrieving data and was ideally suited for the storage and viewing of Cad-Capture's Intelligent CAD Files™.

During the following months, Cad-Capture worked closely with The Technology Forge and SBC to finalise the software customisation to ensure the Council got the best out of the software and data it would store.

By the end of December 2005, all the surveys and Intelligent CAD Files™ had been completed and all the data had been supplied to SBC.

This major contract was completed within budget.

Due to the excellent work carried out by Cad-Capture on the main project, further enhancements of the Intelligent CAD Files™ was commissioned by SBC and took place during early 2006, and included:

- Room Colour Shading
- Multi-Layouts
- AIMS (Area Indicator Maps)
- Enhanced printing capability
- Multi-page PDFs
- NIA (Net Internal Area analysis)

John Andrews, School Asset Management Planner (ScAMP), Swindon Borough Council, said: "Cad-Capture's expertise, professionalism and can do attitude have been instrumental in the implementation of the Swindon Borough Council School's Asset Management system."

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