

# A guide to poor project information & how to eliminate it.



## Have you ever stopped to think about how much poor data might be costing your construction company?

According to research by the Get It Right Initiative (GIRI), it could be millions each year. Many companies seemingly muddle through with poor data. But to do so can be catastrophic.



### Poor data in action

Have you heard the one about escalators and the shopping mall? Construction on this particular project seemed to be going smoothly until it came to installing the escalators. Suddenly, the team realised there was a giant concrete strut where the steps should go. The cost of solving this data-led mishap exceeded £400k. Subsequent delays ran into months.

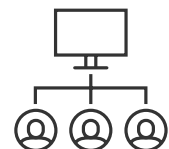
It's the type of story you will have heard many times before. Construction crises stemming from poor data are all too commonplace.

Estimates put the costs of rework resulting from poor project information as high as **£18bn** each year in the UK alone.

Read on to discover the common causes and repercussions of poor data. More importantly, learn how to eradicate poor data altogether.

### The poor data problem

Research by KMPG shows that 84% of company CEOs worry about poor data. When you consider that 75% of UK businesses waste an average of 14% of revenue due to poor data, perhaps we should be asking why more CEOs aren't worried.



**£197.8m** wasted by UK companies each year because of poor data (Experian Data Quality)

**84%** - the number of CEOs worried about the cost of poor data (KMPG)

## Poor project information & construction



Nowhere does the idiom 'time is money' ring truer than in construction, where mistakes are dangerous and expensive.

Given how important good data is in our industry, you may be surprised to learn the extent of our poor data problem.

The average construction worker wastes almost **2 days/week** on non-priority activity. That's almost **35%** of the average worker's time.

**14 hours** per person per week are lost on non-priority activities

### Poor data leads to time-wasting for a variety of reasons.

Data gaps > mistakes > rework > additional planning & management

Poor data communication > work duplication, stress & team conflict

Disorganised data > time wasted searching for information

All this adds up to create a dizzying picture. The FMI study broke up average weekly non-optimal activity as follows:

Time wasted each week by construction workers



spent looking for data  
and information



spent on conflict  
resolution



spent on mistakes  
and rework

## Putting a cash value on wasted time



When we start to consider the cash value of such time-wasting, we start to see how deeply poor data harms the construction industry. Below, we isolate the potential costs of rework alone in the UK.

Estimated **30%** of construction is rework (Egan 1998)

**52%** rework caused by poor data (FMI industry report 2018)

UK construction contributes **£117bn** each year to UK economy (Commons Library 2019)

Based on these figures:

**£35bn** spent on rework each year in the UK

**£18.3bn** spent on rework due to poor data in UK each year

## Why is poor data happening?

The main cause of poor data is the lack of a common platform to efficiently share and store data. Effective communication and robust systems are key.

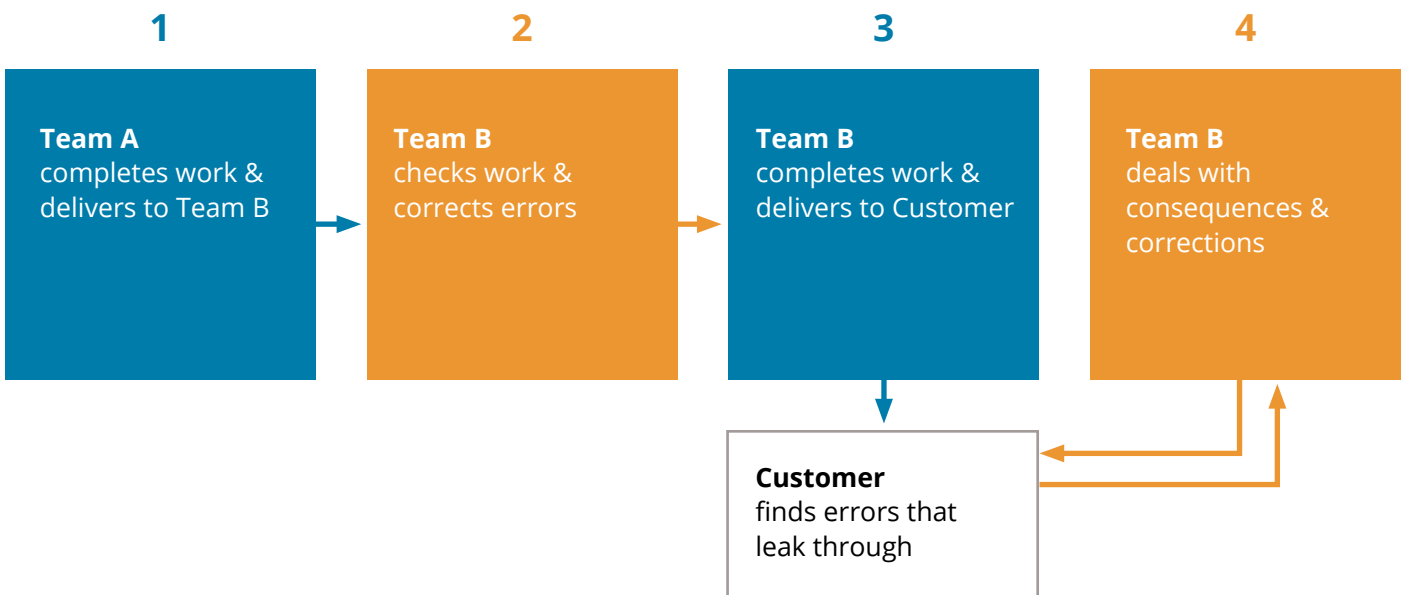
### Common root causes of poor data

- Paper documents being lost, damaged or withheld
- Unresponsive team members failing to share data
- Reliance on multiple platforms, creating 'data labyrinths'
- Inefficient data management systems cause time-pressure & errors

Although the construction industry has the technology to improve data management, research shows it is not being exploited.

Less than **20%** of companies regularly use apps other than text or email to access data & collaborate.

### The 'Hidden Data Factory'



If constructions workers could eliminate poor data, work could be completed and delivered to the customer in 1 phase, rather than 4 and effort could be redirected into productive pursuits.

Time could be spent:



**Organising worksite**



**Communicating**



**Coordinating & executing project**



## The benefits of effective data management, or 'good data'

### **Increased project efficiency**

- Accurate data reduces mistakes.
- Mistakes that are made are spotted & fixed quickly.
- One mistake leads to another. Bad data will snowball. Good data will not.

### **Effective data systems are easy to follow & get right.**

- Eliminate data sprawl – find documents when you need them.
- Data led schedules keep your team focussed on optimal activity.

### **Cost savings**

- With improved efficiency comes reduced costs.
- Spend budgets on driving your project towards completion, instead of on rework.
- Decisions based on good data are informed and effective.

### **Enhanced customer satisfaction**

- Streamline your project & deliver better quality builds.
- Communicate better with stakeholders & nurture good relationships.
- Deliver project to spec, on time & in budget.

### **Improved reputation, sales conversion & revenue growth**

- Happy customers are repeat customers & recommend you to others.
- Improved reputation boosts sale conversion.

### **Simplified compliance**

- Stay on top of compliance. Spot & fix compliance issues when they arise.

## **Eliminate poor project information with CDE**

Digitised data management through a Common Data Environment (CDE) is far superior to traditional paper methods. But surprisingly, many construction companies are yet to exploit the benefits of CDE. Modernising data management provides a huge opportunity for the whole construction industry to become more efficient and more productive.



## Choose Zutec for your CDE

Companies that fail to address poor data, will be left behind. To improve your data management, look no further than Zutec.

**Our user-friendly CDE platform allows your team to:**

- Manage every data element in your project easily & efficiently.
- Store data securely on a single platform.
- Access, upkeep & share data in real time as your project progresses.
- Follow bespoke workflows & schedule notifications to ensure no stone is left unturned.
- Create & follow bespoke workflows – work around *your* processes, not someone else's interpretation of your processes.
- Schedule notifications to ensure no stone is left unturned.
- Collate & analyse data for 'the big picture' so you can make the right critical decisions.
- Work on one unified toolset from design through construction to handover.

The Zutec CDE will keep your project on track from planning through to handover. It will make your team more efficient, minimise errors, reduce your costs and ultimately make your customers very happy.

### **With Zutec, only pay for what you need**

One of the things that makes Zutec's data management offering unique is that it's modular. We know that no two projects are ever alike, so with Zutec, unlike other CMS providers, you can save money by paying for only the services you need.

**Eliminate bad data from your organisation now.**

Contact Zutec to find out more.

[www.zutec.com](http://www.zutec.com)

