

# The Impact of Owners' Digital Strategies on Contractors

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188 owners participated in an online survey from November 2024 to February 2025.

- Responses recruited by Dodge, NIBS, Autodesk, Esri, Trimble, ARTBA, COAA, CURT, DBIA, Infotech and LCI
- Types of organizations who responded:
  - Local Government: 33%
  - Private/Commercial Company: 29%
  - Public/Private Institution: 19%
  - State/Federal Agency: 18%

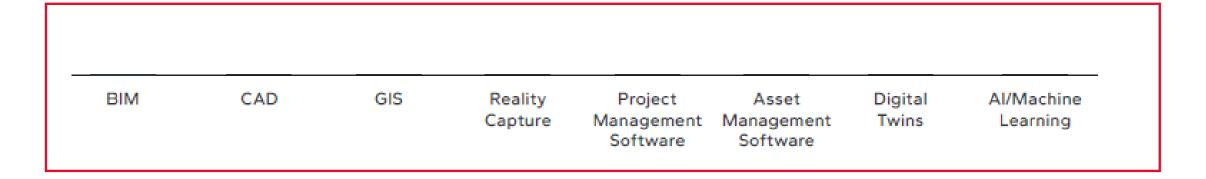
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## Owner Engagement With Digital Technologies

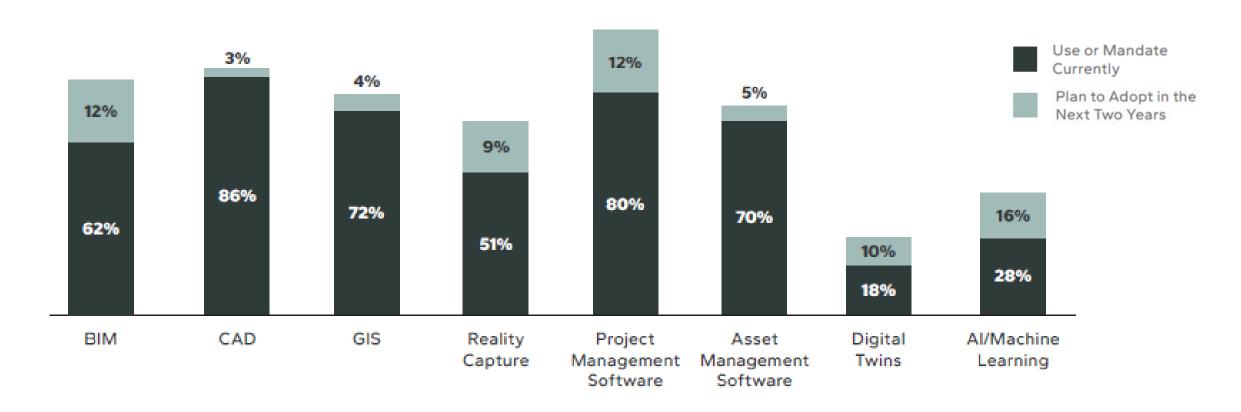


## Study Measured Engagement With 7 Technologies



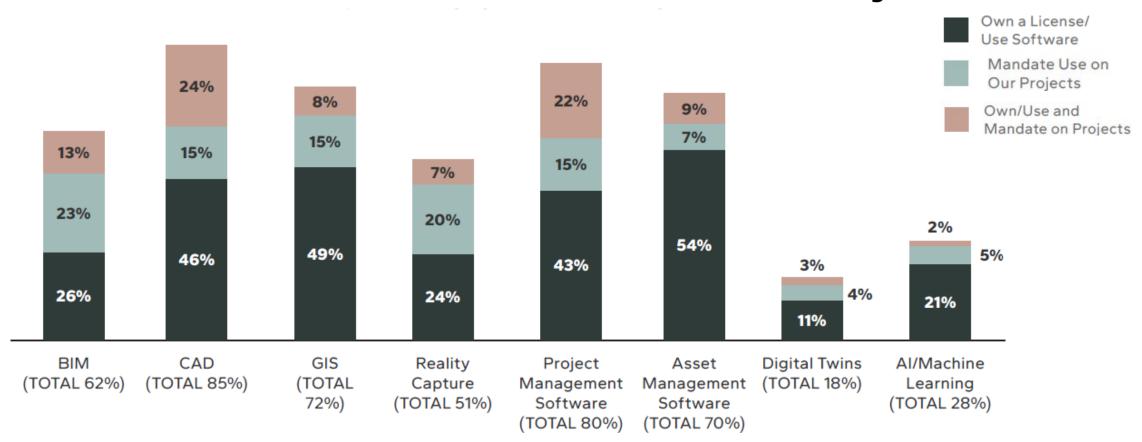


#### High Levels of Current Engagement With Most Tech





#### Most Own the Tech Used on Their Projects





## Less Than Half Use for Specific Activities

Planning and Design	Design/ Model Analysis	Construction	Operations/Asset Mgmt
Produce construction documents: 49%	Create quantities and cost estimates: 44%	Coordinate design and construction: 49%	Asset management: 41%
Capture existing conditions for modeling etc.: 39%	Validate design intent and details against project requirements: 31%	Layout construction: 46%	Monitoring/ managing physical space of assets: 24%
Establish project requirements: 38%	Analyze design to assess functionality and compliance with requirements: 28%	Compile record deliverables at project completion: 38%	
Author design: 18%	Extract model data to develop project and/or lifecycle cost estimates: 22%	Sequence construction: 32%	
Generate fabrication details: 15%		Author temporary work: 9%	

## Owner Engagement With Data



The study drew on existing frameworks for a data-centric organization to examine owner engagement with data. Out of 42 total approaches measured, 27 (in these categories) are measured in a similar fashion to allow for a summary analysis.

#### **Organizational Policies and Investments**

- Technology infrastructure
- Continual improvement
- Core principles
- Resources
- Process for new technology adoption

#### **Creating/Using Data for Project Management**

- Data-related goals
- Documented approach to information security
- Data-related approaches to achieve goals
- Education and training modules for digital project delivery
- Defined change management strategy
- Automated quality control
- Selecting an information champion

#### People-Related Approaches That Support Better Data Management

- Regular training on tech and data use
- Role with responsibility for data use in each business unit

#### **Data-Related Approaches That Support Collaboration**

- Internal processes and requirements for use of project delivery and asset data
- Define data-centric project procurement, processes, qualifications and contractual requirements

#### **Digitized Operational Tasks**

- Manage assets
- Monitor performance
- Manage space

#### Approaches to Leverage Data Across Org Integrate data sources for efficient data transfer across projects

- Integrate data and information across functional/business units
- Use industry data standards
- Data quality control process
- Common library of data-rich model components

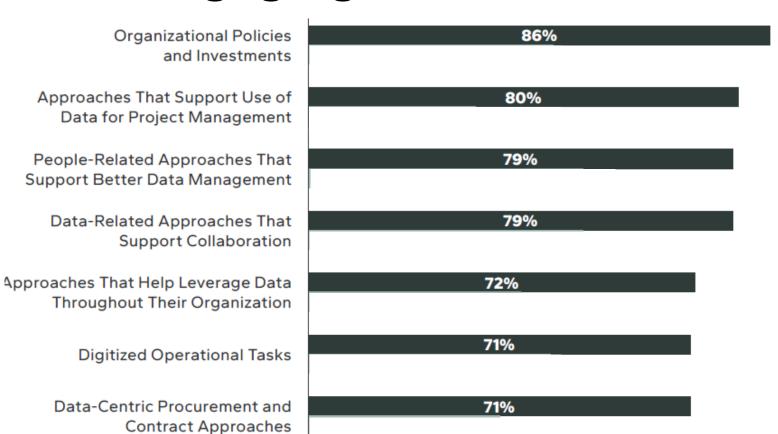
#### **Data-Centric Procurement and Contracts**

- Contractual documents supporting datacentric project delivery
- Well-defined digital delivery requirements
- Procurement strategies supporting datacentric project delivery
- Data-centric selection criteria for project teams

Other approaches included in the study: the use of metrics and tracking for many of the approaches above; digitization level of asset handover information; level of deployment of digital asset management approaches; frequency of requiring project teams to use guidelines/plans for data creation/sharing/reus;; requiring data standards during handover; automated performance management tracking



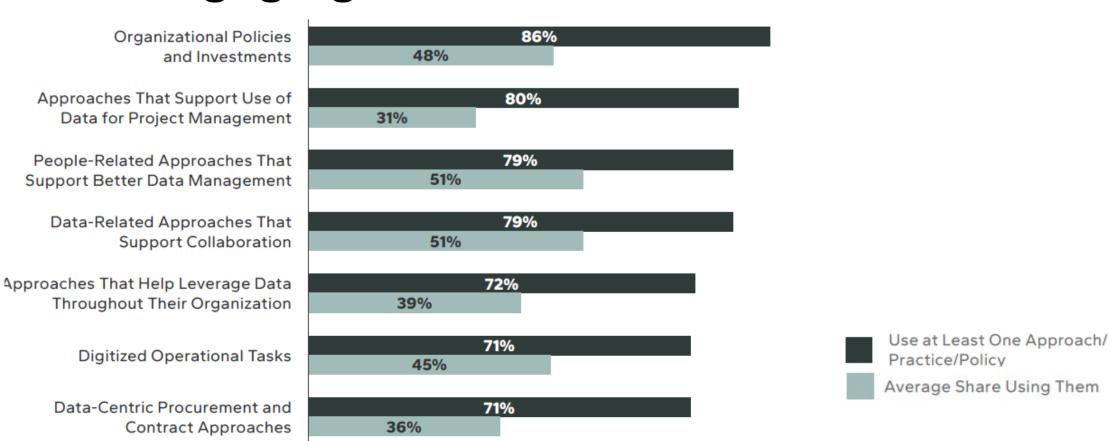
#### **Owners Engaging With Data**



Use at Least One Approach/ Practice/Policy



#### Owners Engaging With Data But Can Do More





#### Top Six Data-Centric Practices Used by Owners

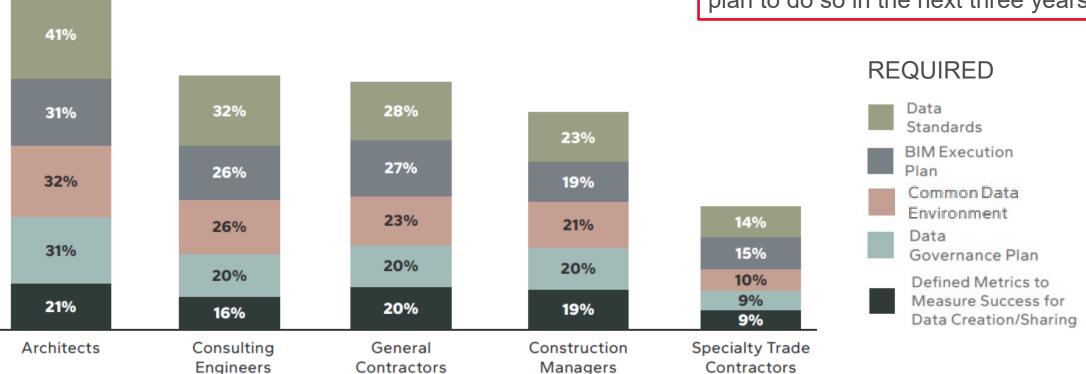
- 1. Internal processes and requirements for the production and use of project delivery and asset data (70%)
- 2. Investing in technology infrastructure (64%)
- Digitize asset management tasks (61%)
- Require project teams to use data standards (57%)
- Regular education/training on technology and data use (55%)
- Implemented a quality assurance process and metrics to document conformance to standards and policies on at least 50% of their projects (53%)





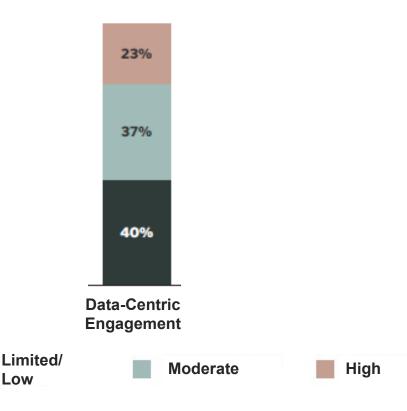
#### **Current Data Requirements**

72% of those who do not require data standards at handover now (54% currently) plan to do so in the next three years



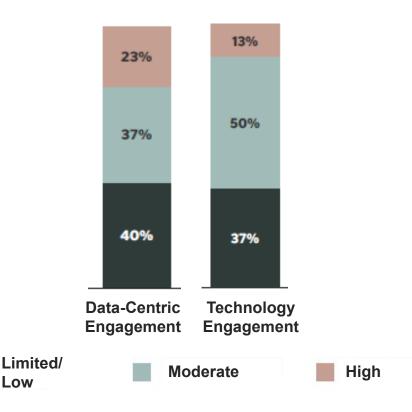


## **Data Centric Engagement Index**





### **Data Centric Engagement Index**

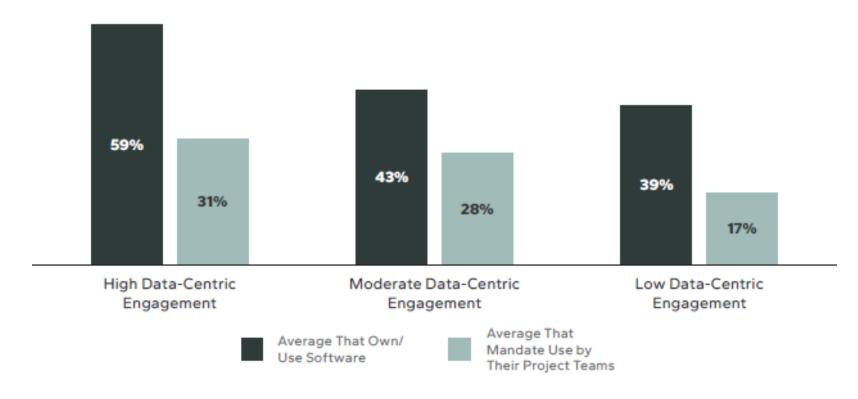


## Impact of Technology Use and Data-Centric Engagement



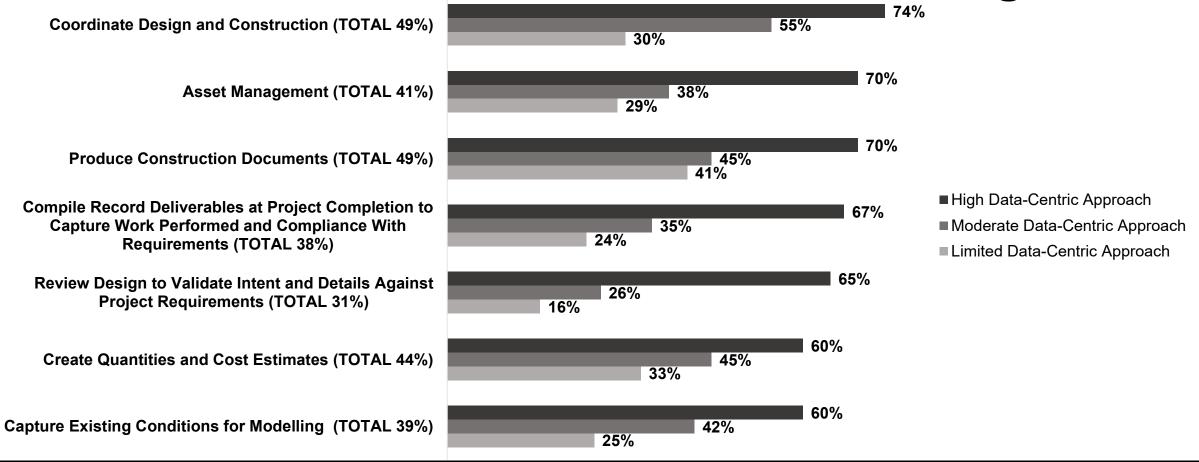
#### Data-Centric Owners Use More Digital Tech

Use or Require Use of Technology (By Level of Data Centric Engagement)



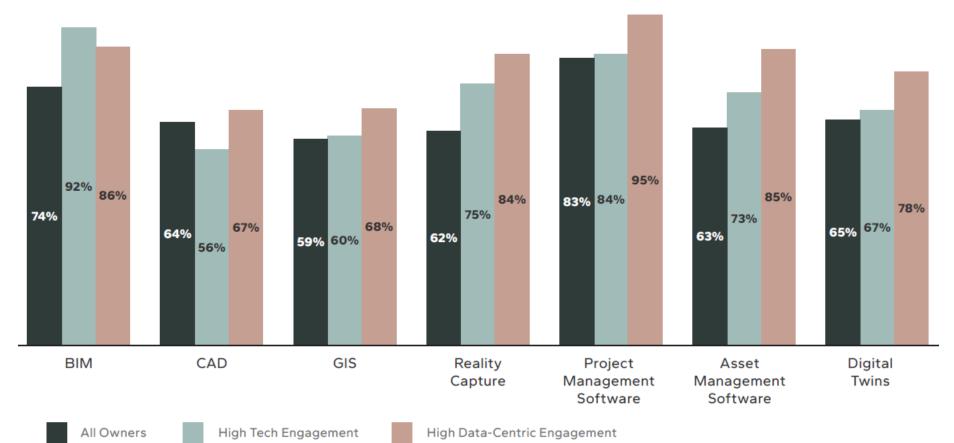


### Data-Centric Owners Do More With Their Digital Tech





#### Data-Centric Owners Are More Engaged on Projects

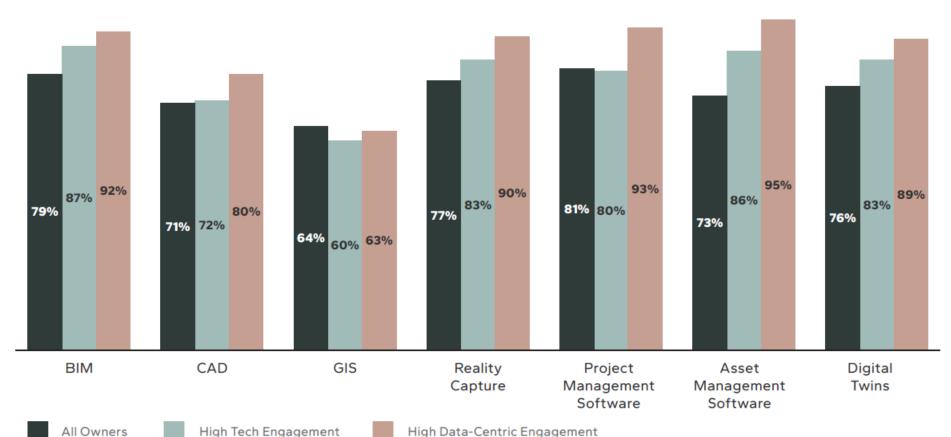


#### <u>Includes at least one</u> <u>process improvement:</u>

- Tracking project progress
- Greater transparency about design and construction activities
- More collaboration with the project team
- Better ability to convey goals and provide input to project team



#### **Data-Centric Owners Have Better Project Outcomes**

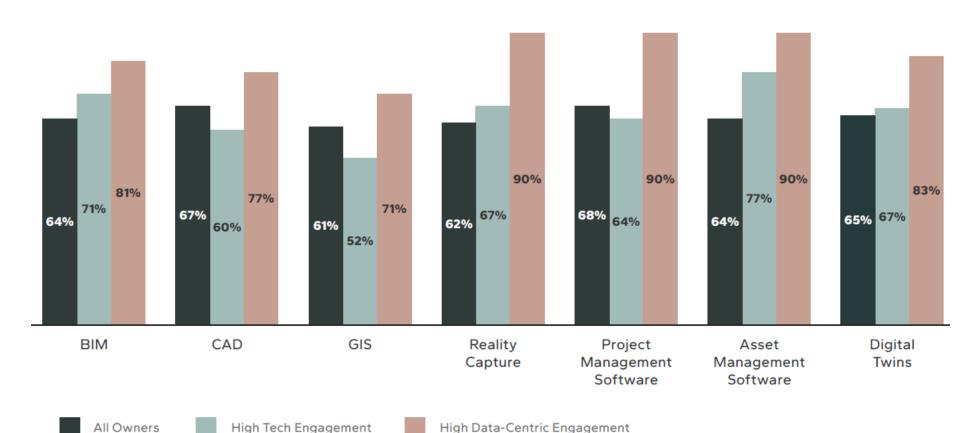


Includes at least one improved outcome from using technology:

- More reliable schedule
- More reliable cost estimates
- Improved quality
- Improved safety
- Improved sustainability
- Asset exceeds expected performance



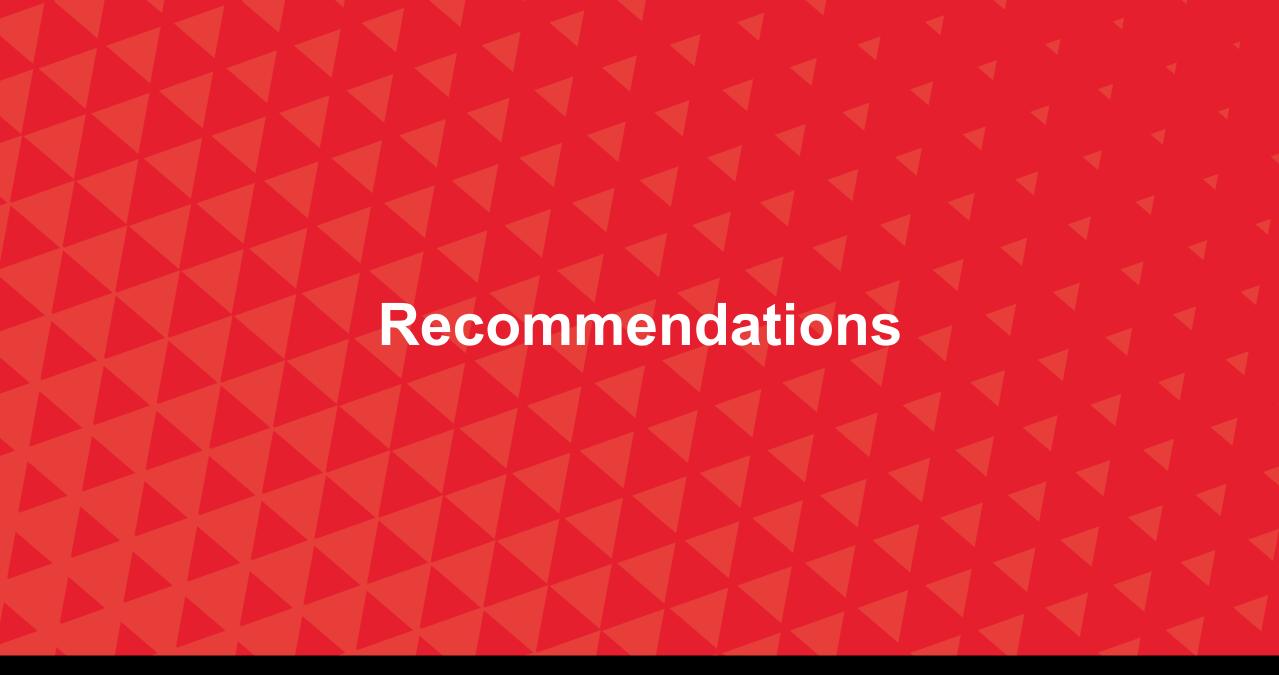
#### **Data-Centric Owners Use Their Project Data More**



Includes using digital deliverables for:

- Planning
- Operations and maintenance
- Asset management

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#### **Recommendations for Contractors**

- Build your data management skills to help meet client demands, including familiarity with data standards, setting up good digital workflows, etc.
- Consider how your data requirements for consultants and subcontractors need to align with your data deliverables to owners.
- Make sure you establish the owner's data needs and requirements when you begin working on a project.
- Be prepared to demonstrate your company's digital acumen when seeking work.





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