

FIS

FINISHES & INTERIORS SECTOR

Managing a systemised approach to construction

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Jim Parlour
Head of Technical, FIS

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Our speakers



Al Walker

UCL



Peter Long

Divisional Fire and Certification Director
Optima Products



Tony Millen

Managing Director, Fire DNA

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AI Walker – UCL

Why systems thinking is essential to compliance

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Compliance isn't enough.

What is a system?



“an interconnected set of elements that is coherently organised in a way that achieves something”



Machine



Organic



Political / Social



Environmental / Social

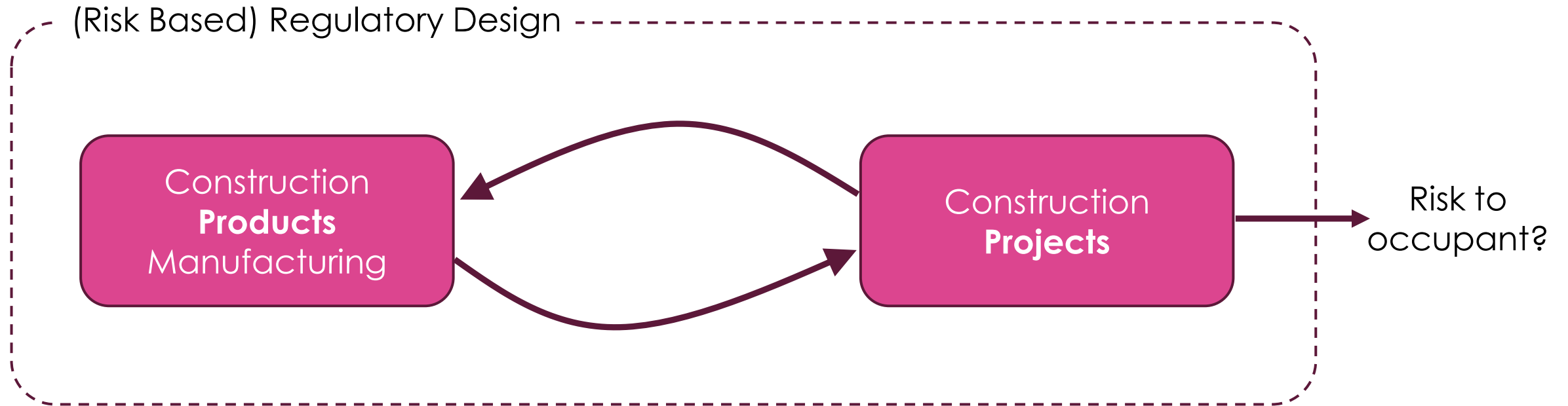


Interrelationships



What is systems thinking?



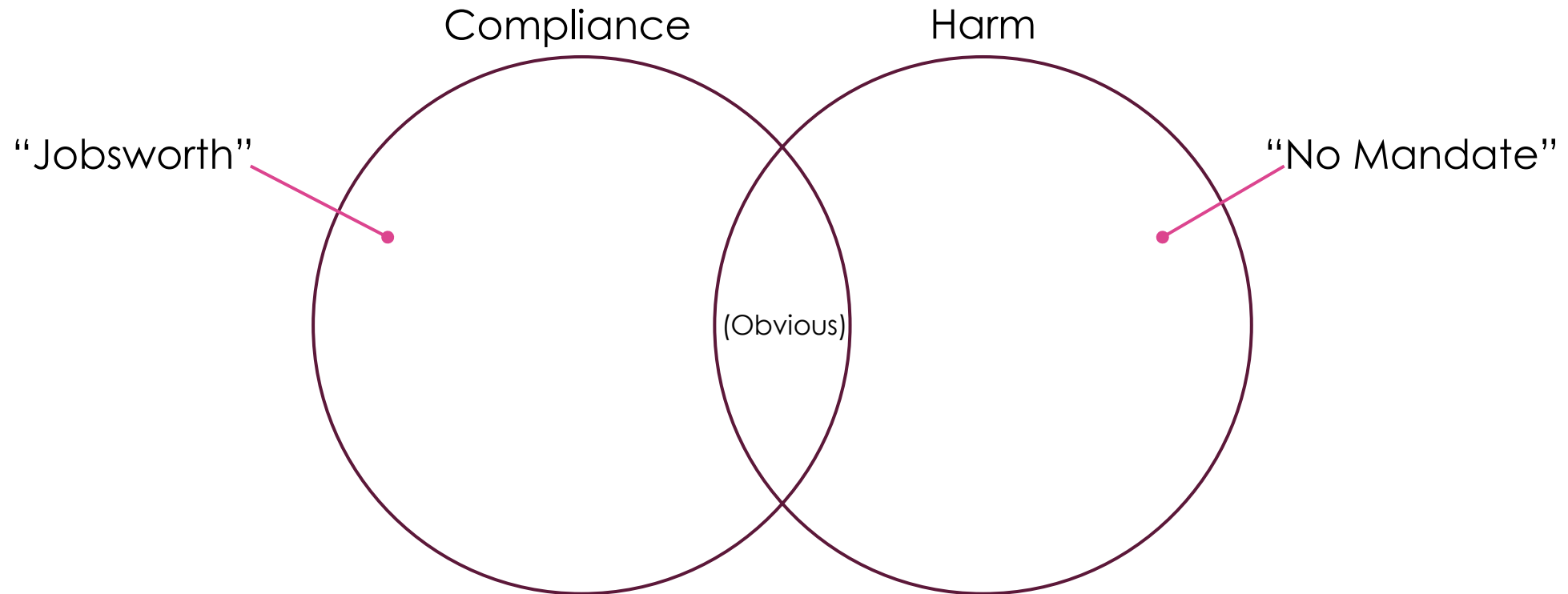


How might systems thinking improve compliance?



Is compliance enough?

Regulatory Culture/Environment





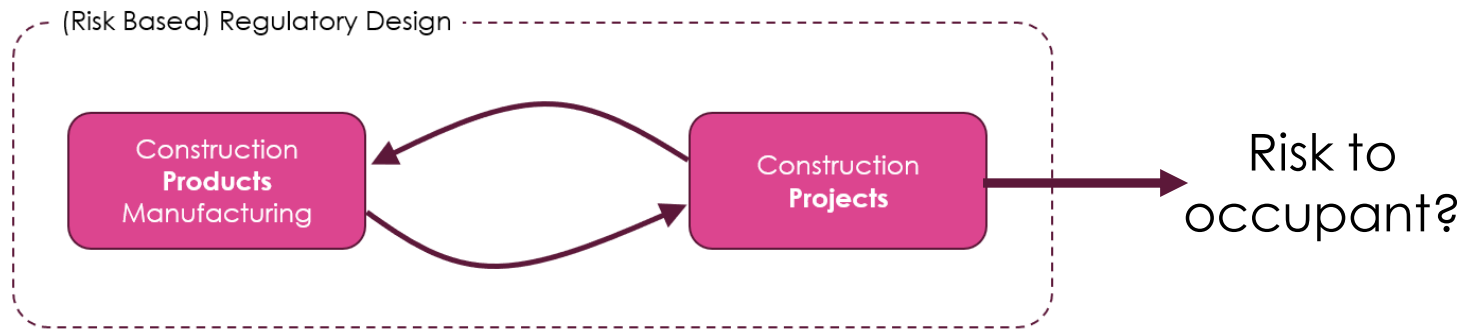
BUSINESSILLUSTRATOR.COM

Adapted from: <https://www.businessillustrator.com/product/obstacles-to-business-agility-cartoon/>



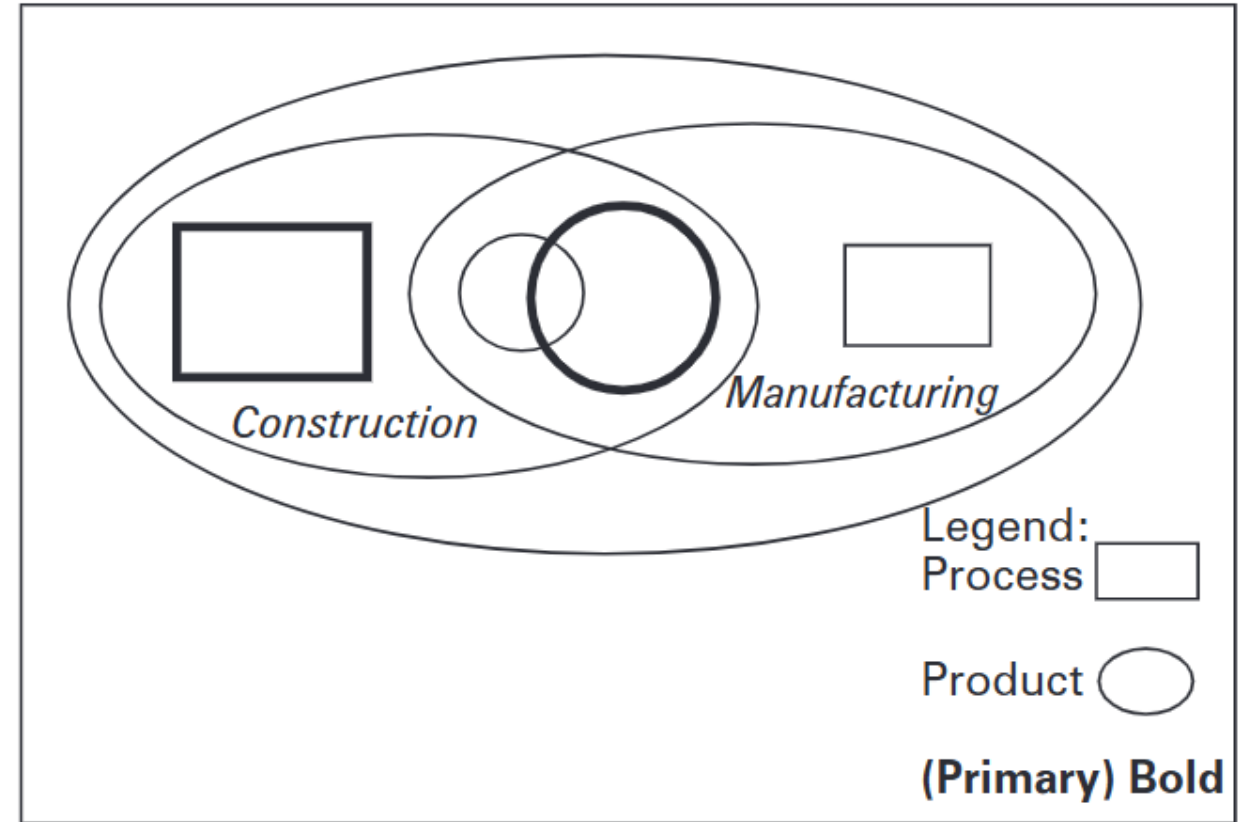
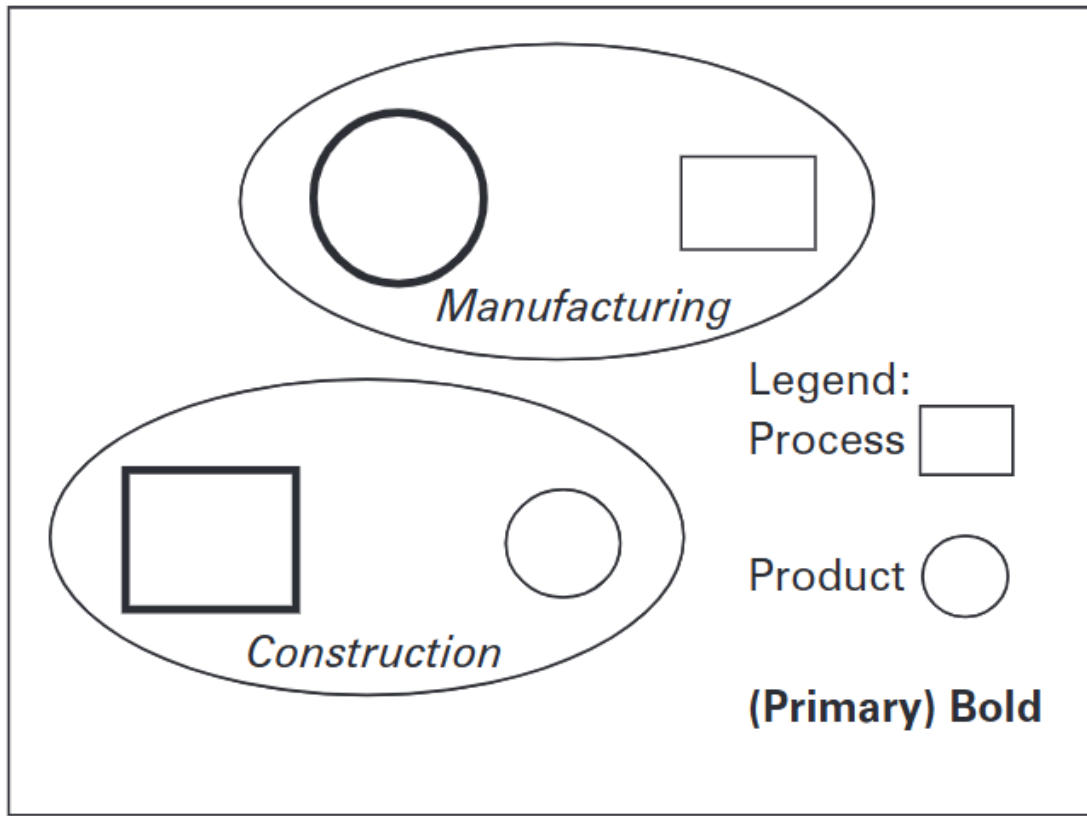
“Culture arises from actions in the world, ways of doing things which may never be articulated, and which may not be capable of articulation.

So, it follows that cultural change is an evolutionary process from the present, not an idealised future state design.”



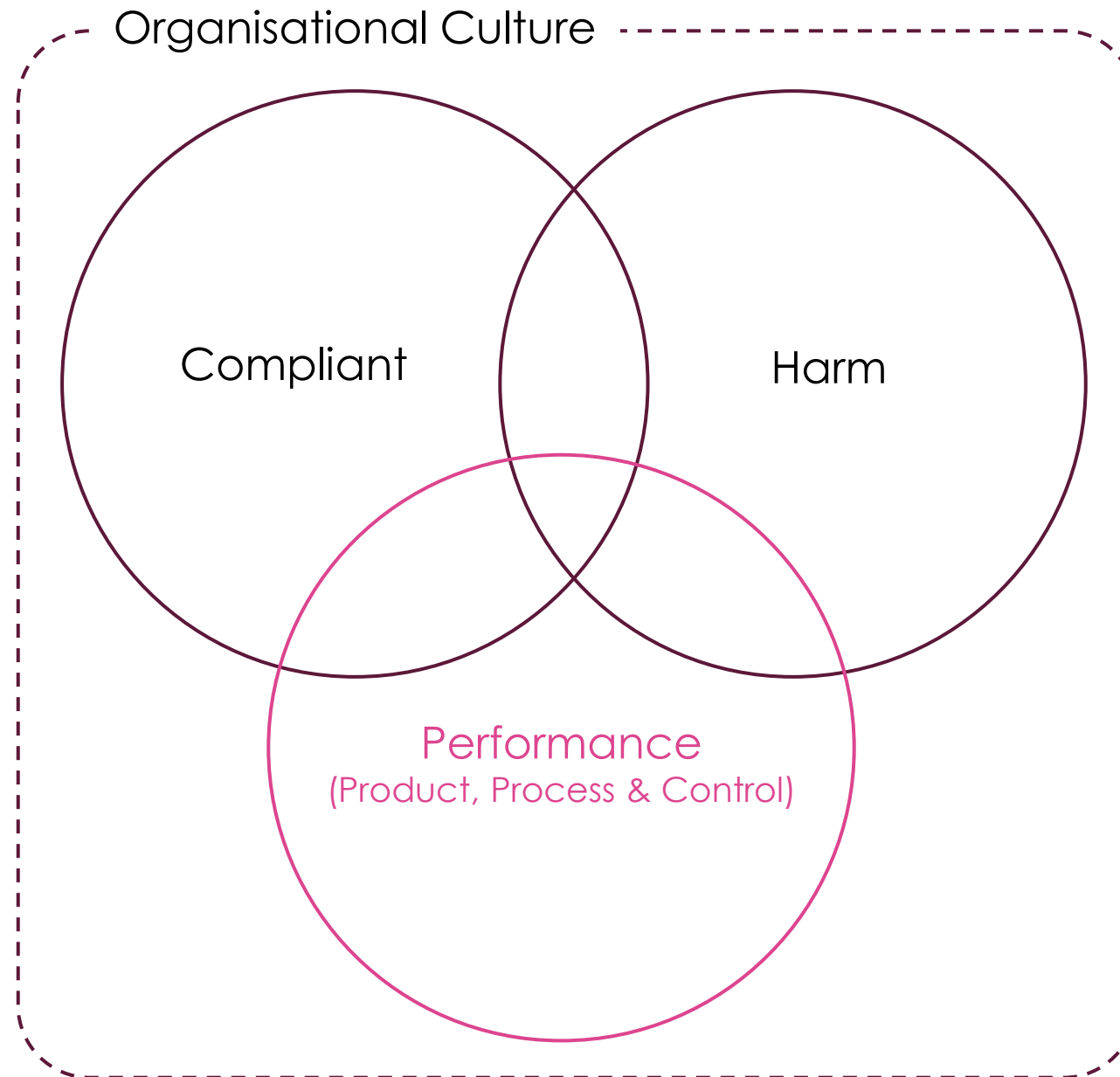
“The main findings are that the culture existing in construction has significant differences to that found within the manufacturing industries.

It will not be possible to transfer management tools from one industrial sector to the other without substantial redesign.”



*What does that mean for designing and implementing a
“golden thread”?*

Implications for FIS Risk Management





Compliance isn't enough.

Peter Long

Divisional Fire and Certification Director, Optima Products

Testing, classification and real-world performance

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Managing a systemised approach to construction

Testing, classification and
real-world performance

Peter Long

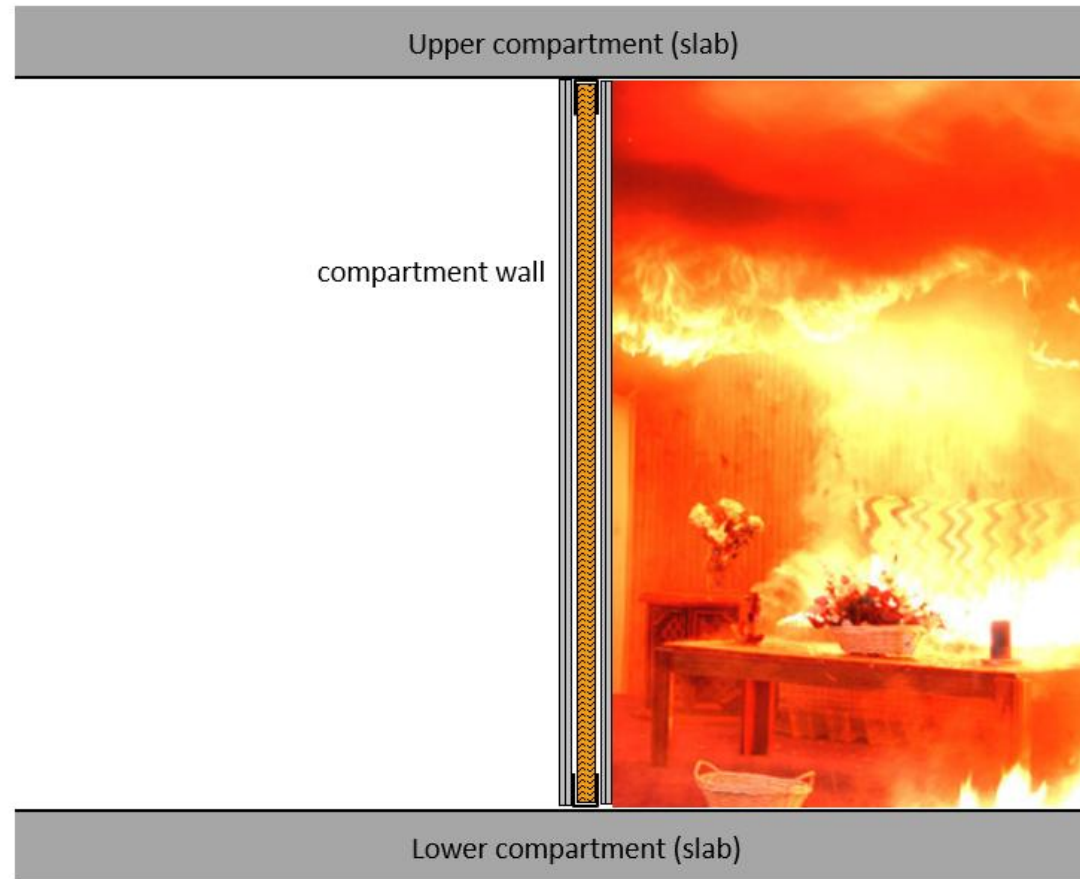
Fire & Certification Director, Optima Systems

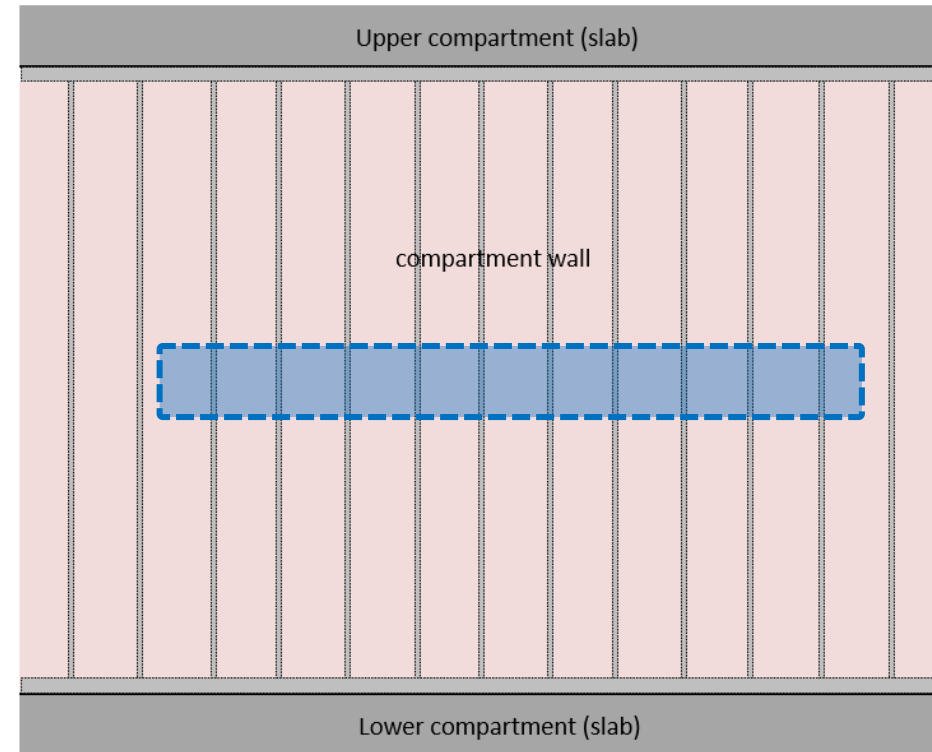
What is a system?

A set of connected things or devices that operate together

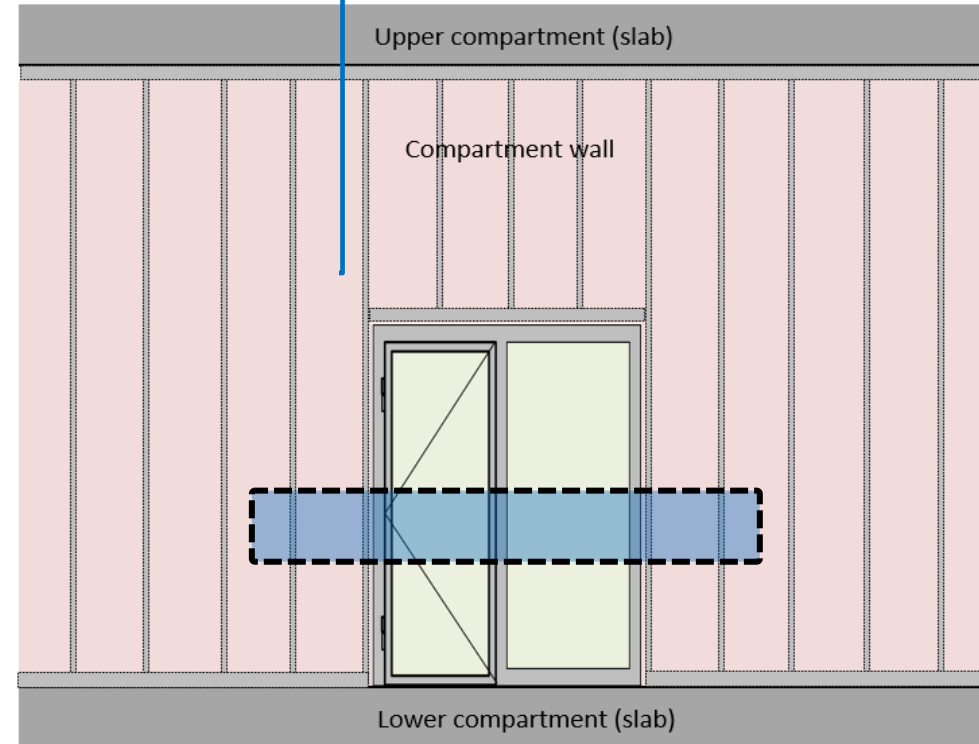
Compartmentation?

Contain a fire to the compartment of origin

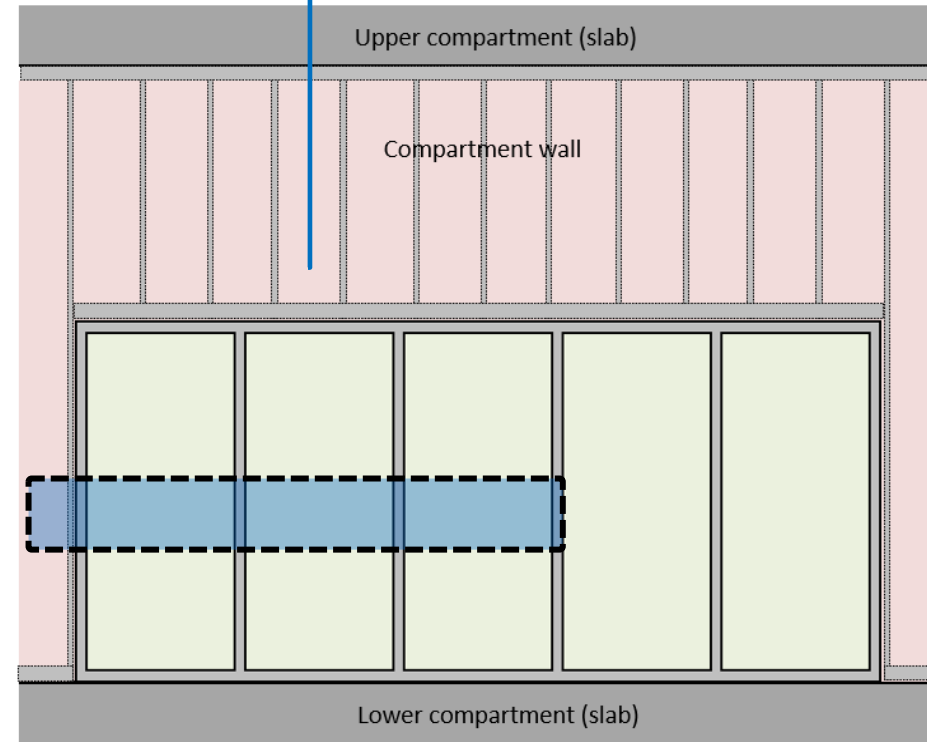




1. the solid wall

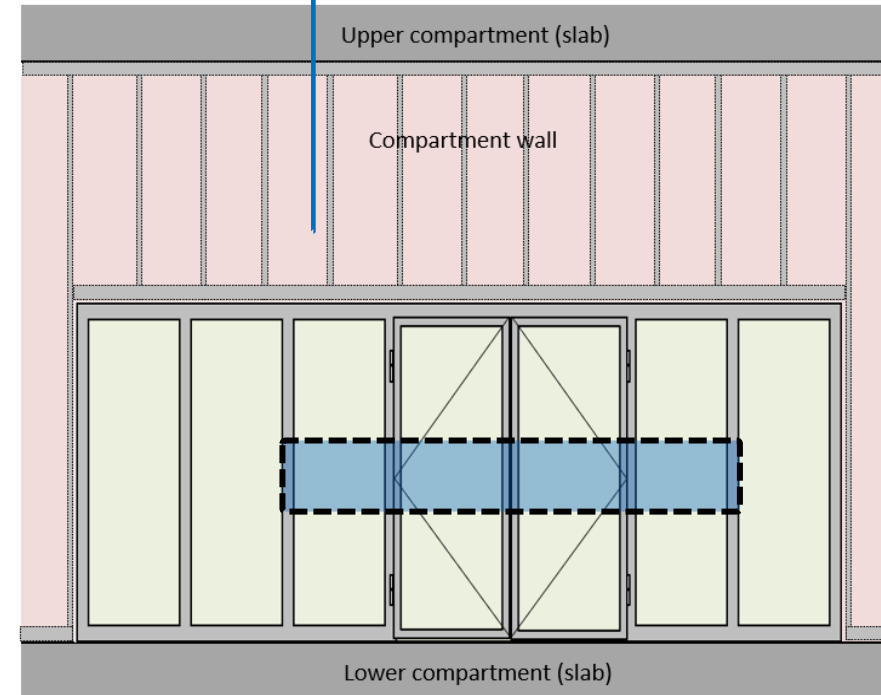


2. a fire door



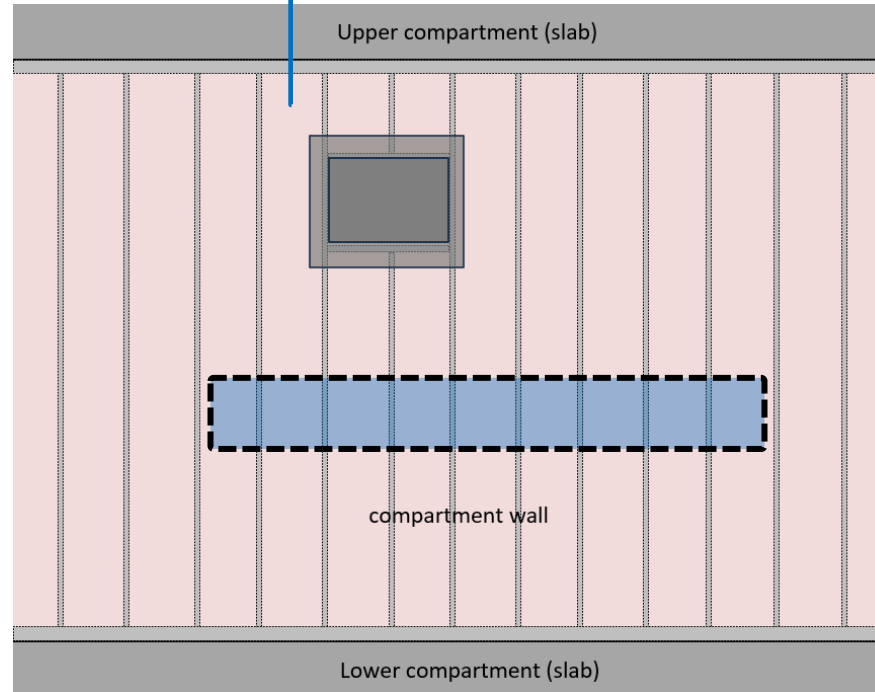
3. fixed glazing

fire test configuration



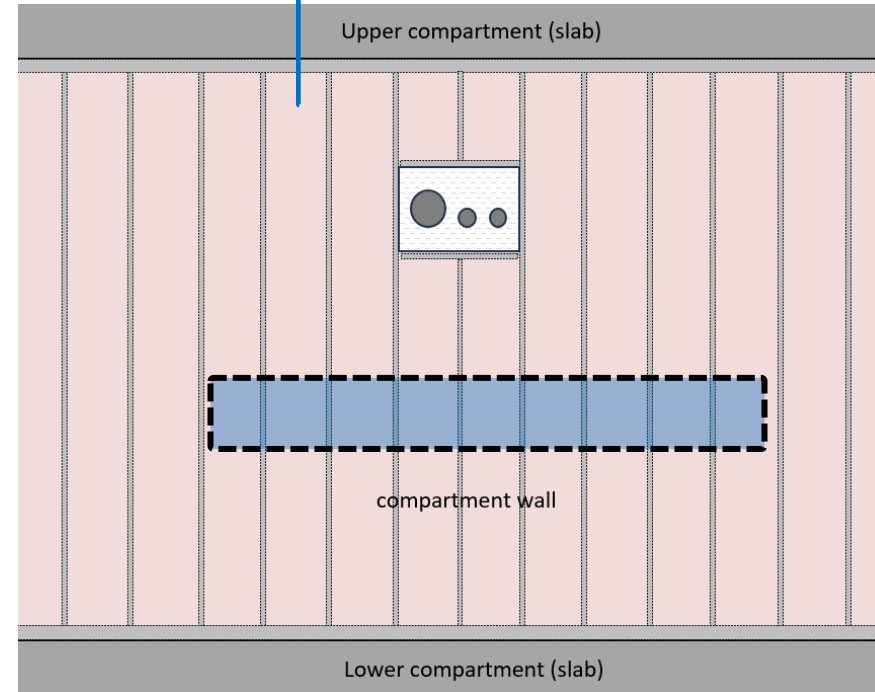
4. fire door & glazing

fire test configuration

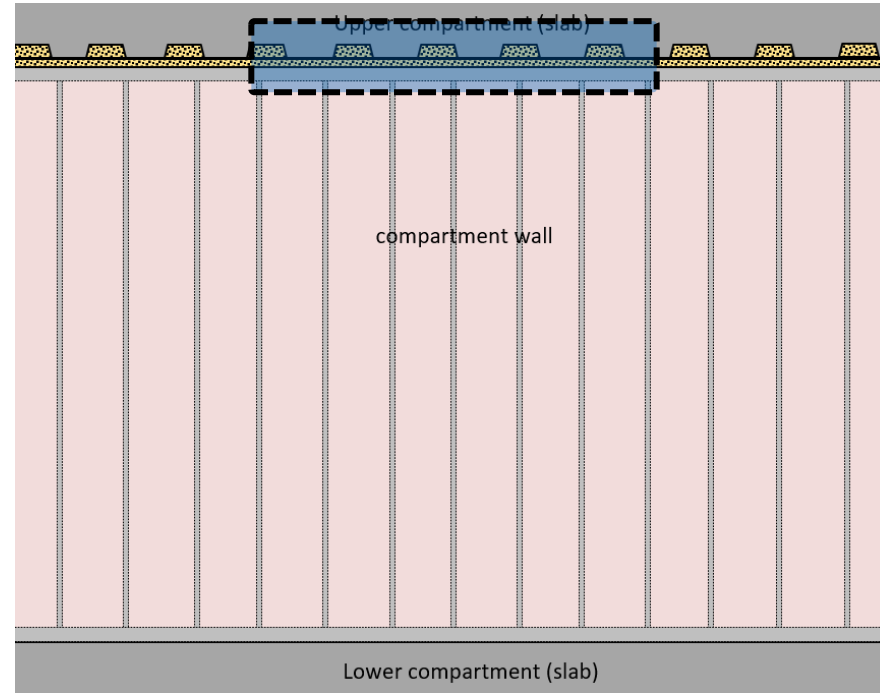


5. ducts with dampers

fire test configuration

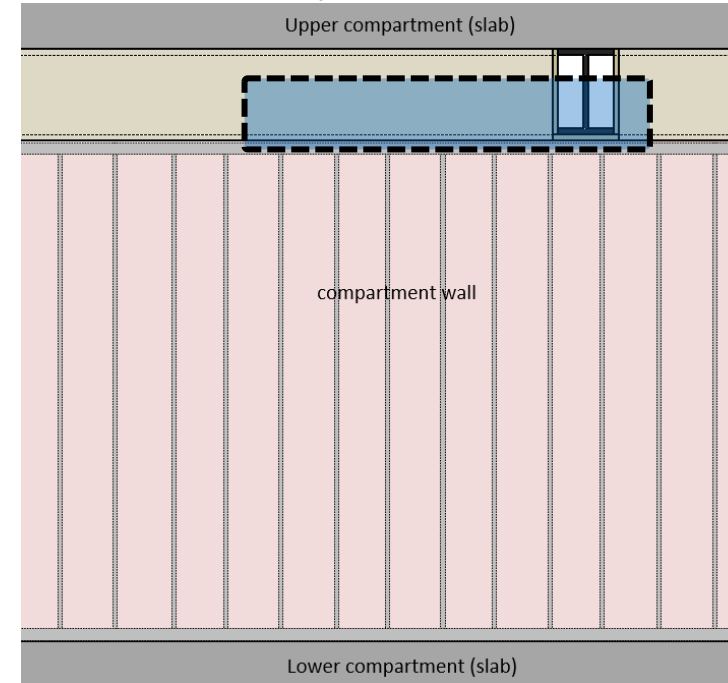


6. pipework



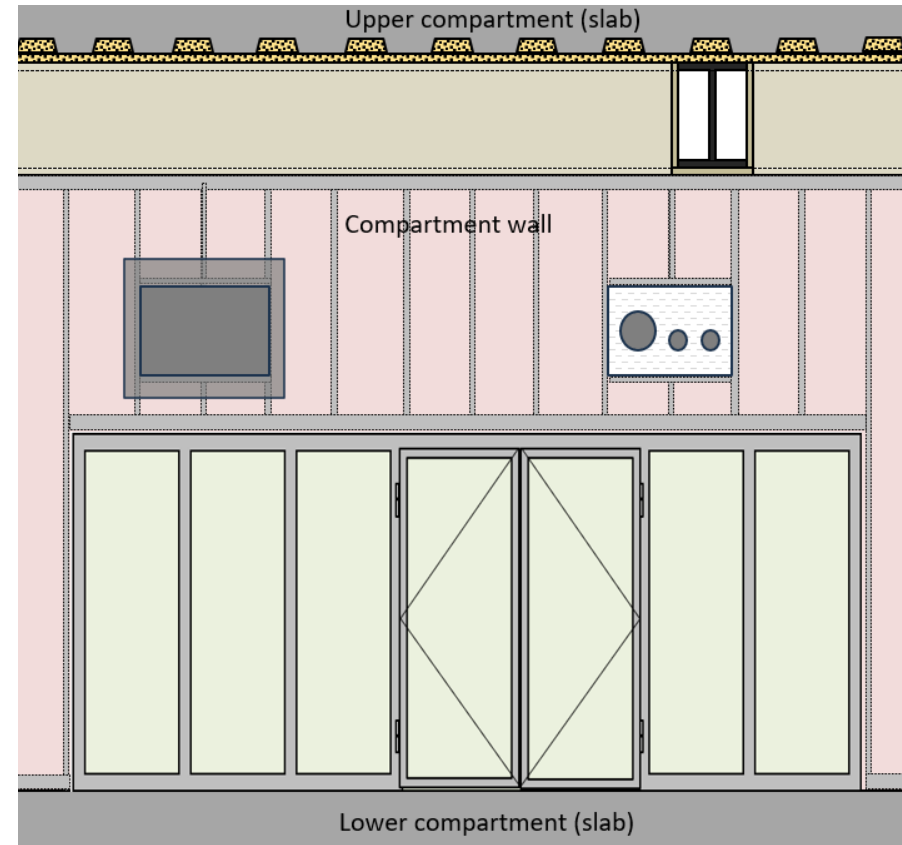
7. fire-stopping to composite slab

fire test configuration????

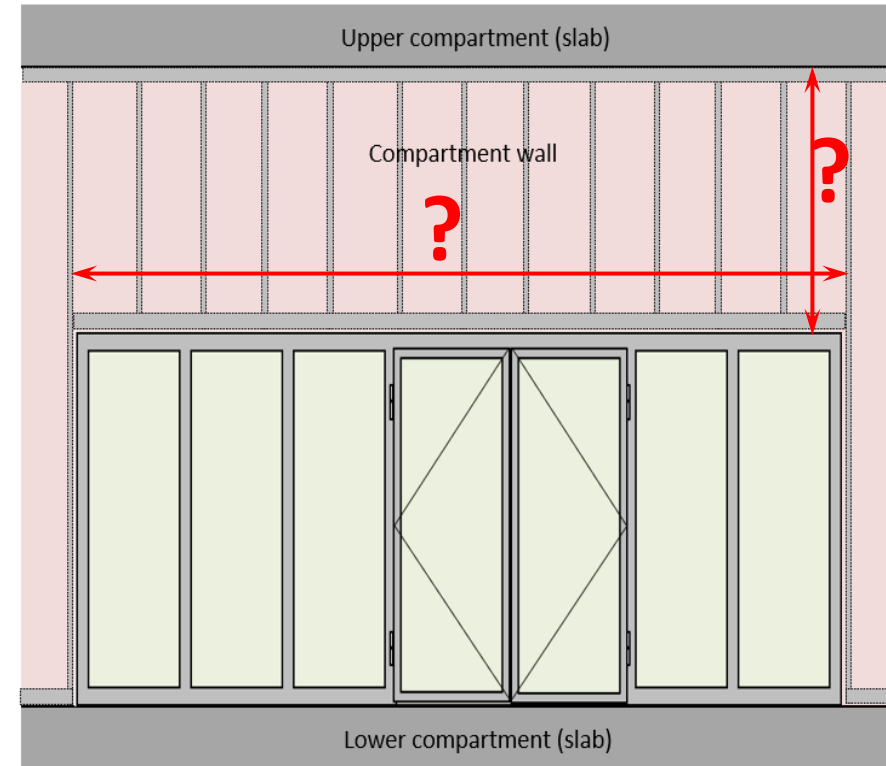


8. wall under structural steel

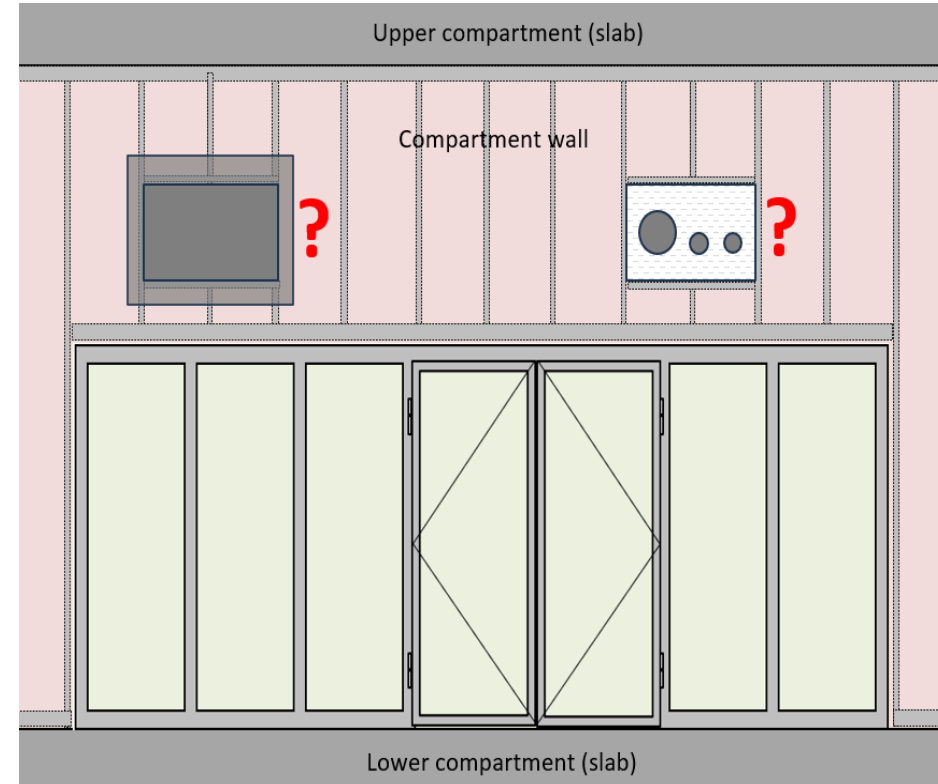
Do all these
individual details
work when they
come together
as a **system**?



Are the size & construction of the bulkhead covered by fire test evidence as a supporting construction?



Does the tested
bulkhead
construction
allow standard
tested methods
of penetration?



Does the
compartmentation
work **as a system**
according to the
evidence?





We need to stop putting the cart before the horse and have multi-trade collaboration much earlier

Tony Millen

Managing Director, Fire DNA

The Information Management Mindset

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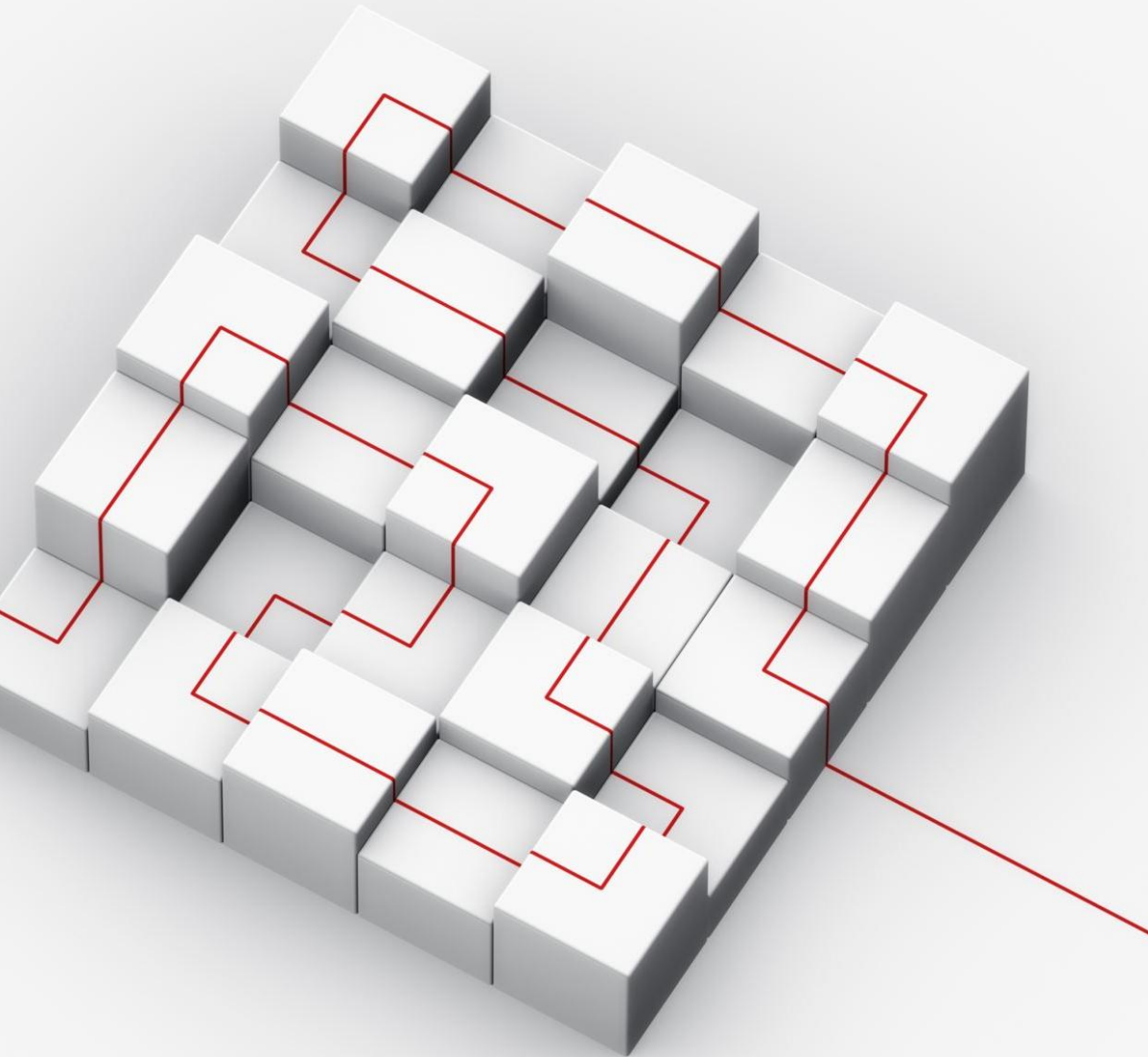
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The Information Management Mindset

Tony Millen
FIS Conference 2025



Discussion Points

- Critical data points (planning / construction / occupation)
- Recognising micro to macro systems
- Silo effect and the O&M data puzzle
- The human vs technology factors
- Our data spine model

Critical Data Points



Figure 2: Aligning BS8644-1 to Gateways and Plan of Work (based on information courtesy of Siderise)

Design

Specification

Certification

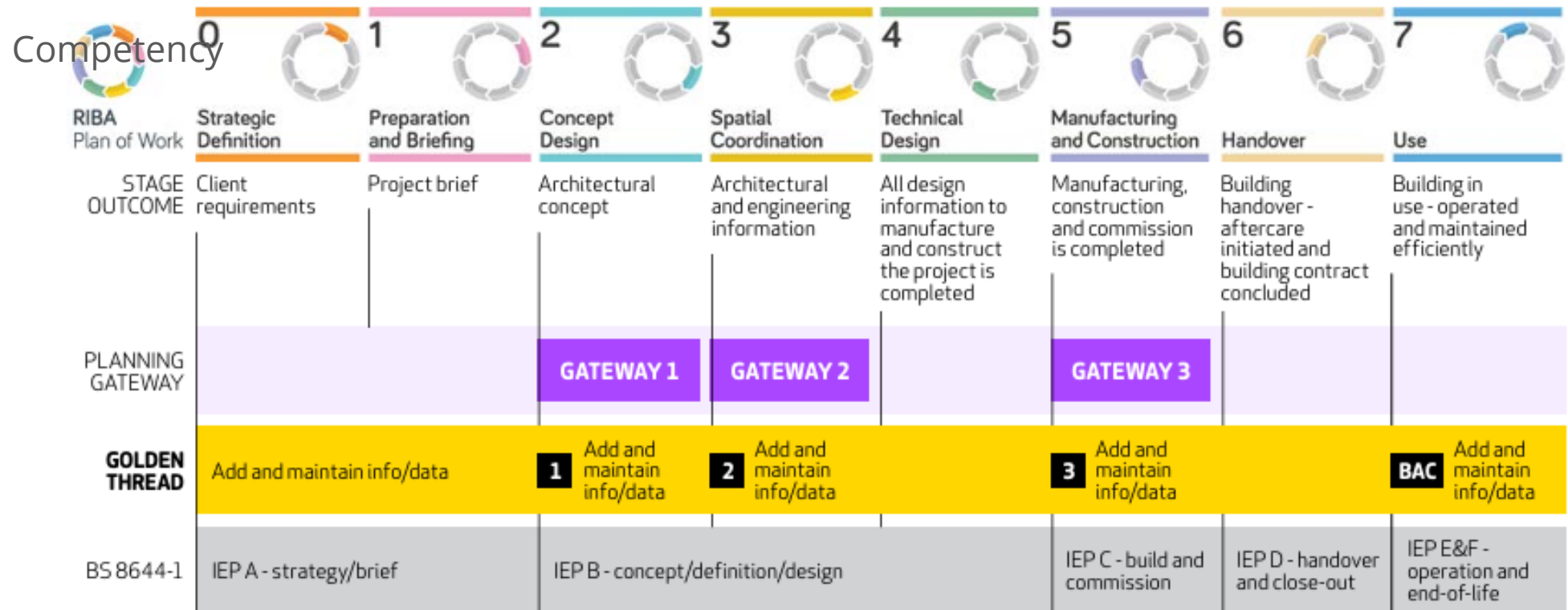
Installation

O&Ms

Inspection

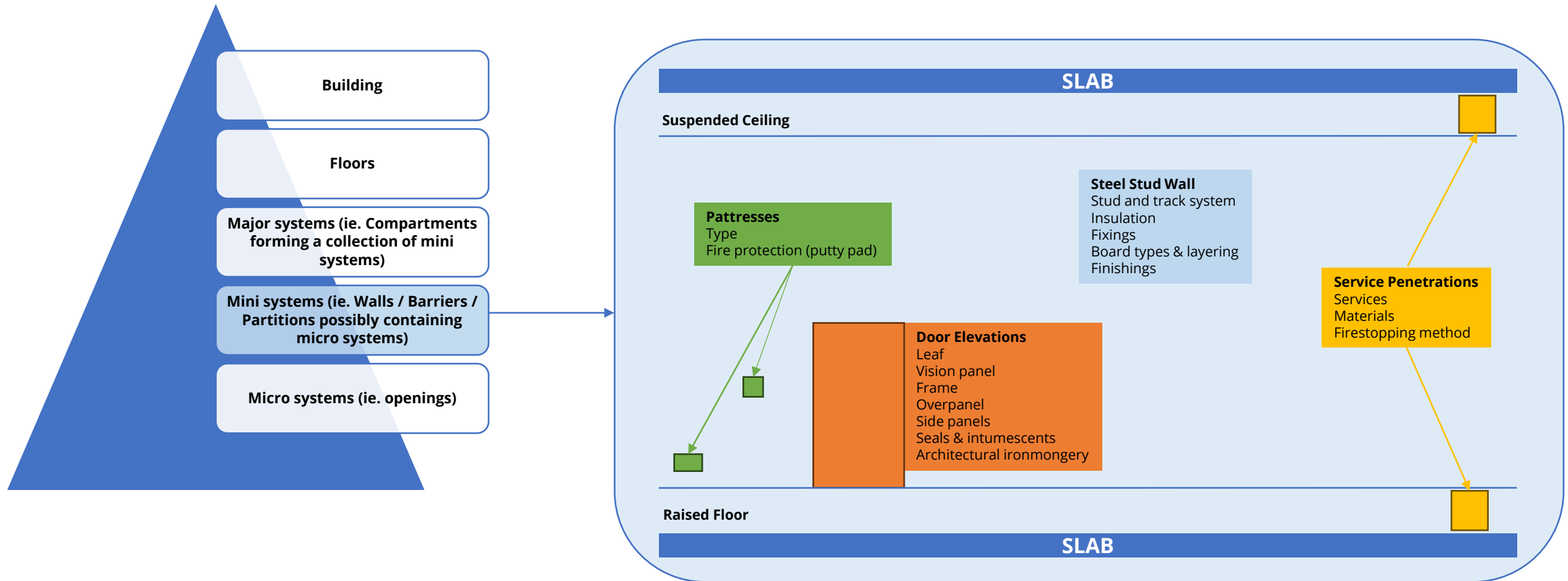
Maintenance

Compliance



System compatibility is critical

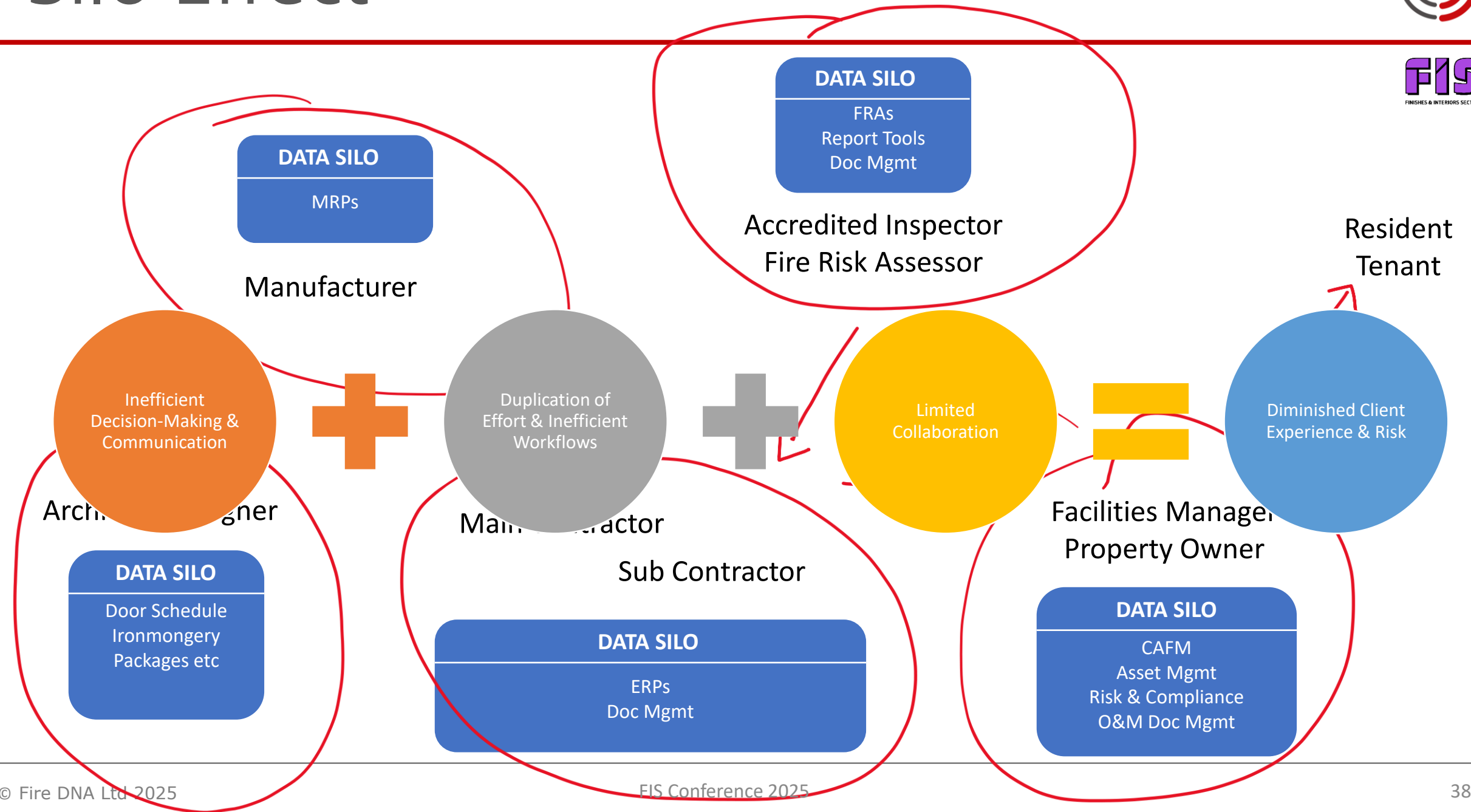
but so is data completeness, accuracy and accessibility



Silo Effect



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O&M Data Puzzle



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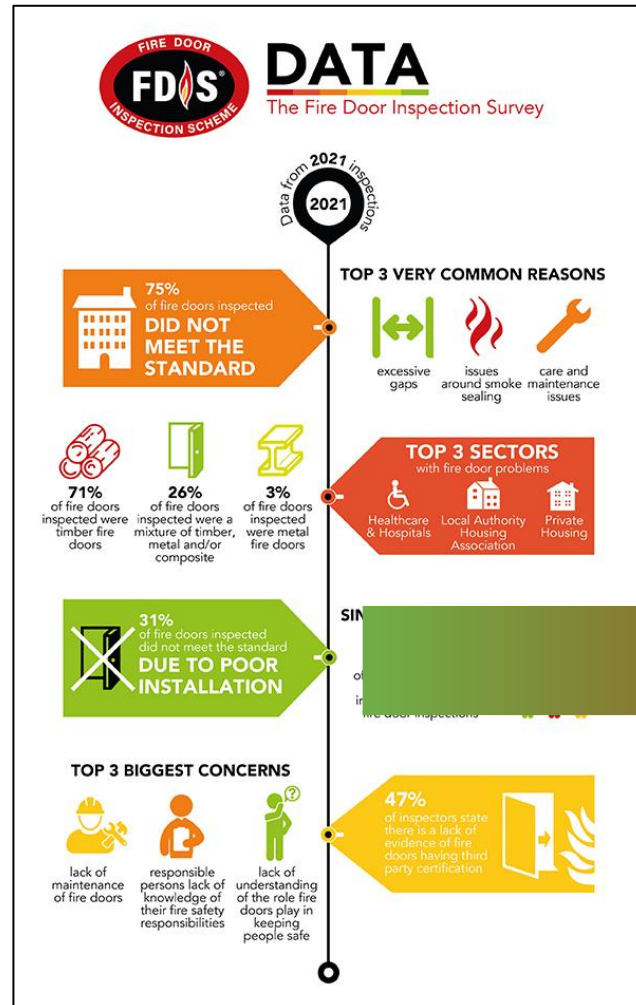


So what's changed in the last few years?



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2021 FDIS Survey



2025 FDIS LinkedIn Post

Fire Door Inspection Scheme (FDIS) + Follow
3,417 followers
2d • 🌐

With [#firedoor](#) [#inspections](#) being such an important element in establishing if a fire door is compliant, it is important when contracting with a company or individual thorough checks are carried out on the claims they are making. We always recommend checking which scheme they operate under. Not all third party schemes are for inspections. Many cover fire door [#installation](#) or [#maintenance](#), but they will not have inspection as part of their certification scope. The [#competency](#) of a fire door inspector is different to someone who installs a fire door.

30% of fire doors inspected were condemned DUE TO POOR INSTALLATION

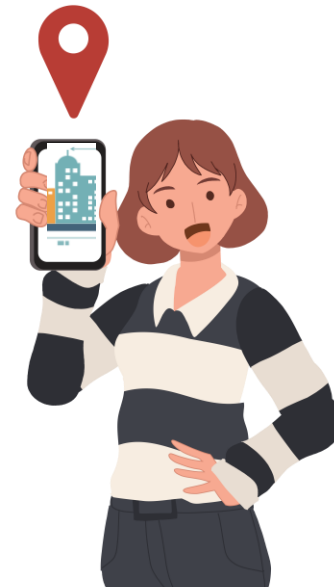
1% improvement!



Where's the problem...

Example Human Factors

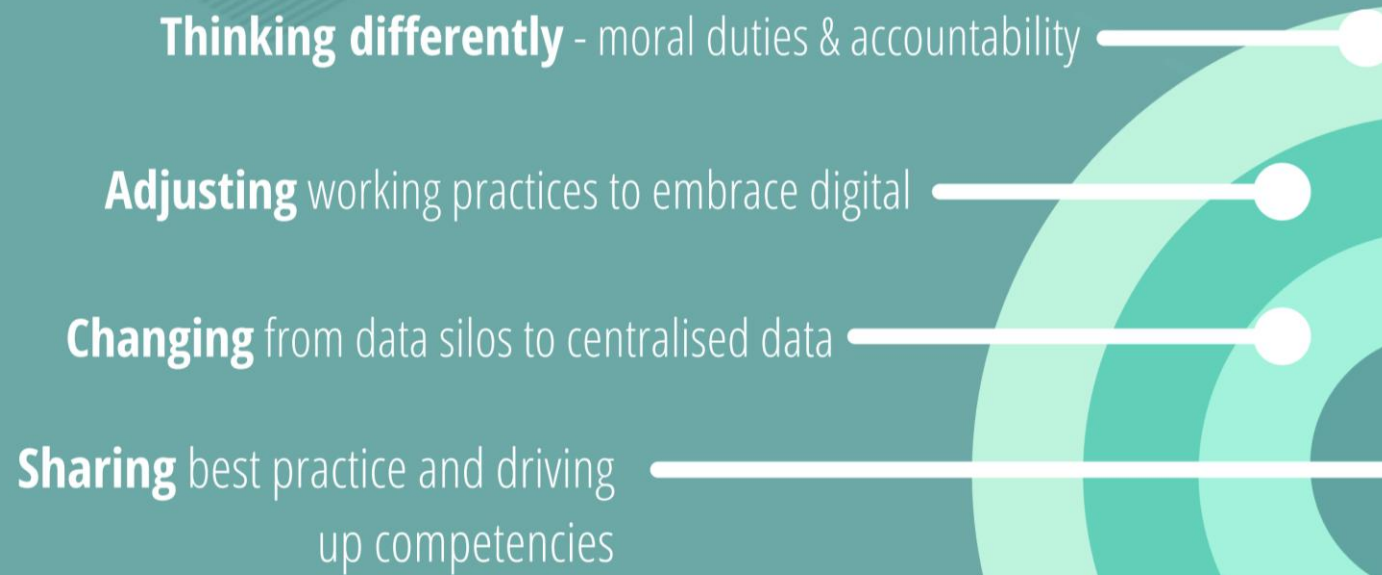
- Competency
- Skills
- Behaviour
- Culture
- Knowledge
- Morals
- Need



Example Technological Factors

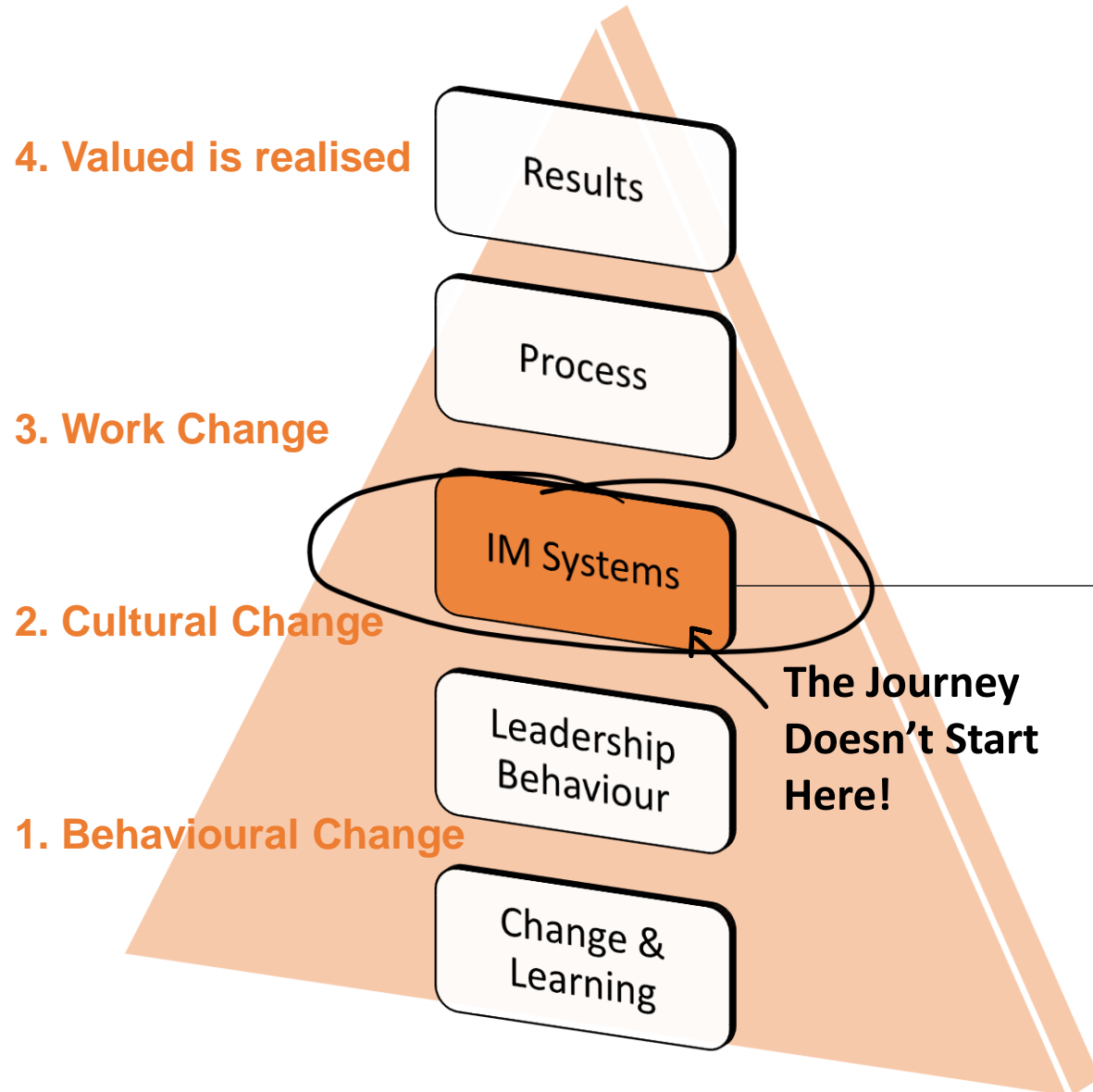
- Suitability
- Cost
- Time
- Common Standards
- Usability
- Accessibility

Starts with behaviour & culture



**“You can light the path,
but they must walk it.”**

Organisational Transformation



Data Integration: Implementing systems that allow seamless data sharing and integration across different departments and stakeholders. This can be achieved through the use of **centralised databases or cloud-based platforms** that provide real-time access to information

Standardisation: Establishing common standards for data entry, storage, and retrieval to ensure consistency and accuracy. This includes using standardised formats and protocols for data exchange

Collaboration Tools: Utilising collaboration tools and platforms that facilitate communication and teamwork among stakeholders. These tools can help break down barriers and encourage the sharing of information

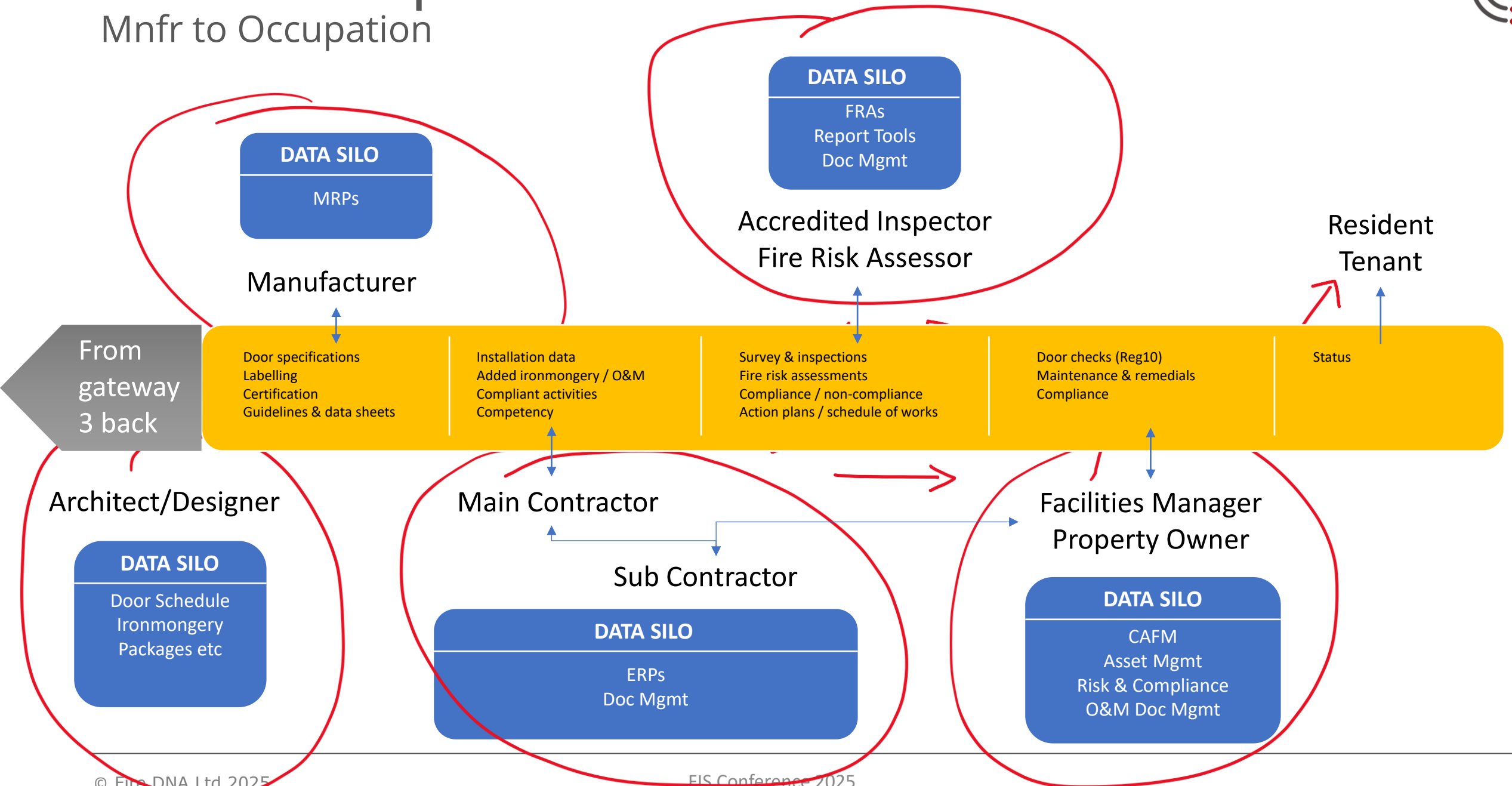
Training and Competency: Providing training and resources to ensure that all stakeholders are competent in using the information management systems and understand the importance of data sharing

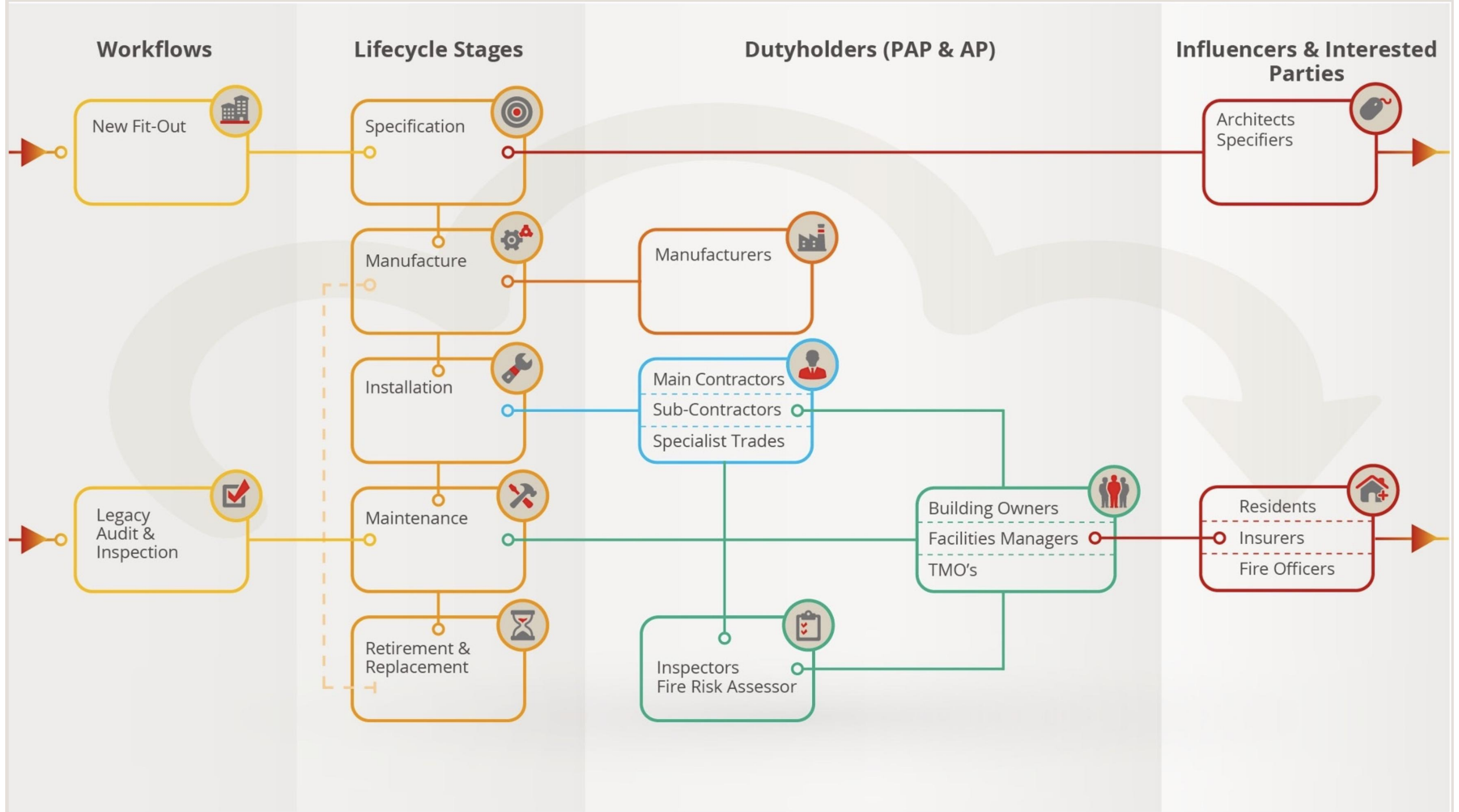
Transparency and Accountability: Promoting a culture of transparency and accountability where data is accessible to those who need it, and there is a clear audit trail of data usage and modifications

Regular Audits and Reviews: Conducting regular audits and reviews of information management practices to identify and address any issues related to data silos

FireDNA Spine

Mnfr to Occupation





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Panel Debate



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We'll be right back