A step-by-step plan to manage and measure adding value by FM/CREM

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ABSTRACT

Purpose To present a new Value Adding Management model in order to support decision makers in identifying appropriate interventions to add value to the organisation, to manage its implementation, and to measure the output and outcomes.

Theory The paper builds on value adding management theories and models including the triplet input-throughput-output, a distinction between output, outcome and added value, the Plan-Do-Act-Check cycle, change management and performance measurement.

Design/methodology/approach Literature review and a cross-chapter analysis of a forthcoming book, where authors from different European countries present a state of the art of theory and research on 12 value parameters, how to manage and measure each value, and to discuss the costs and benefits of typical FM and CREM interventions to enhance satisfaction, image, culture, health and safety, productivity, adaptability, innovation, risk, cost, value of assets, sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility.

Findings The new Value Adding Management model follows the steps from the well-known Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle. The four steps are supported by various tools that were found in the literature or came to the fore in the state-of-the-art sections of the 12 value parameters. Furthermore an overview is presented of ways to measure the 12 value parameters and related Key Performance Indicators.

Originality/value Much has been written about adding value by FM and CREM. This paper presents a new Value Adding Management model that opens the black box of input-throughput-output-outcome and which is supported by various management and measurement tools.

Keywords: Added value, FM, CREM, Plan-Do-Check-Act, Interventions, KPIs

1 INTRODUCTION

In 2009 a EuroFM research group on "The Added Value of FM" started to explore the added value of FM, both from an academic and a practical point of view. The driver behind this collaborative research was the perception that FM gradually has shifted from primarily steering on cost reduction towards managing facilities as a strategic resource to add value to the organisation and to contribute to its overall performance. The results have been published in a first anthology on the added value of FM (Jensen, Van der Voordt and Coenen, 2012), which was launched at EFMC 2012 in Copenhagen. Since then various follow-up steps have been conducted to further increase our understanding of the added value of FM, see Table 1. The findings confirmed the need for a second anthology on adding value by FM and CREM. In this second book 23 academics from 5 countries and 13 practitioners from 6 countries share their insights and experiences with adding value by Facilities Management (FM) and Corporate Real Estate Management (CREM).

Table 1: Research on adding value – from book one to book two

Period	Action	Findings and reference	
2012	First Anthology on The added value of FM	Academic research on the meaning of added value	
EFMC	 Concepts, findings, perspectives. 	and value adding management. List of 50 definitions	
Copen-		of added value, classified into use/user/customer	
hagen		value, economic/financial/ exchange value, social	
		value, relationship value, and environmental value	
		(Jensen, Van der Voordt and Coenen, 2012)	
2013	Workshop by Jensen, Van der Voordt and	Attendants interpreted added value in a different way	
EFMC	Coenen to further discuss "How to manage	and found it difficult to operationalise added value in	
Prague	and measure different value dimensions?"	clear dimensions, interventions and ways to measure.	
2014	Decision to write a second anthology and	Proposal by Jensen and Van der Voordt to elaborate	
	to integrate the added value of Corporate	input-throughput-output-outcome processes and (12)	
	Real Estate Management (CREM).	value parameters.	
2014	Interviews with practitioners if/how they	User satisfaction, productivity and cost reduction	
EFMC	apply the added value concept in practice,	were highly prioritised. There is a need for a coherent	
Berlin	what values are prioritised, what	definition of added value and appropriate tools to	
	interventions are implemented, and how	measure different value parameters.	
	the outcomes are measured	(Van der Voordt and Jensen, 2014)	
2015	Critical review of 21 papers from EFMC	Good research to provide empirical evidence, with a	
EFMC	2013, EFMC 2014 and CIB 2014 on the	focus on the benefits of interventions for particular	
Glasgow	added value of FM and CREM	stakeholders. Lack of integrated analysis including	
		sacrifices (time, money, risks), and which	
EuroFM		stakeholders benefits most and least of particular	
report		interventions. Only few papers discussed the	
		implementation of change. Lack of before-after	
		evaluations. Insufficient building on former research.	
		No consistency in definitions and operationalisations.	
		(Jensen and Van der Voordt, 2015a and b)	
2016	New book, entitled "Facilities	In part I the editors open the black box of input ->	
	Management and Corporate Real Estate	throughput -> output -> outcome -> impact/added	
	Management as value drivers: how to	value by discussing a taxonomy of six types of	
	manage and measure adding value", edited	interventions, the process of aligning facilities to	
	by Per Anker Jensen and Theo van der	corporate strategies, and 12 value parameters. Part II	
	Voordt	presents the state-of-the-art of concepts and research	
		findings for each value parameter and ways to	
		manage and measure. Part III presents a new Value	
		Adding management model and ends with	
		reflections, conclusions and recommendations.	
		(Jensen and Van der Voordt, 2016)	

This paper summarises chapter 17 of the new book and presents the new Value Adding Management (VAM) model (Hoendervanger et al., 2016). This VAM model is based on a review of the literature and a cross-chapter analysis of part II of the new book and aims to support decision makers in identifying appropriate interventions to add value to the organisation, how to manage its implementation, and how to measure the output and outcomes.

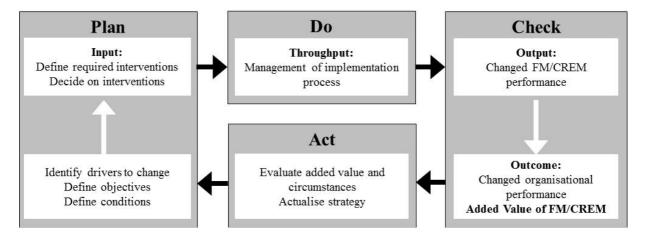
2 VALUE ADDING MANAGEMENT MODEL

We started our exploration of adding value by FM and CREM with a very simple process model according to the widely used triplet of input-throughput-output and extended it by outcome - impact/added value:

Input
$$\rightarrow$$
 Throughput \rightarrow Output \rightarrow Outcome \rightarrow Impact = Added Value

In order to integrate VAM of buildings and facilities in business management and to make the VAM model more instrumental and applicable as a decision-support and management tool, this simple model has been extended to a more elaborated VAM model, see Figure i. Because the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle – also known as the Deming cycle - is widely applied to support total quality management, we used this cycle as a leading principle to elaborate the original simple VAM model.

Figure i: New Value Adding Management model



The cyclic character emphasises that value adding management is or should be a continuous process. Evaluation of realised output/outcome/added value may be a starting point for new interventions. We also used input from other models such as the Accommodation-Choice model (Van der Voordt et al., 2012). This Accommodation-Choice model has been developed in order to support decision-makers to realise a successful accommodation policy or an improved work environment that fits with the organisational objectives and internal and external constraints and balances between the needs of all stakeholders. It suggests that each facilities change process should start with identifying why an intervention might be needed and what conceptual choices regarding facilities change are expected to optimally facilitate the organisational strategy and current and future user profiles. It further suggest that all steps from initiation to defining most appropriate interventions, its implementation and after care require continuous monitoring, evaluation and coordination. This model is supported by

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various tools such as the work environment diagnosis instrument WODI, software to calculate the required number of different types of work places, a Space Utilisation Monitor, and benchmark data on employee satisfaction.

The next sections present how these insights and insights from other tools can be used to support the four steps of the PDCA-cycle. Box 1 presents an example of how the four steps can be applied in practice.

Box 1: Application of the VAM-model: implementation of a new concept for FM in schools

Plan:

The purpose of the intervention was to relieve the managers and teachers in the school for spending time on support activities and concentrate on educational activities. The intervention was to transfer the FM-related support staff at the schools to the FM department, who should be in charge of and improve the services and allow the school staff to focus on their core business.

Do:

The FM department initiated a pilot project at one school where they established a service reception as the centre of the contact between the school and the service organisation (actually a 'front office') and trained the staff to become service and customer oriented as part of the FM team, which could support and replace each other.

Check:

The evaluation of the case showed that the head master of the school had changed his time used on pedagogics versus FM related activities from 60/40% to 85/15%. Furthermore, the status of the teachers had increased, recruiting new teachers had become easier, student satisfaction had risen, and a better physical environment, reduced sickness, better service for the same money and an improved maintenance of the buildings had been achieved.

Act:

Based on the results of the pilot project the municipality decided that the FM department should implement the new FM concept in all schools in the municipality.

Source: Jensen et al. (2008)

End of box 1

2.1 Plan

The main actions in the Plan-phase are to identify the drivers to change i.e. to define if there is a gap between the desired and actual performance of the organisation and the accommodation, facilities and services, and to define which interventions may result in improved performance. It is important to define the objectives of these interventions in a SMART way (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) and also to define the conditions or prerequisites that should be taken into account. The Plan phase ends with clear decisions about which interventions will be implemented and a plan how to implement.

Within the Plan-phase it is recommended to make a clear distinction between the organisational strategy and the FM/CREM strategy. Both require a strategic analysis and both may reveal drivers for change. If for example an organisation wants to enhance innovation, it seems obvious to invest in a new interior design that may stimulate creativity and support exchange of knowledge. However, reducing real estate costs in order to increase the R&D budget might be more effective. This example illustrates that there may be different ways to use FM/CREM as a means to contribute to one or more organisational goals.

Tools to identify the need for change, objectives and prerequisites

Analysing the context of value adding management may start with exploring the different roles, interests and power of stakeholders involved, using stakeholder analysis. It is relevant to make a distinction between external and internal stakeholders and end users (Ambrosini et al., 1998). Furthermore a SWOT analysis can be applied to analyse the need and direction for change. It is recommended to conduct a SWOT analysis of both the organisation and the FM/CREM processes and products to identify drivers for change *within* the domain of FM/CREM.

The value proposition model of Tracey and Wiersema (1995) may provide a useful starting point to relate a corporate strategy to particular FM/CREM value parameters. According to this model each organisation should make a fundamental strategic choice to focus on one out of three different value propositions: product leadership, customer intimacy, or operational excellence. This choice influences the selection of FM/CREM value drivers: product leadership stresses the FM/CREM contribution to innovation, whereas customer intimacy demands a focus on customer satisfaction; and operational excellence requires a productivity-oriented approach.

Another framework to support the Plan-phase is the one by Nourse and Roulac (1993). They link nine possible 'driving forces' behind a corporate strategy (e.g. market needs, technology, return on investment) to 7 components of competitive advantage (e.g. attracting and retaining customers, efficient business processes), 8 strategic accommodation choices (e.g. cost reduction, support of human resources, value creation of real estate) and 14 operational decisions (e.g. regarding the location, number of m², ICT, ownership and risk management).

Tools to define required interventions and to select the most appropriate ones

In the second part of the Plan-phase, the main question is how to translate the strategic focus and smart goals into appropriate and valuable FM/CREM interventions. To identify the most appropriate interventions it is recommended to create a FM/CREM strategy map. This tool, developed by Kaplan and Norton (2004), may help to identify critical success factors within chains of means/ends, which are crucial for adding value as defined in the strategic focus. The Balanced Scorecard (Kaplan & Norton, 1992) is a widely used tool to link strategic analysis to critical success factors and KPIs.

Strategic criteria are a prerequisite to select the most effective FM/CREM interventions, i.e. the option(s) with highest benefits and lowest costs. Decision support tools such as business cases can be used to select the most appropriate interventions and to support decision making processes.

2.2 Do

The Do-phase encompasses the implementation of the proposed interventions and management of the change process. Decisions to be made include who should be involved in the process and how, time schedules, how to cope with resistance to change, and how to cope with the different needs of different stakeholders. According to the strategic management model of Johnson et al. (2009), the purpose of the Do-phase is to put 'strategy in action'. A major challenge is to keep focus on the initial goals regarding adding specific values. Implementation processes tend to develop their own dynamics, which can easily shift the

focus from long-term strategic organisational goals to short-term tactical and operational goals of the participants.

Tools to support the implementation of change

Change management has evolved as a specialist discipline and has produced many different tools. A tailor-made approach should be designed that fits with the characteristics of the intervention (complexity, budget, risks, time frame), the goals, and the social/organisational context. It is also in the Do-phase recommended to conduct a stakeholder analysis to define who should be involved in the process, in what way, and what their interests are. These stakeholders may or may not be the same as in the Plan-phase. The stakeholder analysis should take into account how different stakeholders perceive change, for instance by using the five-colours framework of De Caluwé and Vermaak (2003). This framework links five different change paradigms to five different management process approaches. Since a change approach has to fit with the expectations and needs of different participants and characteristics and goals of the intervention, it is often wise to combine two or more approaches. A blue-print approach to ensure that a refurbishment project will be finished in time and within budget might for instance be combined with a red-print approach for involving users effectively in the design process.

Avoiding or removing resistance to change is usually a major component of any change management approach. According to Kreitner and Kinicki (2007) there is no universal strategy for dealing with resistance, however communication is always essential and should at least include four elements: 1) inform employees about the change ('what'), 2) inform employees about the rationale underlying the change ('why'), 3) organise meetings for answering questions that employees may have, 4) let employees discuss how the change may affect them. The same principles can be applied to other stakeholders.

2.3 Check

The Check-phase requires measuring the costs and benefits of the intervention(s) and the performance of the organisation and its facilities before and after the implementation of the intervention(s), and a check if the changed performance fits with the organisational strategy, mission, vison and objectives and as such adds value to the organisation. The Check-phase starts during or after the implementation of the selected interventions and measures, if and to what level the objectives have been attained, if the performance of the organisation and FM/CREM actually has been improved, and if the improved output and outcome adds value to the organisations.

Tools to check interventions on its aimed outcomes and impact

Table 2 presents a selection of possible interventions and tools to measure the output and outcomes that came to the fore in part II of the new book. Usually various measuring tools are combined in a so-called Post-Occupancy Evaluation (POE), also called evaluation of buildings-in-use (Preiser and Vischer, 2004; Van der Voordt et al., 2012).

Regarding KPIs, a distinction should be made between output indicators to measure FM/CREM performance and outcome indicators to measure organisational performance. Figure ii shows examples of input -> output -> outcome -> added value chains to illustrate the complexity of cause-effect relationships between interventions, FM/CREM performance, organisational performance and added value.

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Table 2: Examples of interventions, assessment methods and KPIs

Value	Interventions	Tools to measure impact	KPIs (Top 3)
Satisfaction	More suitable spatial layout.	Employee surveys.	Employee satisfaction with:
	More collaborative spaces.	Interviews.	- Workplaces
	Better indoor climate.	Walk-throughs.	- Collaborative space
			- Indoor environment
Image	Move to a new location.	Stakeholder surveys.	Perceptions of Corporate
C	High quality surroundings.	Group discussions.	identity, Corporate value,
	Reorganisation of spatial layout.	Analysis of social media	Corporate brand
Culture	More open settings to support	Employee surveys.	Perceptions of
	collaboration.	Observations.	- Corporate culture
	Shared desks/places.	Interviews.	- Match between culture
	New behavioural rules.	Workshops.	and work environment
H&S	Higher level of personal control.	Capture and react on	Sick leave.
	Ergonomic designed furniture.	complaints.	Number of accidents.
	Better indoor air quality	Workplace H&S assessment.	% of satisfied employees.
Productivity	Higher level of transparency to	Observations.	Output per employee.
-	support collaboration.	Measuring time spent or	Perceived support of:
	Facilities for concentrated work.	saved.	- Individual productivity
	Ergonomic furniture.	Employee surveys.	- Team productivity
Adaptability	Surplus of spaces, load-bearing	Building performance	Weighted assessment values,
1 3	capacity, installation capacity, and	assessment, i.e. using Flex	i.e. scores on scales of Flex
	facilities.	2.0 or Flex 2.0 Light.	2.0 or Flex 2.0 Light.
	Removable and relocatable units	Observation of adaptations	
	and building components.	of the building-in-use.	
Innovation	Better visibility and overhearing.	Spatial network analysis.	Level of enclosure/openness.
and Creativity	Different types of meeting spaces	Social network analysis.	Average walking distance.
•	and informal areas.	Logbooks on knowledge	Diversity of workspaces and
	Virtual knowledge sharing ICT.	sharing activities.	meeting places.
Risk	Emergency and recovery plans.	Measuring time of business	Uptime of critical activities.
	Back-up supply systems.	interruptions.	Total risk expenses.
	Insurances.	Measuring risk expenses	Total insurance expenses.
Cost	Cost saving by	Accounting with an	Cost/m ² , workstation or f.t.e
	- Establishing FM department	appropriate cost structure.	of Total FM, Space,
	- Process optimization	Measuring space, number of	Workplace
	- Outsourcing	workstations and f.t.e.	
Value of	Disposal of CRE.	Estimate annual potential	Capitalization.
Assets	Sale and lease back.	gross income and annual	Market value.
	Improve owned CRE by adaptive	operational expenses.	Cost of new development.
	reuse.	Market valuation.	
		Estimate cost of new	
		development.	
Sustainability	Sustainability framework.	Critical success factors from	Consumption of primary
	Reduction of energy	corporate strategy	energy and water.
	consumption.	Survey with multi-criteria	$C0_2$ emissions.
	Reduction of travel and transport	scoring methodology	Access to transport.
	activities.	Continuous review process.	
Corporate	Employing challenged workers.	Depends on corporate CSR	People: diversity of staff
Social	Promoting public transport.	policy and target.	Planet: Utilization of space
Responsibility	Circular purchasing model.		Profit: Total FM/CREM cost

For example, an outdated building or a building that cannot accommodate the growth of a company may be a driver to move to another building (input in first example of Figure ii). The move itself has to be managed and implemented (not shown in Figure ii). If the appearance of the new building or an existing building that is adapted to the requirements of this organisation fits better with the aimed image, this building can contribute to an improved

corporate identity (output). This may subsequently lead to an improved organisational performance regarding an improved brand recognition and a higher market share. Finally, if these positive outcomes support the organisational objectives and the benefits outweigh the costs of moving and possible sacrifices such as longer travel distances for various staff members, the intervention actually adds value to the organisation. Assessing the added value of FM/CREM interventions should not only include 'objective' performance measurement and benchmarking, but also a 'subjective' evaluation whether the improved performance really adds value to the organisation, the clients, customers and end users, and society.

Input Output Outcome Impact: Added Value Increased brand recognition Move to a new building Improved corporate identity Higher market share Check if the organisational More innovation New workplace layout More knowledge sharing objectives have been Improved image attained Higher staff satisfaction Higher productivity whether interventions result Improved indoor climate Healthier work Client and customer in synergy i.e. support more environment satisfaction than one value whether conclicting Easier to attract foreign More choice outcomes come to the fore New catering concept staff; Healthier and more Healthier food productive staff and whether the benefits outweight the cost and Uninterrupted Power sacrifices Reduced risk of power cut Higher uptime Supply (UPS) System from a point of view of Photovoltaic solar cells on different stakeholders Reduced CO2 emissions Renewable energy supply roofs

Figure ii: Examples of input -> output -> outcome -> added value chains

A common way to evaluate KPIs is to conduct performance benchmarking internally or with external partners. The benchmarking process can be carried out according to EN15221-7 (CEN, 2012). Benchmarking is an important tool to control cost and to find areas of improvement in FM/CREM.

Whether the increased performance also adds value to the organisation depends of the mission, vision and objectives of the organisation and the trade-off between benefits and sacrifices. For example, if the objective of the organisation is to be as green as possible and to perform in a social responsible way, a reduction in energy consumption adds value, whereas if the organisation just aims to fit with legislation and the performance assessment in the Plan-phase shows, that it already fits with the legal requirements, being "more green" does not add value to the organisation (though it is very welcome from a societal point of view!).

2.4 Act

The Act-phase is quite similar to the Plan-phase but starts from a different situation. Whereas the Plan-phase may start with an analysis of changing internal or external circumstances or a

strategic analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the organisation and FM/CREM products and processes, these factors are already known in the Act-phase. When all objectives have been attained and maximum value has been added, the Act-phase may include consolidation of the new situation, until new drivers to change come to the fore. If the objectives are not sufficiently attained or not optimally, or if too many negative side effects come to the fore, new interventions or broadening or strengthening of earlier interventions should be considered. Another option is to reconsider the objectives. It may happen that the aimed performance was not realistic and feasible within the current conditions. Moreover the context or conditions of the original objectives may be changed, which might force the organization to change its organizational and/or FM/CREM strategy. If new or revised interventions have to be implemented, the Plan- and Do-phases start again.

3. FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

In this paper we tried to connect existing models and tools to the original simple Value Adding Management model in order to make the VAM cycle more instrumental and practically applicable. Whereas many different tools are available, so far these tools are usually not integrated in a step-by-step approach. Besides, most tools focus on FM/CREM performance (output) and much less on assessing the contribution of FM/CREM to organisational performance (outcome). In much research a valuation of the trade-off between benefits and sacrifices in connection to organisational objectives (added value) and interrelationships is often lacking as well (Jensen and Van der Voordt, 2015a, 2015b).

An interesting next step could be to explore the similarities and dissimilarities between various FM/CREM models and generic management models and to integrate "the best of" in the new VAM model. This requires intensive collaboration with other support functions and knowledge fields such as HR, ICT, Finance, Marketing and PR.

Another next step could be to connect all tools to measure FM/CREM and organisational performance and related KPIs that are presented in Table 1 with other lists of KPIs such as the ones mentioned by Lindholm and Nenonen (2006) and Lavy et al. (2010, 2014). A third topic for future research is to further elaborate input -> output -> outcome -> added value relationships and to integrate current qualitative and quantitative data-collection methods to get clear and evidence-based pictures.

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