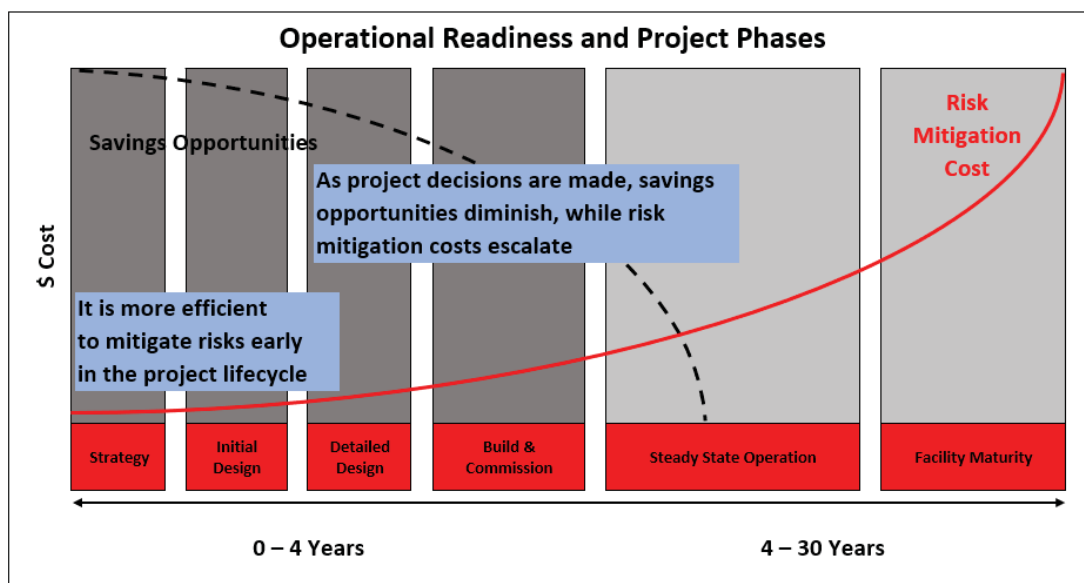


An organisation is operationally ready when it is fully prepared to commence operations; this includes having the right systems, people, equipment and technology in place.

Operational readiness ensures your asset can confidently deliver to business plan from day one. Failure to achieve the production, operational and business goals from commencement of operations can erode both the value of the project and the confidence of the owner.

The approach to operational readiness should encompass the strategic issues of defining needs, risk identification, and strategic planning through to the tactical work involved in developing and deploying the procedures, systems and workplace tools required to successfully operate and maintain a new plant and drive the new business according to the vision and mission of the company.



Operational Readiness:

- Can be defined as the delivery, commissioning and handover of the new infrastructure; appointment, preparation and training of personnel for operating and maintaining the infrastructure; and achieving the required regulatory approvals to operate and maintain the infrastructure.
- Is generally operator led and includes the final construction and sub-system commissioning of works which is to be undertaken by the contractor. Overall systems test and pre-commissioning activities by the contractor are usually wrapped up into an overall suite of final operational readiness activities; and
- Typically begins as a planning function early in the project lifecycle and continues through to when the project becomes operational. Completion of operational readiness activities will usually be progressive and may also be staged along with project delivery as work packages, or sub-elements of work packages, are completed.

Many operational readiness tasks, specifically those relating to technical commissioning, may be listed on a Contractors Test and Commissioning event program, which will typically include the following items:

- Site acceptance testing;
- System integration testing;
- Network integration testing;
- Construction certifications;
- Final As-Built witnessing;

More operational and outcome-focused activities can be wrapped up in a form of transition management plan and include issues that will generally need to be addressed in the transition:

- Final Inspections of completed installations;
- New staffing to support the new operation; and
- User testing and commissioning of critical control and operational systems.



- Finalisation of the ongoing asset management system, including contracts for supply and maintenance;
- Delivery of training packages for all staff;
- Formal acceptance of all externally managed works from contractors into the operators control;
- Transfer of incomplete outstanding issues into an appropriate defects management system for ongoing monitoring and close out by the operator; and
- A suite of documents representing the formal process of operational readiness to assist in the planning and preparedness for operations.

The focus of operational readiness is on people, processes, tactics and systems associated with the key functional areas of the operation.

About RISSB

We develop and maintain the Australasian Rail Industry Standards, Rules, Codes of Practice and Guidelines. Our vision is to be the trusted leader in the rail safety co-regulatory environment, providing products and services that enhance safety and efficiency.

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