SENSORHUBB
Predict. Prevent. Protect.

FOR FACILITIES LEADERS · A SENSORHUBB E-BOOK

The Missing Signal

Why the PM schedule isn't enough, and what your CMMS needs to spot failure before it happens

Built on 129 threads from ten forums where facilities, building-systems and food-safety staff talk, and on 2025–2026 surveys from FMX, MaintainX, IFMA and SFG20

VERSION 2.0 · OCTOBER 2026

THE SHORT VERSION

The schedule is written. The signal is missing.

Most maintenance teams have a preventive program; many don't get to work it. In MaintainX's 2026 State of Industrial Maintenance survey of 2,234 US and Canadian maintenance leaders, 64% run a PM program, yet half of teams spend under 40% of their time on planned work. In FMX's 2025 survey of K-12 facilities teams, 48% call their maintenance mostly reactive. A schedule says when someone planned to look at an asset. It can't say what the asset is doing now. That's the missing signal.

We also read 129 threads crews started on ten public forums between Aug 25 and Oct 24, 2026. Their top problems: contractors they can't hold to account, aging equipment with no budget, too few people, controls nobody understands and knowledge in one head. New in October: attackers reportedly reached refrigeration controls in about 700 French supermarkets, a reminder to keep monitoring separate from control.

SensorHubb learns each asset's normal in 7 to 10 days, spots failure before it happens, opens the work order in FMX, MaintainX, ServiceNow or eWorkOrders, and checks that readings recovered after the repair. It repairs nothing, hires no one and finds no budget. Of the ten problems, it solves 2 (gaps in logs and rounds, and the empty building), helps with 7 and doesn't fix pay. Put our seven skeptics' tests, including “Will it cry wolf?”, to any vendor, us included. Then book a 30-minute signal assessment on three assets at sensorhubb.com.

64%
run a preventive maintenance program

50%
of teams spend under 40% of their time on planned work

129
crew threads, Aug 25 to Oct 24, 2026

Survey figures: MaintainX, The State of Industrial Maintenance 2026. Sources on page 14.

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SAME DATA, OUR READING

The surveys come from FMX and MaintainX, both SensorHubb CMMS integration partners, and from IFMA and SFG20. Their figures are theirs. The reading is ours.

WRITTEN FOR FACILITIES LEADERS

If you run buildings, a crew and a CMMS, this is for you. Your CMMS is the system of record. SensorHubb is the signal layer beside it.

CHAPTER 1 | THE PLAN AND THE WORK

Most teams have a PM program. The breakdowns still win.

A preventive program on paper isn't preventive work in practice. On one forum a technician puts their facility at about 98% reactive, after 95% at the hospital where they worked before.

64%
of maintenance leaders run a preventive maintenance program

50%
of all teams spend less than 40% of their time on planned work

MaintainX, The State of Industrial Maintenance 2026 (2,234 US and Canadian maintenance and operations leaders)

K-12 facilities: how the work actually runs



FMX, 2025 State of Maintenance for K-12 Schools. “Other answers” is the remainder; FMX doesn't publish the split.

WHY THE SCHEDULE LOSES

Reactive work is urgent and visible. Preventive work is important and invisible. When both compete for the same technician, urgent wins, and the skipped PM comes back as a breakdown. Discipline gets the schedule written. Getting ahead of failure takes something a schedule can't supply: condition data steady enough to set a baseline.

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Discipline can't produce a baseline. Measurement does.

No amount of scheduling tells you what normal looks like for the walk-in freezer on a Tuesday night. SensorHubb learns each asset's normal baseline in 7 to 10 days, then watches for drift and anomalies against it. The condition data a schedule can't supply arrives as sensors, not as another documentation project.

CHAPTER 2 | WHAT THE GAP COSTS

Downtime isn't falling.

The schedule exists, and unplanned downtime holds steady or climbs. When the work stays reactive, the bill arrives as breakdowns, overtime and emergency parts.

UNPLANNED DOWNTIME, LAST 12 MONTHS



MaintainX 2026 (industrial maintenance survey). 79% saw downtime hold steady or rise.

39%

say downtime events are getting more expensive, up from 31% in 2025

36%

blame labor shortages for more downtime

MaintainX 2026 (industrial maintenance survey)

TOO FEW HANDS

One large US school district has 13 HVAC technicians for about 4,700 pieces of heating and cooling equipment. HVAC is about a quarter of its estimated $800 million deferred-maintenance backlog.

American School & University, Aug 26, 2026

Worldwide, more facilities professionals expect workloads to rise than fall: IFMA's Workload Index, which also tracks staffing, budgets and projects, reads +43 on a scale of −100 to +100.

IFMA and Simplar Foundation, 1,400+ professionals in 80 countries

PARTS MEASURED IN MONTHS

When a replacement takes months, every day of notice matters. One forum thread listed 72 weeks for a 25-ton package unit, 16 months for a thermistor and more than 300 days for a fan motor, a delay that cost one contractor a school account.

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Move the repair from the emergency column to the schedule.

SensorHubb spots failure before it happens, so the technician works a planned job at a chosen hour instead of an emergency call. How early drift shows depends on the asset and how it fails. It won't complete your overdue PMs. It shows which assets are drifting, so the hours you do have go where the risk is.

CHAPTER 3 | THE RECORD

The record nobody has time to keep

Training gaps and knowledge that lives in one head came up in 23 of 129 forum threads.

WHAT CREWS DESCRIBE

A contractor's three contacts at a retail chain all left within three years, and the history left with them. Nobody wrote an actuator's signal type on the unit, so every technician measures it again. Manufacturers exit, and support for old controls and burners leaves with them. One cold-storage site's plan for a network outage: QA takes readings by hand at each thermometer, on printed forms kept in a binder.

BIGGEST SKILLS GAPS IN FACILITIES TEAMS



42% of organisations report a significant skills gap in their facilities teams.

SFG20, State of Facilities Management 2026 (nearly 200 built-environment professionals)

SAME PLATFORM, TWO RECORDS

At one site, a person acknowledged nearly every event in a week. At another, nobody acknowledged any of 31. The first has a record a trainer can use. The second has a log.

Anonymized SensorHubb platform data

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Let the asset keep its own record.

Sensors report continuously, with nobody typing. Every site reports into one platform. The readings are measured, not estimated. Where specified, sensors come with calibration traceable to independent ISO/IEC 17025-accredited laboratories.

Every event keeps its history: what happened, how long it lasted, how it was handled, how long readings took to recover and, where your CMMS is integrated, what the work order says fixed it. That's training material from your own sites. A baseline also captures part of what your veteran knows by ear: what normal looks like for this unit.

CHAPTER 4 | THE CMMS

The CMMS records the work. It can't see the asset.

41%
of K-12 facilities teams use a CMMS as their maintenance tool (FMX, 2025)

13 of 129
crew threads raise work-order and CMMS problems

One issue arrived through three channels and became three work orders. One failed air-conditioning unit sent out four dispatches. One maintenance worker still gets 5 to 10 requests a day outside the system.

Crews aren't complaining about screens. They're complaining about work that starts late, splits in two or closes before the fault is gone. Where your CMMS is integrated, a work order opened by the asset, with its readings attached, starts on time, and the recovery shows whether it can close.

YOUR CMMS

System of record

Work orders, asset history, PM schedules, parts and cost. Where work gets executed and costed.

+

SENSORHUBB

Signal layer

Detection and prediction from the asset itself, delivered into the system of record.

> *"The dashboard is dead. The laptop is right behind it."*
> Steven Cotton, Founder & CEO, SensorHubb

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

A CMMS people open is a CMMS that tells them something new.

When an asset drifts, SensorHubb can create the work order in FMX, MaintainX, ServiceNow or eWorkOrders, triggered by what the equipment is doing, not by a phone call. Alerts and events fan out to Slack, Microsoft Teams, Google Chat, PagerDuty, email or SMS. Your team asks what happened in plain language and gets the answer with the evidence attached.

CHAPTER 5 | AI

AI is arriving. Crews want answers they can check.

58%

of maintenance teams already use AI in their operations (MaintainX industrial maintenance survey, 2026)

An organization with 600+ locations and one supervisor asked a forum for “strong AI assistance.” A technician says AI got alarm codes wrong about 90% of the time. One forum user's rule: AI may gather information and suggest, but it shouldn't make changes.

AI that summarizes guesses repeats the guesses. AI that reads measured data can be checked.

FIELD EXAMPLE · THE FREEZER THAT LOOKED FINE

At a life-sciences site, an ultra-low freezer at −80°C held its average within half a degree for 30 days. On a temperature chart, it looked healthy. But each time it was disturbed, it took far longer to pull back down than its own baseline said it should. Its recovery after each disturbance had slowed by 87% against its own baseline. A −20°C freezer on the same site showed the same pattern. The average said healthy. The behavior said the refrigeration system was working harder to hold temperature. That's the kind of change SensorHubb's predictive analytics flag: measured against each asset's own normal, not a fixed limit.

Anonymized SensorHubb platform data

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Prediction doesn't have to wait for perfect paperwork.

Condition data is the one dependency you can install. SensorHubb's predictive analytics measure each asset against its own normal baseline and catch the drift that comes before failure. How early drift shows depends on the asset and how it fails. The prediction rests on measurement, not on years of consistent failure codes.

AI is how your team talks to that data. SensorHubb's MCP server connects to AI assistants that support MCP, with no extra dashboard. Ask: “Which freezers are drifting, what was escalated, and which repairs recovered?” The answer draws on asset readings, timestamps and the work-order history your CMMS makes available.

CHAPTER 6 | THE VIEW FROM THE BOILER ROOM

Ten problems facilities crews raise on their own

Forums show what people bring up on their own. SensorHubb read 129 threads started between Aug 25 and Oct 24, 2026 on ten public boards where facilities crews, building engineers and food-safety staff post, ranked each problem by the number of threads that raise it, and graded itself: Solves, Helps or Not ours.

	WHAT FACILITIES CREWS SAY	WHERE SENSORHUBB STANDS
1	**Contractors and vendors let them down** 26 THREADS A contractor closes the job and the fault is back two days later. A controls office charges a four-hour minimum plus travel. A pest contractor “checked” about 50 traps in under four minutes.	HELPS The record shows what the unit did before the call and whether readings recovered after it. It won't find you a better contractor.
2	**Budget says no; equipment runs past its life** 25 THREADS A 25-year-old fire panel cost over $18,000 in service calls since January; replacement is quoted at $136,000. A post office runs on 1 of 2 chillers and 3 of 4 boilers, with no PMs.	HELPS A drift record on a named unit turns “it's old” into a dated, measured case for the capital request. SensorHubb doesn't find the money.
3	**Too few people, too many buildings** 24 THREADS One technician now covers two sites 20 miles apart. A coordinator runs 30+ locations with a tiny team. One controls tech's workload: 30% PM, 20% emergencies, 20% projects, 20% fixing others' mistakes, 10% confusion.	HELPS Sensors hire no one. They keep watch between rounds, open the work order where your CMMS is integrated, and point scarce hours at assets that are drifting.
4	**Building controls nobody understands** 24 THREADS One site took more than 100 alarms a day before cutting them to 6 that mattered. A power dip of a few hundred milliseconds left a cooling plant that didn't restart. A Windows update likely stopped a BAS server that IT didn't manage.	HELPS SensorHubb connects to the BAS and the CMMS and replaces neither. It adds an independent reading on what the BAS rarely covers: walk-ins, standalone units, network closets, leak points. It doesn't repair controls.
5	**Training gaps; knowledge lives in one head** 23 THREADS A contractor's three contacts at a retail chain all left. Nobody recorded an actuator's signal type, so every tech re-measures it. Manufacturers exit and their support goes with them.	HELPS Every event keeps its history: what happened, how long, how it was handled, how fast readings recovered and, where your CMMS is integrated, what the work order says fixed it. SensorHubb doesn't teach a trade.
6	**Pay, respect and on-call** 15 THREADS 15 technicians left one manager in three years. A one-person maintenance department gets $300 a month on a card.	NOT OURS Pay is leadership's job. Earlier warning can turn some midnight calls into planned visits. It can't make on-call fair.

Problems 3 and 4 are tied. Boards, method and limits are on page 14.

	WHAT FACILITIES CREWS SAY	WHERE SENSORHUBB STANDS
7	**Parts and equipment take months to arrive** 13 THREADS 72 weeks for a 25-ton package unit. 16 months for a thermistor. A parts system says 35 days; the last six orders took 47 to 88.	HELPS Spotting failure before it happens lets you order before the breakdown instead of after it. How early depends on the asset and how it fails. It doesn't make the part ship faster.
8	**Work-order and CMMS problems** 13 THREADS One issue arrived through three channels and became three work orders. One failed AC unit sent four dispatches. One maintenance worker gets 5 to 10 requests a day outside the system.	HELPS One asset, one signal, one work order with the readings attached where your CMMS is integrated, and a check that readings recovered before you close it. It doesn't fix how your desk takes calls.
9	**Nobody watching when the building is empty** 12 THREADS A sink ran over a weekend and flooded five floors. Over a 0°F Christmas weekend, a supply pipe burst, then attic sprinklers burst into empty units.	SOLVES This is the job SensorHubb was built for. Sensors read around the clock, alerts reach the person on call, and predictive analytics spot failure before it happens. Test that the alert lands.
10	**Manual readings and logs leave gaps** 12 THREADS Daily humidity readings across buildings continued all winter because nobody said stop. PM completion targets drive “pencil-whipping,” signing off checks that weren't done: one poster says 100% is not normal in any environment.	SOLVES For temperature and environmental points, sensors take the reading around the clock and nobody writes it down. Boiler inspections stay manual.

Problems 7 and 8 are tied, as are 9 and 10. Just outside the ten: missing drawings (11), too hot or too cold (11), occupants misusing equipment (9), after-hours call-outs (7) and safety shortcuts (7).

2

SOLVES. The empty building, and manual readings and logs.

7

HELPS. Contractors, budget, staffing, controls, training, parts and work orders.

1

NOT OURS. Pay.

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Most of the ten come back to one gap: nobody had the reading when it mattered.

SensorHubb detects the condition, creates the work order where your CMMS is integrated, and checks that the equipment recovered. Sensors don't hire a technician, find a budget or train a custodian. They supply the reading, the hour and the proof.

Neither the surveys nor the forums describe a team that needs to work harder. Both describe a team missing information the asset could supply.

CHAPTER 7 | THE SKEPTICS' TESTS

Buy a record you can check, not a promise.

Nobody on these boards argues against monitoring. What crews doubt is narrower: whether the alert reaches a person, whether the number is right, and whether the vendor stays after the install. Here are their tests, with our answers. Every SensorHubb alert traces to a measured reading against a baseline you can see. Put the same seven tests to any vendor, and run them on three assets before you trust it with thirty.

	THE TEST, AND WHERE IT COMES FROM	SENSORHUBB'S ANSWER
1	**Will the alert reach a person?** Sites that cut off outside access after their building systems were hacked can't send alarms out. A historic house museum has no cell service or Wi-Fi on site.	Alerts route to what the on-call person carries: Slack, Microsoft Teams, Google Chat, PagerDuty, email or SMS. Test it with a real condition, and ask every vendor what happens to alerts and records when the network is down.
2	**Will it cry wolf?** One site took more than 100 alarms a day before cutting them to 6. New rooftop-unit software threw false damper alerts across a whole school.	SensorHubb learns each asset's baseline in 7 to 10 days and measures drift against it. Each alert names the asset, the readings and the time, and tiered severity separates a warning from an emergency. Limits still need tuning to each asset.
3	**Can I trust the number?** A library's dial hygrometer read 67% while a hand instrument measured 52 to 59%.	Where specified, calibration traces to independent ISO/IEC 17025-accredited laboratories. Ask for the certificates, and check a reading against your own instrument on day one.
4	**Doesn't my BAS do this?** A historic building near Boston still runs on pneumatic controls, and the poster is hunting for a contractor who knows them. In October 2026, attackers reportedly reached refrigeration controllers in about 700 French supermarkets, and some systems reached 50°C.	A BAS usually covers central HVAC, not walk-ins, standalone units, network closets or leak points. At one life-sciences site, SensorHubb watches freezers, cleanrooms and a process pump vibrating at three times its baseline. A separate sensor keeps reading whatever someone does to a controller's settings. Ask every vendor whether it can write setpoints.
5	**Will the vendor answer after the install?** One wireless sensor line was discontinued a year after install. Manufacturers exit and leave equipment without support.	The signal lands in the CMMS you own; building systems connect over BACnet/IP, Modbus TCP and OPC UA. SensorHubb works with sensors from several makers, so one discontinued line doesn't strand your data. Ask how you take your data with you.
6	**Does it fix anything?** A chiller generated 30 requests in a year, and nobody reviewed the root cause.	SensorHubb repairs nothing. It detects the condition, creates the work order where your CMMS is integrated and checks that readings recovered. It watches the cause, such as temperature falling toward freezing.
7	**What if the baseline learned a sick machine?** New actuators worked about half the time within their first year. A baseline learned on them would call that normal.	A fair hit on every baseline method, ours included. Inspect the asset when the sensor goes on, and keep fixed limits beside the learned baseline.

CHAPTER 8 | HOW SENSORHUBB CLOSES THE LOOP

An alert says something changed. A closed loop proves it was fixed.

01

MEASURE

Sensors and building systems report what each asset is doing, continuously. Nobody types.

02

LEARN

The platform learns each asset's normal baseline in 7 to 10 days.

03

PREDICT

Predictive analytics catch drift and anomalies against that baseline and spot failure before it happens.

04

ACT

SensorHubb creates the work order in your integrated CMMS, with the asset, the readings and the time attached.

05

VERIFY

After the repair, SensorHubb reads the work history back and checks that readings returned to baseline.

AN ALERT TELLS YOU

Something changed.

But not whether anyone acted, or whether the fix held.

THE LOOP RECORDS

What changed · When it changed · Which asset it affected · What work followed · Whether readings recovered. One record your team pulls up in plain language.

What it takes to start

5 min

per asset, roughly, to place a sensor and power the gateway. Sensors and gateways ship pre-configured.

7–10 days

for the platform to learn each asset's normal baseline. Not years of failure codes.

0

new screens for technicians where your CMMS is integrated. The work order lands in the system they already use.

The limits are plain. How early drift shows depends on the asset and how it fails. Work order creation and automatic verification depend on the integration with your CMMS.

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Your CMMS stays the system of record.

SensorHubb doesn't replace the CMMS's work orders, approvals, technician workflows or cost history. It supplies the one input the CMMS can't generate: what the asset is doing right now. SensorHubb integrates with FMX, MaintainX, ServiceNow and eWorkOrders. It routes alerts and escalation through Slack, Microsoft Teams, Google Chat, PagerDuty, email and SMS, and connects to building systems over BACnet/IP, Modbus TCP and OPC UA. Its MCP server makes the evidence available to AI assistants that support MCP, with no extra dashboard.

CHAPTER 9 | FROM FINDING TO CAPABILITY

Six findings point at one gap. Here is what fills it.

THE EVIDENCE	FOUND	SENSORHUBB SUPPLIES
50% CHAPTER 1	of teams spend under 40% of their time on planned work, though 64% run a PM program (industrial survey).	▸ **A baseline for every asset** The platform learns each asset's normal in 7 to 10 days, then watches for drift and anomalies against it.
79% CHAPTER 2	saw unplanned downtime hold steady or rise. The skipped PM comes back as a breakdown.	▸ **A way to aim the hours you have** SensorHubb shows which assets are drifting and spots failure before it happens, so the repair becomes a planned job.
23 of 129 CHAPTER 3	crew threads raise training gaps and knowledge that lives in one head.	▸ **A record nobody has to type** Sensors report continuously into one platform across every site. Each event keeps its history.
13 of 129 CHAPTER 4	crew threads raise work-order and CMMS problems.	▸ **A reason to open the CMMS** Where your CMMS is integrated, work orders arrive triggered by what the equipment is doing, with the readings attached.
58% CHAPTER 5	of maintenance teams use AI (industrial survey). Crews want answers they can check.	▸ **Prediction that rests on measurement** Predictive analytics work from each asset's own baseline. Your team questions that data through AI assistants that support MCP.
26 of 129 CHAPTER 6	crew threads say contractors and vendors let them down, the most-raised problem.	▸ **Proof the repair held** The record shows what the unit did before the call and whether readings recovered after it.

None of the six asks your team to work harder or type more. Each asks for information the asset can supply.

THE SENSORHUBB VIEW

Fit the signal to the operation, not the operation to the sensor.

A walk-in freezer, an air handler and a loading-dock door fail in different ways. SensorHubb fits the sensors and gateways to your assets and your sites, then delivers every signal into the same loop and the same CMMS. Your team keeps its systems and its workflows. You don't have to instrument everything to learn something. Start with the three assets where a failure would hurt most.

CHAPTER 10 | FIND YOUR MISSING SIGNAL

Ask five questions. Start with three assets.

1. **Which three assets would hurt most if they failed tonight? Think walk-ins, boilers, mechanical rooms and leak points.**
2. **Can you state normal for each one in measured terms?**
3. **When one drifts, how does that become a work order?**
4. **What proves the repair restored normal conditions?**
5. **Can your team pull up that proof without opening another dashboard?**

Then run a scoped pilot

1
CHOOSE
Take the three assets from question one. If an inspection or survey is coming, start with the points it covers.

2
MAP
Agree what gets measured on each and where the work order lands in your CMMS.

3
SCORE
Agree up front how you'll judge detection, response and recovery. Use the seven tests in Chapter 7.

4
OWN
Name who acts on a drift warning, and from which budget.

NEXT STEP

Book a 30-minute signal assessment

Bring your answers to the five questions, and bring your skeptic.

sensorhubb.com | info@sensorhubb.com

ALREADY RUN A CMMS?

SensorHubb integrates with FMX, MaintainX, ServiceNow and eWorkOrders. Bring your CMMS administrator to the call.

ABOUT THE EVIDENCE

Where the evidence comes from, and its limits

THE SURVEYS

FMX, 2025 State of Maintenance for K-12 Schools. A survey of K-12 facilities professionals, 84% in public districts. FMX doesn't publish the sample size or field dates.

MaintainX, The State of Industrial Maintenance 2026. 2,234 maintenance and operations leaders in the US and Canada. Report page and press release, May 2026. Field dates not published.

IFMA and the Simplar Foundation, Facility Management Pulse Report (January 2026). More than 1,400 professionals in 80 countries, surveyed in Q3 2025.

SFG20, State of Facilities Management 2026. Nearly 200 built-environment professionals.

News. American School & University, Aug 26, 2026. ACHR News, Oct 16, 2026.

SensorHubb is an integration partner of FMX and MaintainX. It isn't affiliated with IFMA, SFG20 or any forum named. Survey figures are third-party data; the reading of them is SensorHubb's. Customer examples come from SensorHubb platform data and are anonymized.

HOW WE GRADED

Solves means SensorHubb does the job described, within the scope stated. **Helps** means it supplies evidence or early warning, and people still do the rest. **Not ours** means what it says. The grades are SensorHubb's own judgment.

THE FORUM REVIEW

SensorHubb counted 129 threads started between Aug 25 and Oct 24, 2026 on ten public boards: r/BuildingAutomation (23), r/FacilityManagement (21), r/HVAC (19), r/maintenance (17), HeatingHelp (15), HVAC-Talk (13), IFSQN (8), Eng-Tips (7), Spiceworks (3) and r/PropertyManagement (3). 89 were read in full and 40 in part. Each thread counts once per problem it raises. We left out 30 threads that weren't about buildings or were vendor promotions or vendor and researcher surveys, and all homeowner questions. A few counted threads drew vendor replies. The review was AI-assisted. Posts are paraphrased and posters aren't named.

ITS LIMITS

This is a reading of public threads, not a sample. Reddit supplies 83 of the 129 threads, read through a public archive. All ten boards are in English, so crews who post in other languages aren't represented. The main commercial-refrigeration forum couldn't be reached, so refrigeration comes mostly from HVAC technicians and food-safety staff. IFMA's community board is mostly members-only, and its public threads fell outside the window. Most Eng-Tips threads come from its plant-engineering forums. Threads started Oct 22 to 24 had few replies when we read them.

Results vary by asset, site and deployment. Integrations vary by CMMS.

VERSION HISTORY

v2.0 · Oct 2026	New forum review: 129 threads crews started on ten boards between Aug 25 and Oct 24, 2026. Benchmark data from FMX, MaintainX, IFMA and SFG20. Ten problems re-ranked; tally now 2 Solves, 7 Helps, 1 Not ours, with training moved from Not ours to Helps. eWorkOrders added to the CMMS integrations. New titles for Chapters 1 to 7.
v1.0 · Oct 2026	First customer edition. An industry benchmark survey and 85 forum threads on ten boards, dated 2005 to 2026.

ABOUT THE EVIDENCE, CONTINUED

The 129 threads counted, by board (dates are 2026; titles paraphrased where needed)

R/BUILDINGAUTOMATION (23)

Leaving building automation service work (08/28)
Clock drift on variable-speed drives (08/28)
N4 McQuay Network (08/28)
N+1 mechanical does not mean N+1 controls (09/05)
Need to retrofit emergency mustering software onto a building with 5 different access control systems (09/10)
BAS server communication failure (09/11)
Occupancy-based airflow in a medical facility (09/12)
Building automation service (09/16)
Remote dialer or one-way alarm uplink (09/16)
Customer states: bad zone sensors. (09/24)
Opinions on a building analytics platform (09/25)
When a mechanical tech replaces a VAV actuator or reheat valve, what info do you want left on the unit? (09/25)
Quick question (why is BAS software so complicated and unreliable) (10/01)
After a short sag, who restarts the pumps? (10/02)
Servicing decades-old BAS servers and controllers (10/07)
Which BMS you recommend (10/08)
How are you guys leaving service notes on units for the next tech? (10/16)
Union controls companies hiring? (10/20)
Why are most control companies non-union? (10/21)
Wireless solution. (10/22)
Actuator reliability on a new install (10/23)
How are you actually using AI in your work? (10/23)
BAS controller offline but looks healthy (10/24)

R/FACILITYMANAGEMENT (21)

What's the most frustrating recurring facility issue your team deals with? (08/27)
Key Management (08/31)
What process in facility operations still feels painfully manual in 2026? (09/05)
Have SLA reports looked good while users were still unhappy? (09/05)
Managing the smaller jobs (09/14)
FM for stores (09/17)
Getting "promoted" (09/20)
Am I getting paid enough? (09/22)
Fire Panel Replacement (09/23)
Contractor closes the maintenance job, but the same fault is back two days later (09/29)
How many "urgent" MRO buys are really just stale lead times sitting in the item master? (09/30)
Anyone here in Massachusetts? (09/30)
How do you enforce SOPs/SLAs for HVAC systems? (crosspost) (10/05)
Costly Air Purifiers (10/05)
What preventive maintenance task at your site exists mainly because "we've always done it"? (10/05)
How much of the security camera work falls on facilities? (10/08)
What facility data is collected but rarely used for decisions? (10/13)
How do teams manage repeated complaints coming through email, calls and portals? (10/13)
Proactive vs. Reactive Maintenance (10/15)
What happens when the only person who knows the camera system is out? (10/19)
How are you guys keeping track of security cameras that go offline? (10/22)

R/HVAC (19)

Customers complaining about 59% humidity. (08/29)
Walk in coolers open door time? (09/03)
Any one hear about having to register RTU's over 18 tons as pressure vessels in NJ? (09/03)
Clients sending lists of artificial intelligence generated questions are driving me crazy (09/11)
Data centers as customers (09/14)
New-refrigerant compressors not starting (09/15)
Opteon 2P50 a new refrigerant for Datacenters (09/19)
Data Centers (09/29)
BAS panel upgrade this week (09/30)
What is the deal with service managers who couldn't make it in the field. The company I work for has had 15 techs leave in 3... (10/01)
Restaurant GM took a hammer to their walk in coolers frozen over coil. (10/08)
Hundreds of French supermarkets hit by a cyberattack that turned up the heat in refrigeration systems (10/13)
distributor pushed a new heat pump setup, now nobody can get parts or answers (10/13)
Equipment lead times (10/15)
Unionizing in response to private equity (10/15)
Controls Tech (10/16)
Will AI take HVAC jobs? (10/17)
Commercial vs. residential work (10/18)
Rooftop unit status error (10/20)

R/MAINTENANCE (17)

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