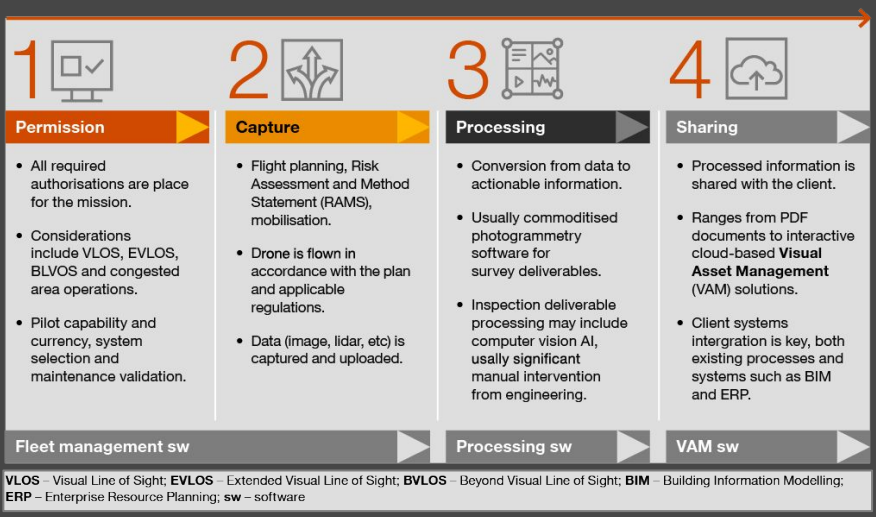
Drone Data

Most organisations understand that the value of current drone solutions is in the data. This understanding is not always reflected in drone implementations and, as a result, not all the anticipated benefits materialise.

Organisations who choose to implement drones do so with the expectation that they will be faster, cheaper and safer than existing approaches. The physical nature of the technology can often lead to a perception that drone implementation is complete when drones are purchased and pilots trained or a drone service provider is chosen. This is only part of the story and common drone implementation pitfalls include:

- An immature procurement process for drone services risking higher costs and data that is not fit-for-purpose
- More focus on "flying or buying drones" than on how to generate fit-for-purpose data that is integrated with existing systems
- "Siloed" drone use in different areas of the company or project, resulting in data of varying standards and often in the duplication of data capture
- Drone data not shared effectively with all stakeholders
- A lack of centralised governance and control over the organisation's drone use

These issues emerge when a company does not consider the entirety of the drone workflow (see below), before starting the implementation.



One way to ensure that all aspects of the workflow are considered is to "start at the end", making sure that there is a clear understanding of exactly how drone captured data will ultimately be used, who will use it and which existing systems it must integrate with. It is also key that all relevant stakeholders are involved in this discussion, and that equal weight is placed on all four steps of the drone workflow. This approach ensures that drone implementations are driven by a clear need and meets the precise end user requirements. The most effective implementations also include Fleet Management software and Visual Asset Management (VAM) software.

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