

The Case for the Building Commissioning Process

The Building Commissioning Process is fast on its way to becoming a standard industry practice due to its adoption in more mature markets and its documented benefits. [See our commissioning brochure to read about its benefits →](#)

The power of the commissioning process is that it establishes quality checks and asks the right questions early in the project cycle and then throughout. This process goes well beyond the standard practice of testing, adjusting, balancing and traditional inspections. Despite some common misconceptions, commissioning does not only refer to the process of bringing an item into operation and ensuring that it is in good working order.

Important Commissioning Terminology

CxA Commissioning Authority

ICA Independent Commissioning Agent

Frequently Asked Questions...

Should I not be getting the best quality building as part of my construction project?

The general checkout and starting phase of a project in today's competitive construction environment has proved to be inadequate. This is due to numerous reasons such as the fast tracking of construction schedules to the complex systems, equipment and controls that are being put in place.

Does commissioning really make that much of a difference?

In a best case scenario of a conventionally delivered project, the building systems and equipment may be operating with no perceived problems or inferior quality, however, they are likely to be operating ineffectively, which leads higher energy costs and inefficiency in systems. Commissioning identifies and mitigates these hidden costs that add up to huge operational and maintenance expenses during the life cycle of the building.

What happens if I don't commission my building?

Removing the critical step of commissioning can lead to any or all of the following undesired scenarios: inefficient, inferior or total system shut-down; unusable spaces; production downtime; lost profit, increased operations interruptions, regular contractor call-backs and negative public relations.

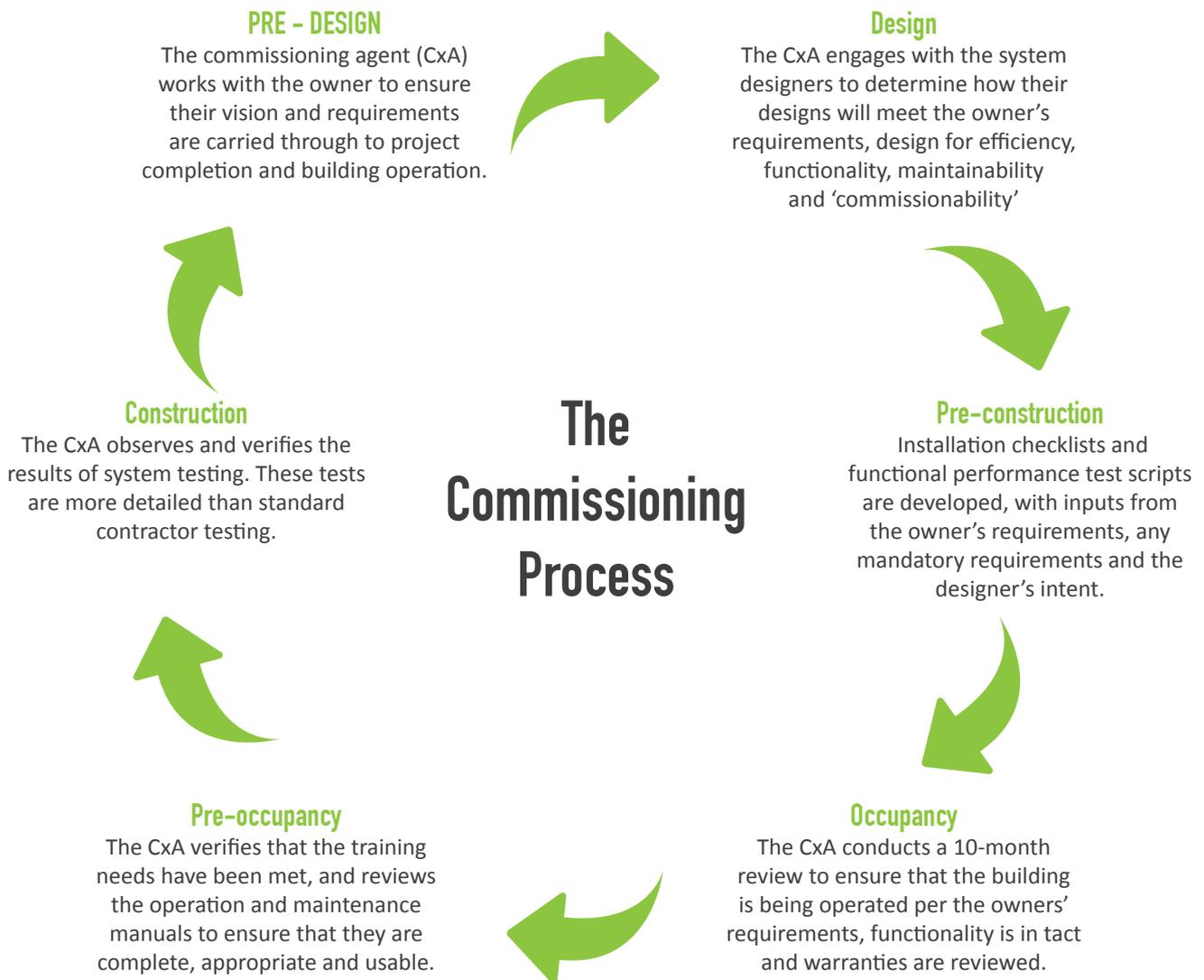
How do I know I am choosing the right commissioning agent?

It is important to use a service provider that specifies that they are providing CIBSE or ASHRAE based commissioning to ensure they offer the entire Commissioning Process, with its documented benefits and that it meets the requirements and intent of the LEED Commissioning prerequisites and the Green Star South Africa Commissioning credits.



Building commissioning is a holistic “quality based process with documented confirmation that building systems are planned, designed, installed, tested, operated and maintained in compliance with the owner’s project requirements.”

– The Building Commissioning Association



WE’RE HERE TO HELP! CONTACT US TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE BUILDING COMMISSIONING PROCESS.

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