

Getting Started with IT Asset Management

A Practical Approach to ITAM

Christine Morris & Teri Bobst | April 16, 2025



Agenda

Welcome & Introduction

- 1. What is Core Asset?
- 2. How Core Assets work with the CMDB
- 3. Model Categories Explained
- 4. Foundations: ITSM, CMDB & ITAM
- 5. Using Core Asset to Drive Value
- 6. Why HAM Pro & SAM Pro?
- 7. Q&A





Cask NX is with clients for what comes next – on the platform and in their business.





servicen

Validated Practice

Vulnerability

Response

servicen

Validated Practice

Integrated Risk

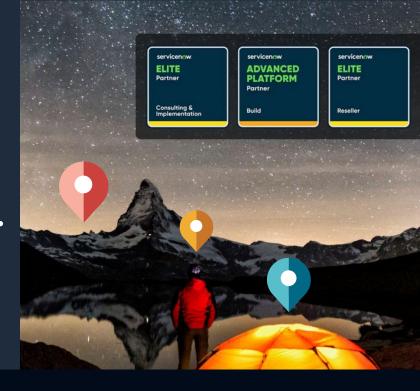
Management

servicenow

Hybrid

Validated Practice

Project Mgmt





8 VALIDATED PRACTICES (Most of any Pure-Play Partner in AMS)



+3 PRODUCT LINE ACHIEVEMENTS

Cask NX is the only pure play ServiceNow partner with dedicated, fully certified practices across the platform.



IT SERVICE



IT OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT





STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



EMPLOYEE WORKFLOW



CUSTOMER WORKFLOW



SECURITY & RISK





STRATEGY

TRANSFORMATION

IMPLEMENTATION & APP DEVELOPMENT

Product Implementation

Platform Engineering

Data Management & Integrations

App Development

OPERATIONS & ENHANCEMENT

Continuous Cloud Innovation

Platform Architecture & Engineering

Functional Process Execution

Cask Reserve

Strategic Roadmapping App Modernization

Advisory Consulting

Platform Strategy & Governance

Demand Management

UX & UI Design

Product Management

Org Change Management

Testing & Quality Engineering

Program & Project Management

Agile Transformation w/SAFe



Introductions



Teri Bobst
Sr. Director,
ITAM | ITOM | Security & Risk
Cask NX



Christine Morris
Sr. Director, Service Innovation
ITSM | Platform | UI/UX
Cask NX



Join the Conversation: Using Zoom

Turn on Video

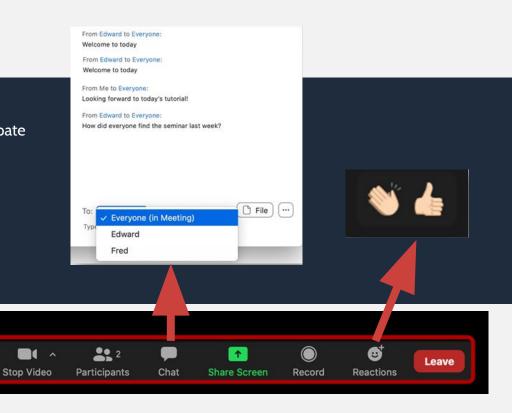
Let's get interactive and enjoy ourselves!

Unmute – Click the microphone icon to unmute and participate

Chat – Message everyone or just one person

Get Help – Use Chat

Show Captions - Click on MORE, click Show Captions





Catch Up with our CMDB & ITAM MasterClass Series!

















ITAM MASTERCLASS

Join for our 3rd ITAM MasterClass on HAM Pro May 21st!

CMDB MASTERCLASS

Join for our 8th CMDB MasterClass on Event Management & AlOps June 10th!

Find recordings, resources & more!





What is Core Asset?



AUDIENCE POLL

How confident are you in your current asset inventory?



We've got this on lock! 🔐





We think we know what we have





Jan has a spreadsheet... maybe?





Confidence? LOL. We're in full asset anarchy 🔥



Core Assets as the foundation for HAM and SAM

Core Asset is the foundational building block for maturing your ITAM program into full-fledged Hardware Asset Management (HAM) and Software Asset Management (SAM) Pro. At its core, it provides essential data and processes to get your asset management journey started, making it easier to scale up to more advanced capabilities later on.

For Hardware Asset Management (HAM)

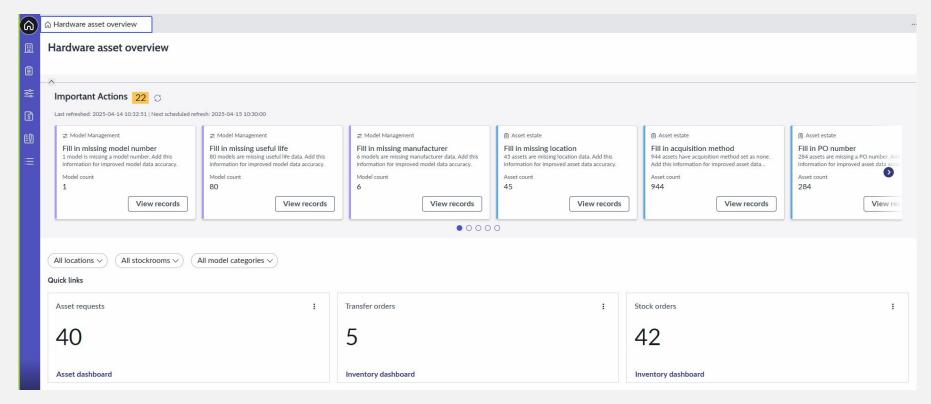
- Model Management: Organize and track asset models, ensuring consistency across the organization.
- Stockroom Inventory: Maintain a clear view of inventory levels—who has what, and where it is.
- **Sourcing & Procurement:** Manage the lifecycle of asset acquisition, from purchase orders to asset receipt.
- Asset Creation: Automatically create asset records as new devices or hardware come into your environment.

For Software Asset Management (SAM)

- Model Management: Basic tools to track and manage software models, ensuring accurate records.
- **Entitlement Creation:** Set up software entitlements (licenses, subscriptions, etc.) for better tracking and compliance.
- **Basic Reconciliation:** Compare installed software against purchased entitlements to identify gaps and risks.

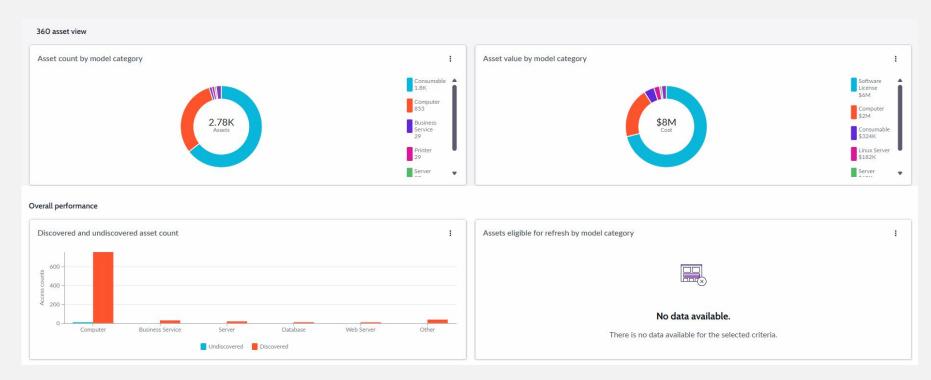


The Asset Workspace - Hardware Asset Overview



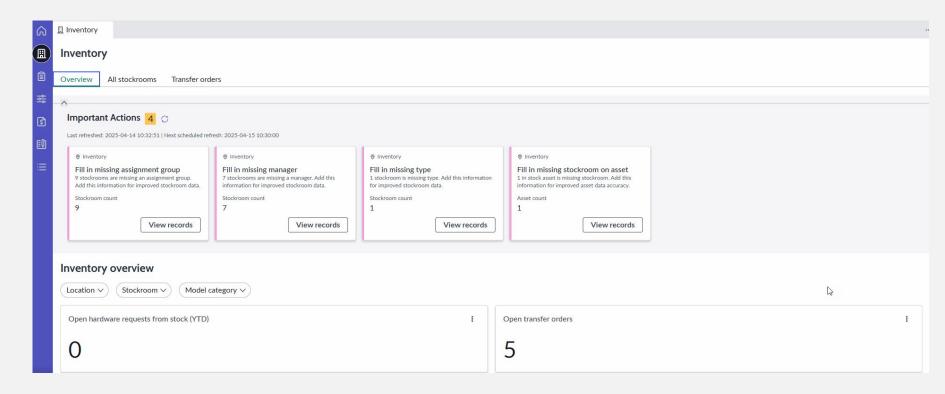


The Asset Workspace - Hardware Asset Overview



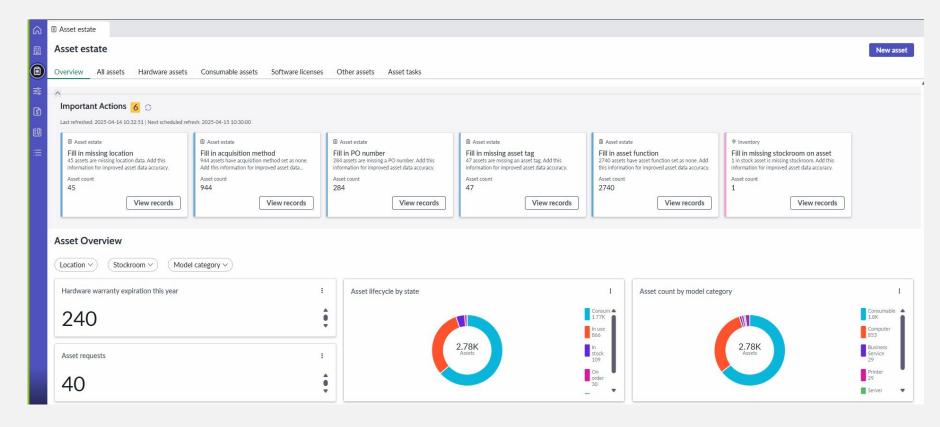


The Asset Workspace - Inventory



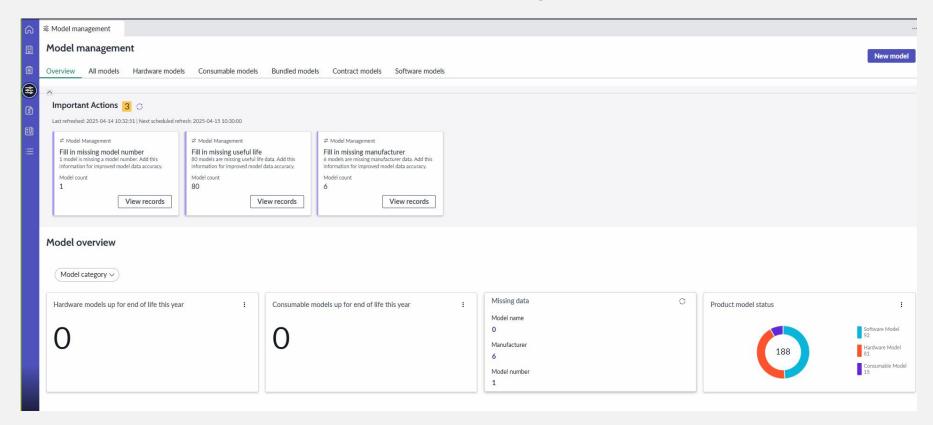


The Asset Workspace - Asset Estate



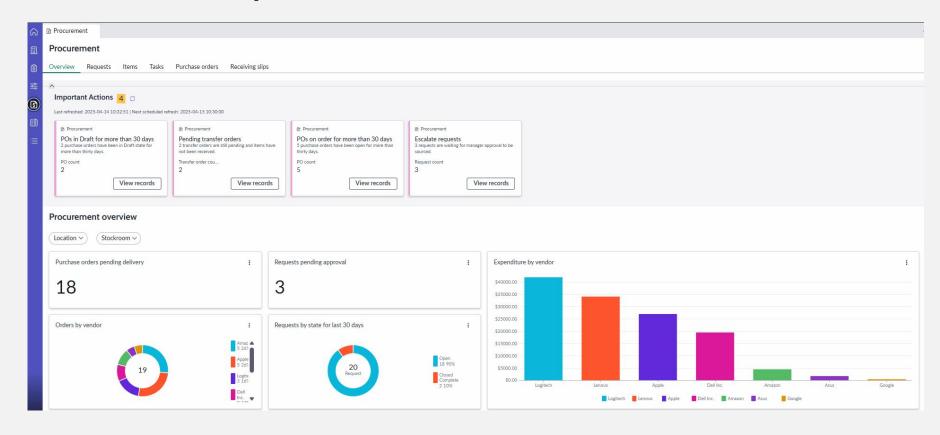


The Asset Workspace - Model Management



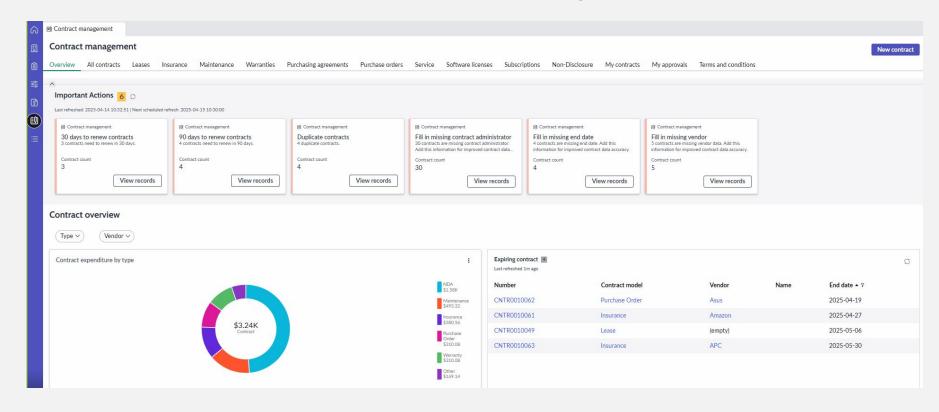


The Asset Workspace - Procurement





The Asset Workspace - Contract Management







How Core Assets work with the CMDB



Core Assets and the CMDB

When launching an ITAM program, one truth stands above the rest: **the asset comes first**. It's what you **plan** for, **budget** for, **purchase**, and ultimately **deploy** to meet your organization's needs. The asset lifecycle kicks off before that hardware or software ever becomes a blip on your CMDB radar.

From Asset to CI: The Lifecycle Shift

Once an asset is **in use**, it transitions into its role as a **configuration item (CI)**. At this point, Discovery (or other integration sources) steps in to maintain operational visibility via the CMDB. This is where the two records—Asset and CI—start dancing together.

CMDB visibility gives you the who, what, and where

- Who's using it
- What's installed
- What it's connected to
- Whether it's online, and more

Asset focuses on

- Ownership
- Financial data
- Contractual obligations
- Procurement history
- Lifecycle status



Reality Check You Probably Already Have Asset Records

Most orgs new to ITAM don't start from zero. You likely have asset records that were **automatically created from CI records**. These are a solid starting point—but they need some love.



Go back and update those asset records with actual asset data. The more detail you add—especially around cost, vendor, ownership, and warranties—the more value you unlock for the entire lifecycle.

The goal?

Turn a loosely tracked device into a fully managed business asset. That's where the magic (and ROI) begins.





Model Categories: The Glue That Holds It All Together



Model Categories: The Glue That Holds It All Together

Ever wonder, "Why do I already have asset records when no one's created them?"

Enter: Model Categories. They're the secret sauce that connects the dots between your asset and CI records in ServiceNow.

What Are Model Categories?

In ServiceNow, Model Categories serve as the bridge between:

- Asset Classes (like Hardware or Software)
- CI Classes (like Computer, Server, or Installed Software)

They define how an asset and its corresponding CI are related—and more importantly, how they get created and kept in sync.

Two-Way Sync Magic

- When an asset is created first (say through procurement or stockroom processes), the Model Category determines which CI class should be created to represent it in the CMDB.
- When a CI is created first (like from Discovery), the Model Category helps ServiceNow create the appropriate asset record, linking the two for lifecycle tracking.



Why You Should Care

If your organization is creating custom model categories—which is often necessary for unique asset types or bespoke CIs—it is absolutely critical to understand how the pieces fit together.

Because if you get it wrong? You could end up with mismatched records, broken sync rules, and some very cranky asset managers (and you know they don't forget).

SYNCHRONIZATION RULES

Once both the Asset and CI records exist, Asset-CI Sync Rules kick in to keep them aligned throughout the lifecycle:

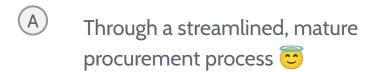
- Location changes
- Ownership updates
- Status transitions
- And more

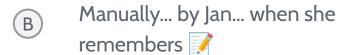
Done right, this setup creates a seamless data thread from procurement to retirement. Done wrong... well, let's just not do it wrong, yeah?



AUDIENCE POLL

How are assets typically added to your system?





Magic. They just show up. 🧙

Added? We don't track anything—YOLO





ITSM, CMDB, and ITAM – The Basics





Connecting back to ITSM

So how does all this Core Asset, CI syncing, and model category goodness actually connect back to ITSM?

Short answer: In more ways than you probably realize. Long answer? Let's break it down.



Request Management & the Service Catalog



The Service Catalog is where it starts for your end users—but it should also be where ITAM has a seat at the table.



Designing a model-based catalog (instead of free-form product requests) ensures you're only offering approved, supportable, and tracked assets.

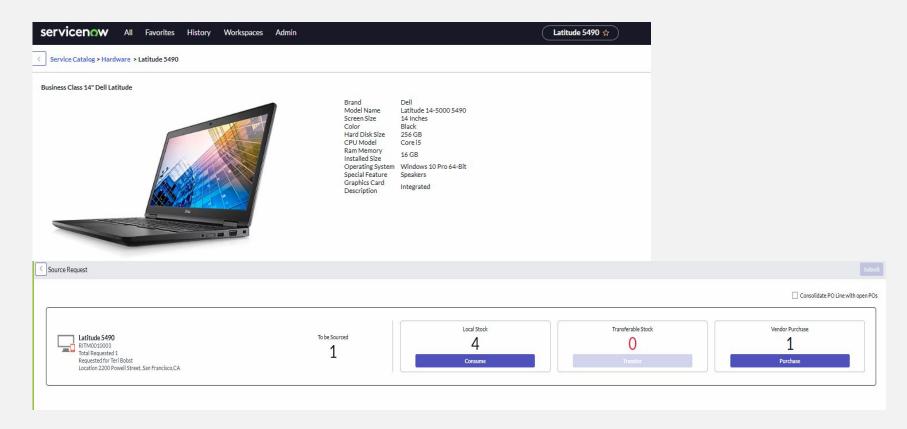


Add required variables to requests—like needed location, user type, or justification—and your ITAM team gets exactly what they need, without a bunch of back-and-forth.

Do it right once in the catalog = fewer reworks, faster fulfillment, and fewer angry Teams messages.



Catalog and Sourcing





Incident & Change Management





Linking CI records to incidents and changes adds rich context:

- See repeat issues tied to specific hardware models (hello, early retirement (a)).
- Track device usage history over time—who had it, what broke, what was fixed.

This visibility helps your Service Desk, Problem Management, and Change Managers make better, faster decisions.

Do it right once in the catalog = fewer reworks, faster fulfillment, and fewer angry Slack messages.



End User Support





When ITAM is aligned with ITSM and CMDB, you're not just managing tickets—you're managing experiences.

Better support decisions = better outcomes = happier humans = less churn.





So... What Can I Do With Core Assets?



X LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR ITAM MATURITY

Start with the basics and scale to HAM Pro and SAM Pro when you're ready—without redoing everything.

IMPROVE FULFILLMENT & SERVICE DELIVERY

Use model-based catalog items and smarter request variables to streamline procurement and reduce rework.

SYNC WITH THE CMDB FOR FULL VISIBILITY

Automatically tie asset and CI records together using model categories and sync rules to stay aligned across lifecycle stages.

ENHANCE INCIDENT & CHANGE MANAGEMENT

Track device-level issues, spot problematic models, and understand the full impact of changes on deployed assets.

SUPPORT END USERS LIKE A PRO

Know who has what, what's been done to it, and what's likely to go wrong—so you can support your people proactively.

IN ENABLE REPORTING & STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING

Start capturing ownership, lifecycle, financial, and contractual data now—because that's the fuel for smarter ITAM decisions later.





Core Asset (Baseline)

Then Why Do I Need HAM Pro and SAM Pro?

Core Asset is your **starter kit**—perfect for tracking, inventory, and getting your feet under you. But if you want **automation**, **scalability**, **and strategic impact**, here's why you upgrade:

Manual lifecycle updates

Basic inventory management

Some CI syncing (if configured)

Great starting point, but still requires hands-on effort



Then Why Do I Need HAM Pro and SAM Pro?

Core Asset is your starter kit—perfect for tracking, inventory, and getting your feet under you. But if you want automation, scalability, and strategic impact, here's why you upgrade:



Think: from spreadsheets and guesswork to automated, audit-ready precision

- ▼ Fully automated lifecycle flows
 - No more manual status updates at every stage
- **Model** normalization
 - Clean, consistent data across records
- Lifecycle content packs
 - Pre-built templates, flows, and logic for devices
- ✓ Ongoing enhancements from ServiceNow
 - New features, tighter integrations, smarter flows



From "do we have licenses?" to "here's exactly what we own, use, and need to reduce"

- SaaS Visibility & Management
 - Discover shadow IT, optimize subscriptions
- Advanced Reconciliation
 - Match installs vs. entitlements like a licensing wizard
- **Model Normalization**
 - Clean up vendor, product, and version chaos
- Lifecycle Stage Automation
 - Know where your software lives in its usage lifecycle



AUDIENCE POLL

Why haven't you implemented HAM **Pro/SAM Pro yet?**



Budget? In this economy?



Leadership doesn't get it and neither does Jan 🙄



We're still trying to survive Core Asset 🥯



I didn't know I needed it until today 😳





Summary



Getting Started Is Easy!

Cask meets you where your ITAM is today

Start your journey with our HAM foundations and SAM foundations



Cask's HAM Essentials™ jumpstarts HAM-P in ServiceNow, giving you visibility into your hardware assets



Cask's SAM Essentials™ sets up SAM-P in ServiceNow for software visibility, cost optimization, and automation



SAM and HAM Expert Assist is a subscription service providing ongoing expert support to help optimize your ITAM solution.



Tell us what ITAM topics you want to learn more about!

Look for a survey following this session!



Next ITAM MasterClass: HAM Pro Wednesday, 5/21!

Management & AlOps
Wednesday, June 11!

Take our quiz to discover your
Al Superhero persona and enter
into a drawing for a free Al Visible
Value Engagement valued at
\$25,000 USD.



Questions?





Thank you!

Questions?

Email: Stephanie.edelman@caskllc.com

