



NDIA National Test & Evaluation Conference



# The Value of the Test Architect

James Brewer  
Louisa Guise, Jerry Emmert  
Raytheon  
March 2012

# The Conference Focus

---

“The proper role of Test & Evaluation  
in our Defense System Requirements Process”

# What is a Test Architect?

---

- Chief Engineer for Test
- Systems Thinker
- Systems Engineer
- Test Program Director
- Domain Expert
- Collaborator
- Communicator
- Mobilizer

# What does a Test Architect do?

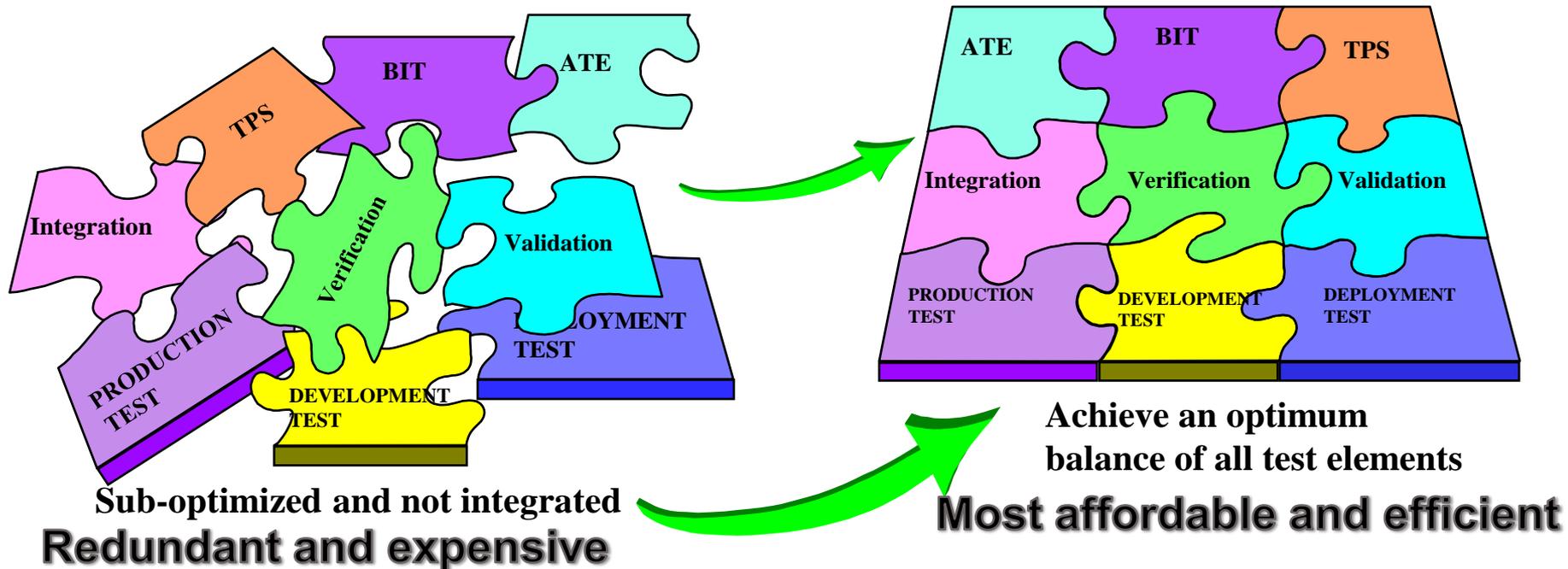
---

- Establishes consolidated life cycle test strategy
- Takes ownership of test strategy implementation
- Leads development of test architecture
- Maintains visibility and governance into test development
- Facilitates cross domain knowledge
- Ensures consistency throughout life of program

# What is Test Strategy & Architecture?

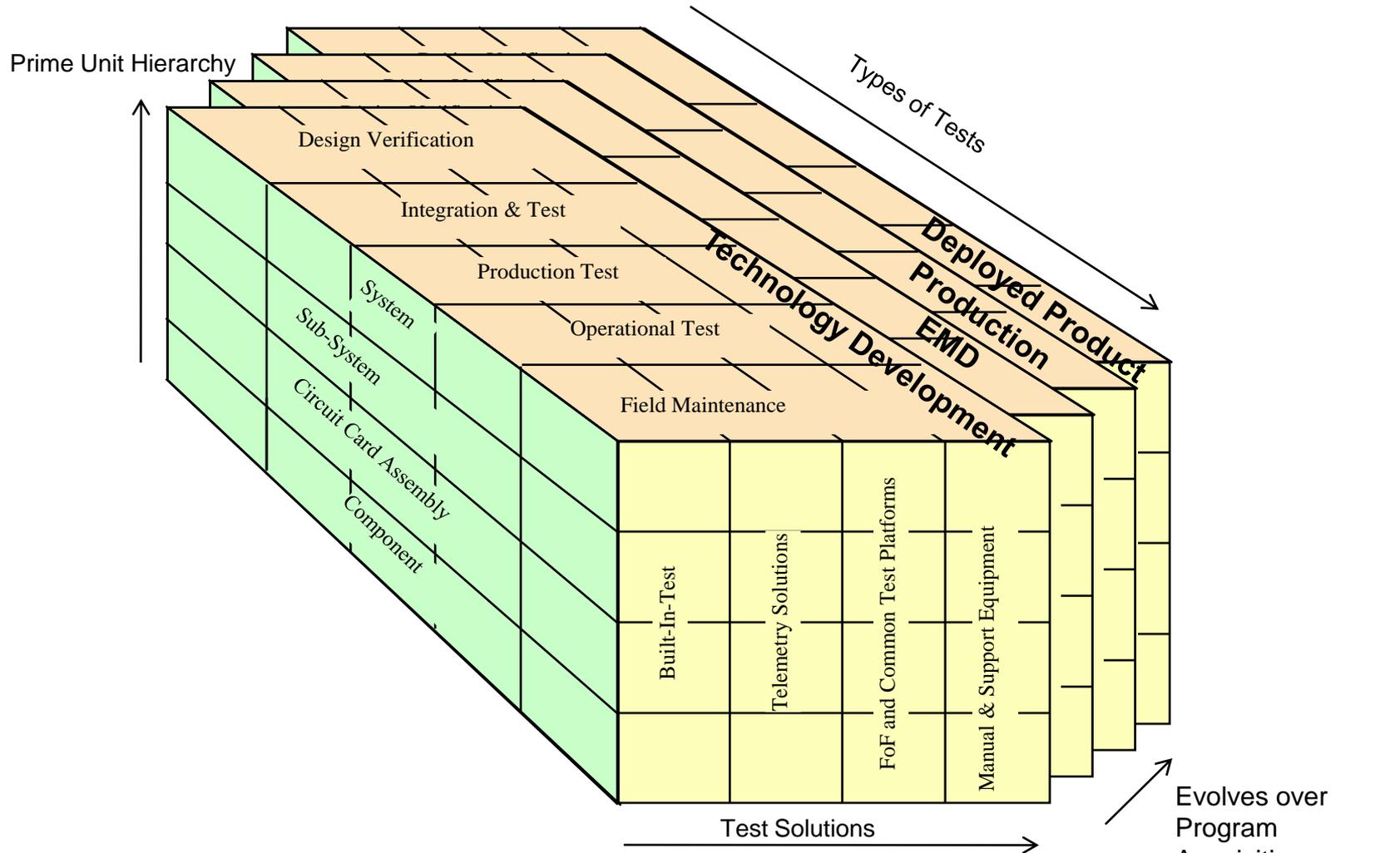
Test Strategy & Architecture is the process of **planning for** and **executing** the integration, coordination, and optimization of **all** program **test-related activities**.

It is **Systems Engineering** as applied to test in order to achieve the most **affordable solution** that gives us the necessary **mission assurance**.



TPS = Test Position Station (TE), BIT= Built-in-Test, ATE=Automated Test Equipment

# Optimized Test Strategy & Architecture



Evolves over Program Acquisition Phase as Product Matures

**Test Strategy & Architecture Optimizes Life Cycle Cost Over Levels of Assembly and Across Test Types**

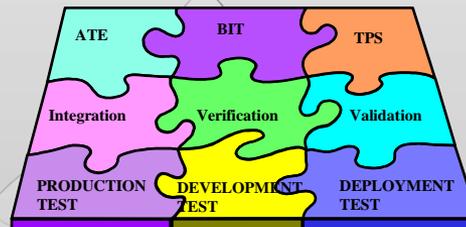
# Test Architect Scope

## Interaction with Design

- Influence Design for Test
- Identify test related design requirements
- Coordinate BIT development and use
- Ensure test requirements are consistent with test strategy
- Evaluate effects of requirements changes on test strategy
- Ensure data is collected for requirements and model validation

## Planning for Production

- Optimize Production Test Strategy for AUPP and Mission Assurance
- Coordinate test reduction planning



## Test Related Supplier Oversight

- Develop and oversee technical aspects of supplier test strategies
- Coordinate test requirements and test plans with suppliers

## Understanding Customer Perspective (T&E, Warfighter and Support)

- RMS Lead for Program T&E Working Group
- Streamline integration, verification, and validation across contracts and events.
- Ensure “Test as you Fly” philosophy
- Ensure design and test strategy are consistent with depot and upgrade conops

## Business Context

- Take into account cost & schedule constraints
- Take into account Enterprise Strategies
- Take into account Customer Strategies

# Approach solutions solicited for...

---

Reviewing requirements from a T&E perspective

Reviewing requirements as they are developed

Early identification of operational concerns to leadership

Early identification of test-critical resource shortfalls to leadership

# Approach solutions solicited for...

---

Testing in the context of realistic operational environments

Testing in a joint environment

Common understanding of planned CONOPS for T&E

Identification of Reliability, Availability, Maintainability requirements

# Test Architect Competency Model

**Raytheon**

## Test Architect Competency Model

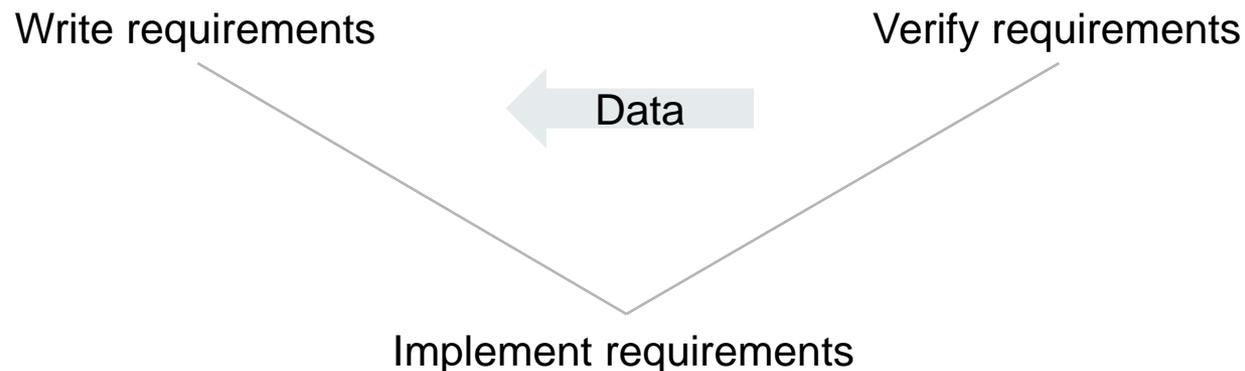
- ✓ Collaborates across a multi-disciplined set of stakeholders
- ✓ Communicates effectively (verbal, presentation and written communications)
- ✓ Gathers influence with program leadership through an attitude of respect
- ✓ Has experience of
- ✓ Conceives, comm
- ✓ Facilitates consen
- ✓ Understands the
- ✓ Understands ope
- ✓ Understands com
- ✓ Understands the
- ✓ Understands and
- ✓ Uses test strategy
- ✓ Creates optimized
- ✓ Identifies and per
- ✓ Applies cost mod
- ✓ Synthesizes integ
- ✓ Architects and co
- ✓ Performs require
- ✓ Influences design
- ✓ Understands the
- ✓ Crafts supplier test
- ✓ Assesses supplier
- ✓ Assesses team st

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled "Test Strategy & Architecture Competency Gap Analysis Tool - APSE Section 2012 rev-A.xlsx". The spreadsheet displays a grid of data with columns labeled B through Q and rows numbered 1 through 30. The data is color-coded in green, blue, and yellow. A legend at the bottom right explains the color coding: SE Least Skills (white), Current Core Competency (green), Improvement Need (yellow), and TA Skills (blue). The spreadsheet also includes a "Pivot Table" at the bottom.

Now, let's look at each of those need areas

# Reviewing requirements from a T&E perspective

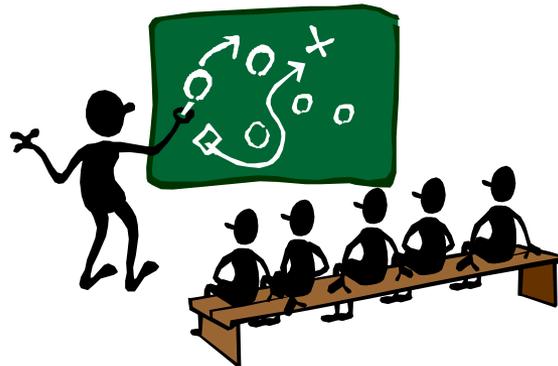
- Has experience on programs in multiple phases of the life cycle
- Understands operationally relevant forms of test and evaluation
- Understands common test methods, equipment and interfaces
- Understands the issues associated with testing all parts of the system
- Performs requirements analysis and flow down
- Architects and coordinates Built-In Test implementations



Test Architects have experience and a systems view

# Reviewing requirements as they are developed

- Collaborates across a multi-disciplined set of stakeholders
- Facilitates consensus for mutually agreed test solutions
- Understands the various disciplines within the scope of test
- Synthesizes integration and test flows
- Understands the issues and various paradigms associated with supplier test strategies



Test Architects pull teams together and facilitate alignment

# Early identification of operational concerns to leadership

- Gathers influence with program leadership through an attitude of respect
- Understands the issues associated with testing all parts of the system
- Understands and applies the analysis of test data
- Assesses supplier test capabilities
- Assesses team strengths and proactively solicits support from others



Test Architects are members of program leadership “close to the action”

# Early identification of test-critical resource shortfalls to leadership

- Understands the various disciplines within the scope of test
- Understands common test methods, equipment and interfaces
- Understands the issues associated with testing all parts of the system
- Synthesizes integration and test flows
- Assesses supplier test capabilities
- Assesses team strengths and proactively solicits support from others



Test Architects analyze test planning and recognize gaps

# Testing in the context of realistic operational environments

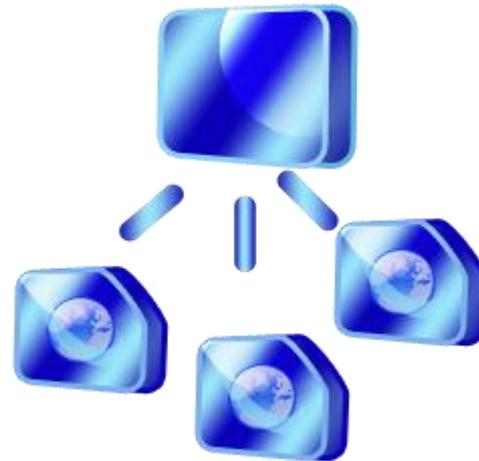
- Has experience on programs in multiple phases of the life cycle
- Understands operationally relevant forms of test and evaluation
- Understands common test methods, equipment and interfaces
- Understands the issues associated with testing all parts of the system
- Performs requirements analysis and flow down



Test Architects know the factory and the field

# Testing in a joint environment

- Collaborates across a multi-disciplined set of stakeholders
- Conceives, communicates and applies test principles to align stakeholders around a test strategy
- Facilitates consensus for mutually agreed test solutions
- Understands the various disciplines within the scope of test
- Understands and applies the analysis of test data



Test Architects collaborate and facilitate diverse teams

# Common understanding of planned CONOPS for T&E

- Facilitates consensus for mutually agreed test solutions
- Understands operationally relevant forms of test and evaluation
- Understands common test methods, equipment and interfaces
- Understands the issues associated with testing all parts of the system
- Understands and applies the analysis of test data
- Synthesizes integration and test flows
- Architects and coordinates Built-In Test implementations



Test Architects ensure consistency of practice in test

# Identification of Reliability, Availability and Maintainability requirements

- Creates optimized test partitioning from lowest to highest levels of assembly and across program life cycle
- Identifies and performs trade studies
- Architects and coordinates Built-In Test implementations
- Influences design for test with knowledge of design for cost, testability analysis and product design
- Crafts supplier test statements of work



Test Architects bring about visibility into the product and facilitate the complete solution

# Recommendations

- If you don't have a Test Architect – Get ONE!
- Write the role into new contracts
- Build the competency among your people



# Author Information

---

## James Brewer

Mr. Brewer is a Systems Test Engineering Section Head at Raytheon Missile Systems (RMS) specializing in Test Strategy & Architecture. Mr. Brewer has been with Raytheon since 2007, having spent his 20+ professional years in design, test and project management. His experience spans the product life cycle and the industries of digital electronics, avionics, semiconductors, factory automation and embedded software. He has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, a Master of Arts in Eastern Classics and other post-graduate work in linguistics, philosophy, software and the sciences. Mr. Brewer oversees the test development on several programs across RMS through his engineering staff and leads the Systems Engineering white space for the RMS Test Systems Solutions Center – Office of the Chief Engineer.

## Louisa Guise

Mrs. Louisa Guise is currently the Strategy Deployment Lead for the Raytheon Missile System (RMS) Systems Test Directorate. In her role, Mrs. Guise is responsible for identifying and implementing strategic initiatives for test. For the last three years, Mrs. Guise has been defining the discipline of Test Strategy & Architecture and the role of the Test Architect. She has been with Raytheon for 29 years, holding positions of leadership, primarily in Modeling & Simulation. Mrs. Guise holds a BS in Biomedical Engineering and an MS in Systems Engineering, both from Boston University.

## Jerry Emmert

Mr. Emmert has a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Systems Engineering Technology and a Master of Science degree in Computer Information Systems. He has 26 years of experience in test system design and development. During his time with Raytheon, Mr. Emmert has contributed extensively in the design and implementation of many test and simulation systems. Mr. Emmert shares a patent for the “Programmable Advanced Systems Interface Simulator (PASIS®)” and has published work in the area of VXI performance as well as Utilization of Testability Modeling. Mr. Emmert is presently working as a Test Architect for Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona.