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AF Life Cycle Management Center



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Open Systems Standards and Agile Acquisition

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Congressional Emphasis



- **Section 804 of 2016 NDAA authorizes a Middle Tier acquisition pathway for rapid prototyping and fielding**
 - DON and USAF have distributed guidance
- **Section 805 of 2017 NDAA describes requirement for Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) in major defense acquisition programs**
 - Modular design
 - Major System Interfaces conform to widely supported & consensus based standards
 - System architecture that provides for severable components



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NDAAs MOSA Goals

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- **Significant cost avoidance**
- **Schedule reduction (speed of capability to the field)**
- **Opportunities for rapid technical upgrades**
- **Increased interoperability**



Challenges



- **Numerous issues need to be addressed to achieve the vision**
 - **What architectures do you start with?**
 - **What open standards are emerging?**
 - **How do you streamline testing or manage just-in-time testing?**
 - **How do you streamline the accreditation process?**
 - **Will there be component libraries available to draw from?**
 - **How do you streamline the requirements process?**



Trends – Emerging Standards



- C4ISR/EW Modular Open Suite of Standards (CMOSS)
- Common Open Architecture Radar Programs (COARPs)
- Future Airborne Capability Environment (FACE)
- Hardware Open Systems Technologies (HOST)
- Modular Active Protection System (MAPS)
- Modular Open Radio Frequency Architecture (MORA)
- Open Mission Systems (OMS)
- Sensor Open Systems Architecture (SOSA)
- Simulator Common Architecture Requirements and Standards (SCARS)
- Software Communications Architecture (SCA)
- STANdardization AGreements (STANAGs - various standards)
- Universal Armament Interface (UAI)
- Universal Command and Control Interface (UCI)
- Unmanned Systems (UxS) Control Segment (UCS)
- Vehicular Integration for C4ISR/EW Interoperability (VICTORY)



Trends – GRAs



- **Government Reference Architectures appear to be an approach to address some of these challenges**
 - Provides a starting place
 - Includes appropriate standards
 - Aids testing due to familiarity and incremental approach
 - Same with accreditation
 - Libraries still need to be addressed
 - Requirements process still needs to be addressed



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JSTARS Recap Example



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- **GRA developed through interaction with Industry SMEs**
 - Non-proprietary interfaces and open standards
 - Open Mission Systems (OMS) standard
 - Common Open Architecture Radar Programs (COARPs) standard
 - Safety of flight isolation





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GRA Benefits

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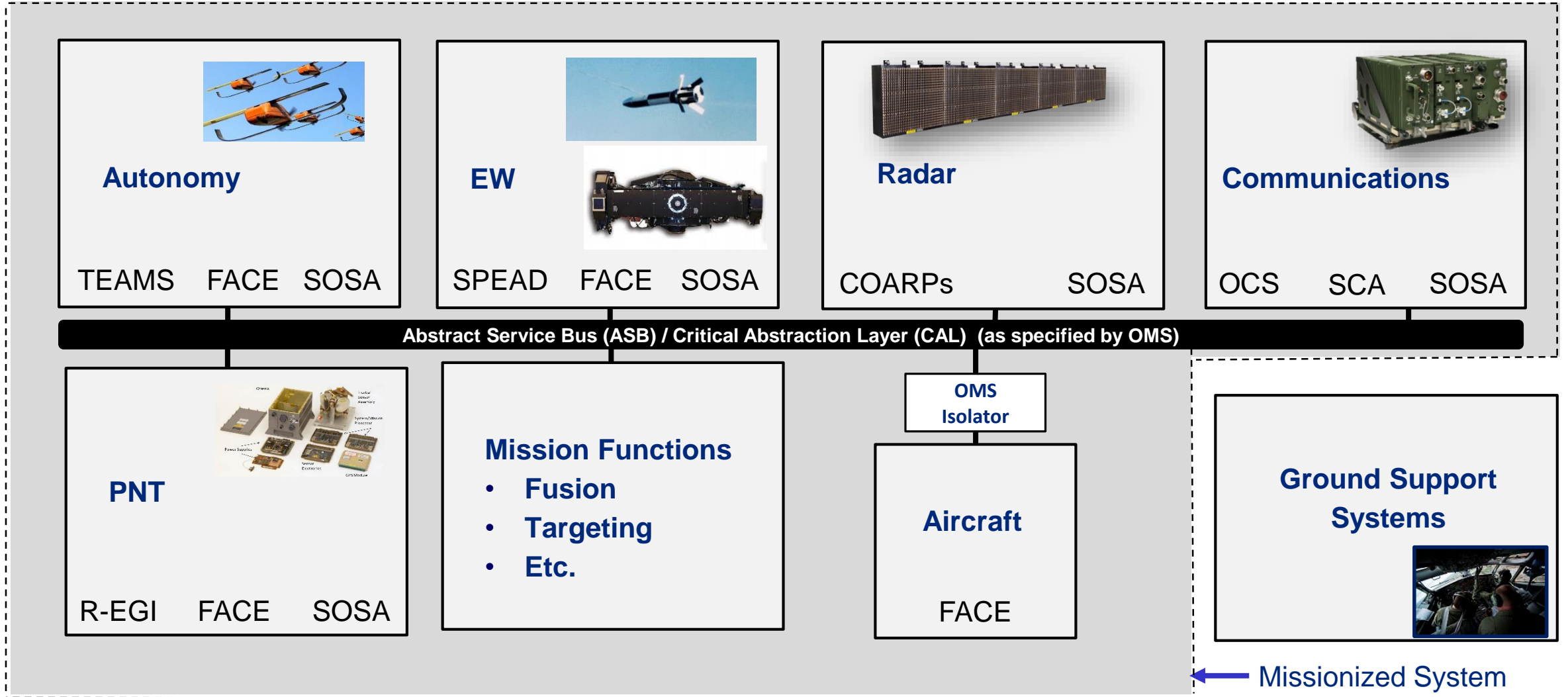
- **Formally represents Government's understanding of weapon system requirements**
- **Modeled using modern architectural tools**
- **Helps Government understand program trade space**
- **Facilitates discussions during all phases**
- **Readily useable as the starting point for future efforts**



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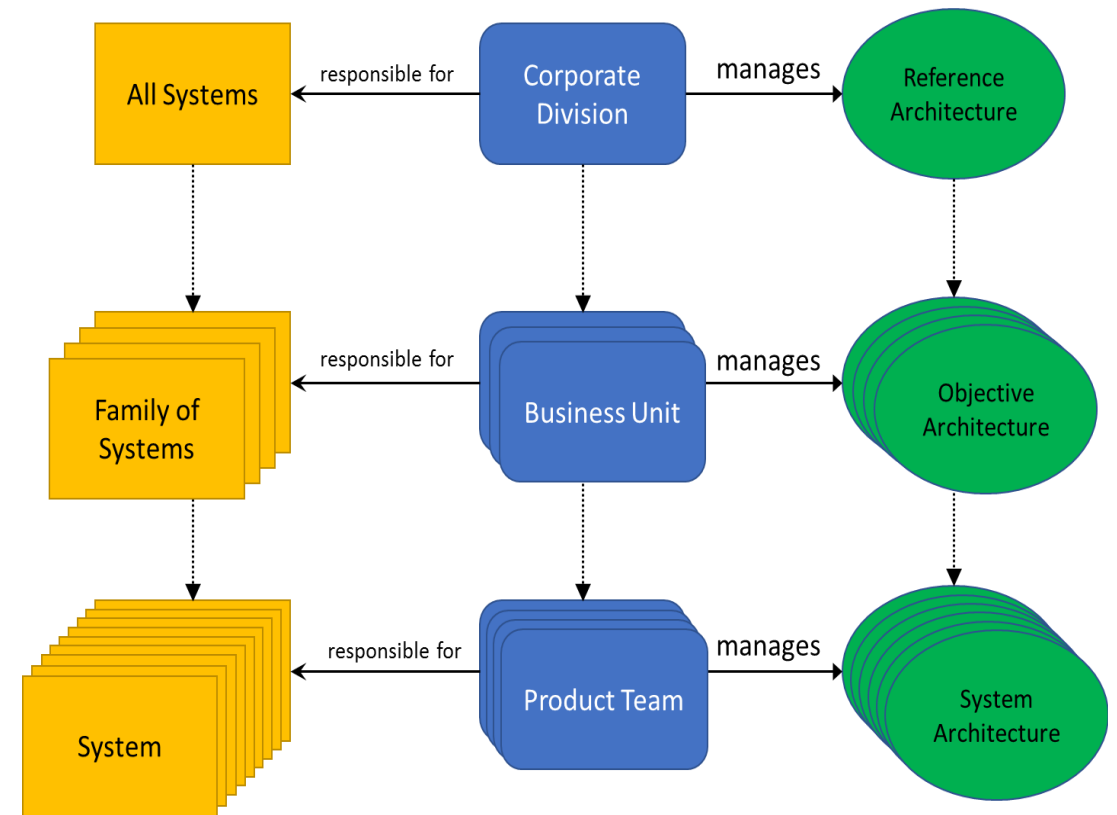
Notional Avionics GRA

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- **Joint Multi-Role (JMR) Comprehensive Architecture Strategy (JCAS)** is an evolving Government-led architectural approach that blends open systems enablers with an overarching enterprise approach in order to influence desired lifecycle characteristics of procured systems in a coordinated manner reflecting a Family of Systems (FoS) approach
 - **Based on three, traceable levels** (at varying levels of organizational control) of architectural specificity, analysis, and documentation to achieve desired technical and business drivers established at each level
 - **Integrates business and technical objectives** with the intent of creating severable and compete-able modules that allows vendor-independent acquisition and intentional creation of reusable components
 - **Enables controlled elaboration and provides traceability** between the outcome of decisions (choices), and the business drivers behind the choices.
 - **Promotes architectural consistency** to enable flexibility and innovation in order to reduce the likelihood that a platform will develop unique and difficult to support solutions from an enterprise perspective through the right blending of approaches capable of meeting desired high level or operational goals.





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Conclusions (Questions)



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- **Is it possible to kick-start future programs or modifications by supplying a government reference architecture?**
 - If so, can we add “basic” or foundational cyber controls?

