



**S Y S T E M S**  
**E N G I N E E R I N G**  
R E S E A R C H C E N T E R



ACQUISITION INNOVATION  
RESEARCH CENTER

**SYSTEMS ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER (SERC)  
ACQUISITION INNOVATION RESEARCH CENTER (AIRC)**

# **A DECADE OF DIGITAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH, INSIGHTS PAST AND FUTURE FROM THE SYSTEMS ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER**

**Mr. Tom McDermott, SERC Deputy Director and CTO**

Dr. Mark Blackburn, Principal Investigator

Dr. Tom Hagedorn, Research Scientist

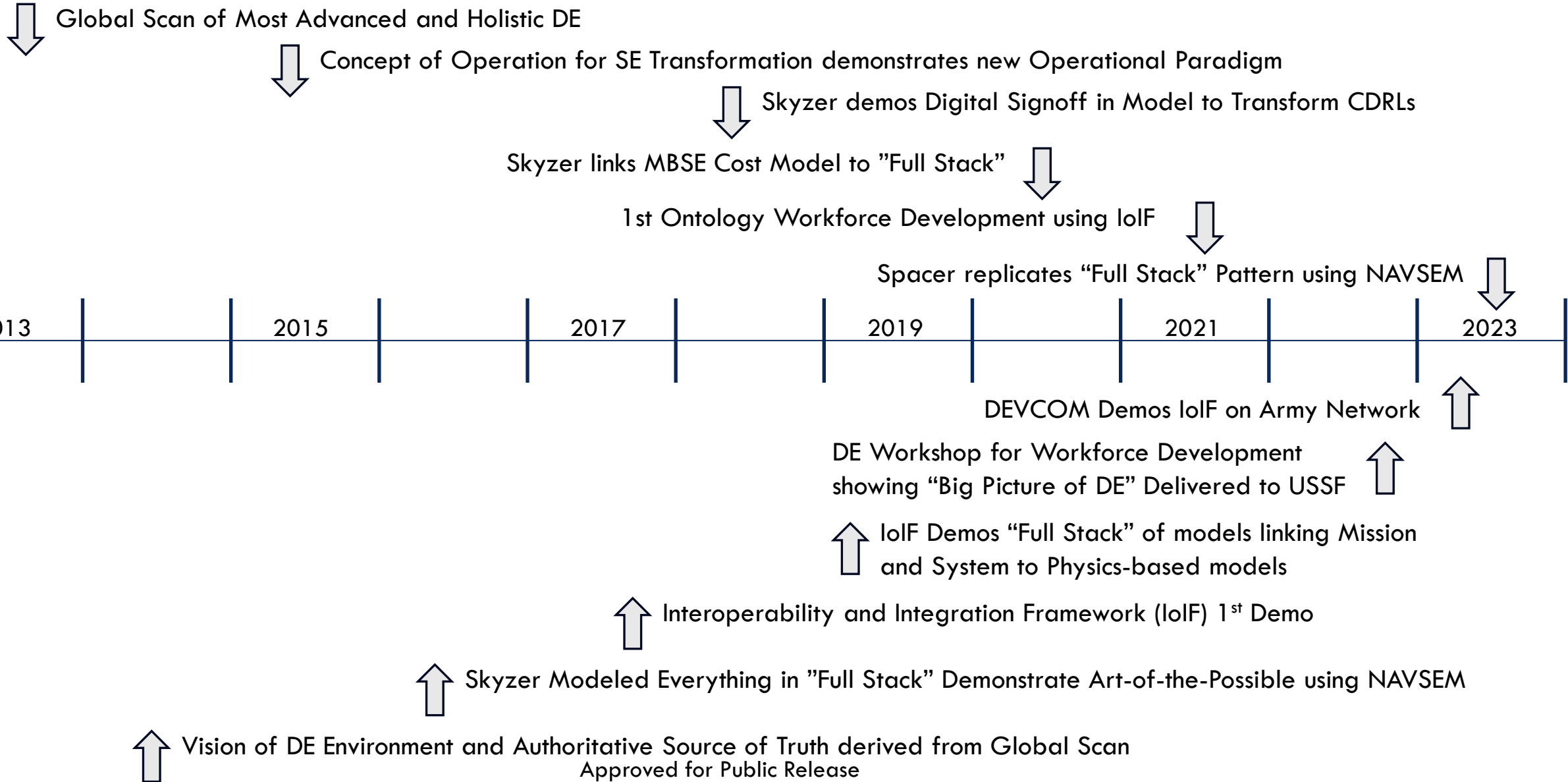
Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Sponsors: US Navy NAVAIR, US Army Armaments Center, US Space Force, OUSD (R&E)

**NDIA**

**27th Annual Systems and  
Mission Engineering Conference**

Approved for Public Release



↓ 2016: Skyzer Modeled Everything in "Full Stack" Demonstrate Art-of-the-Possible using NAVSEM

2017: DEVCOM Demos IoF on Army Network ↓

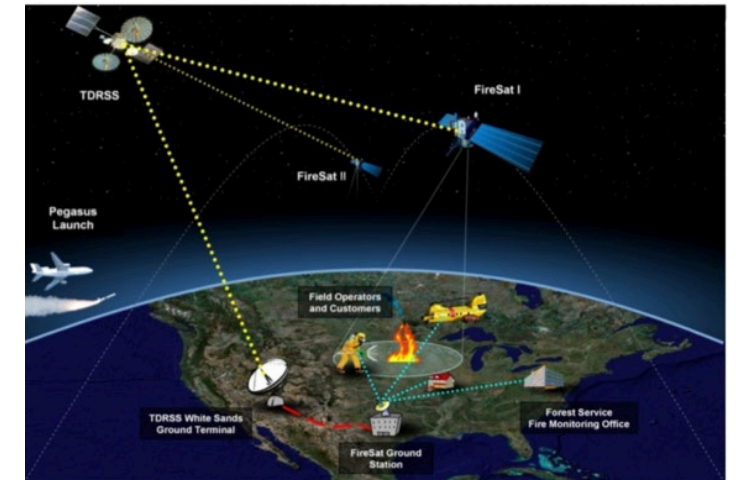
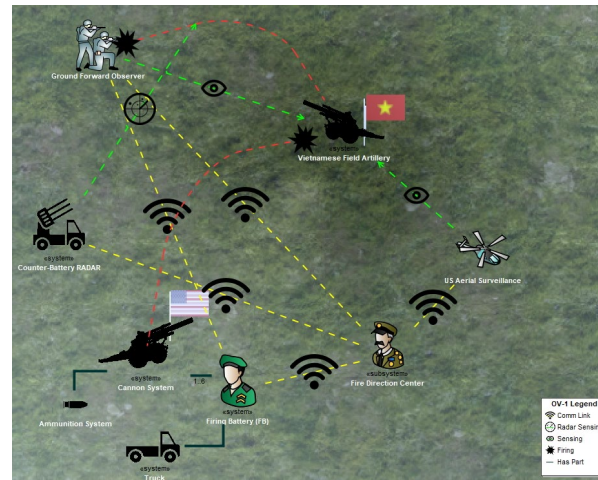
2023: Spacer replicates "Full Stack" Pattern using NAVSEM ↓

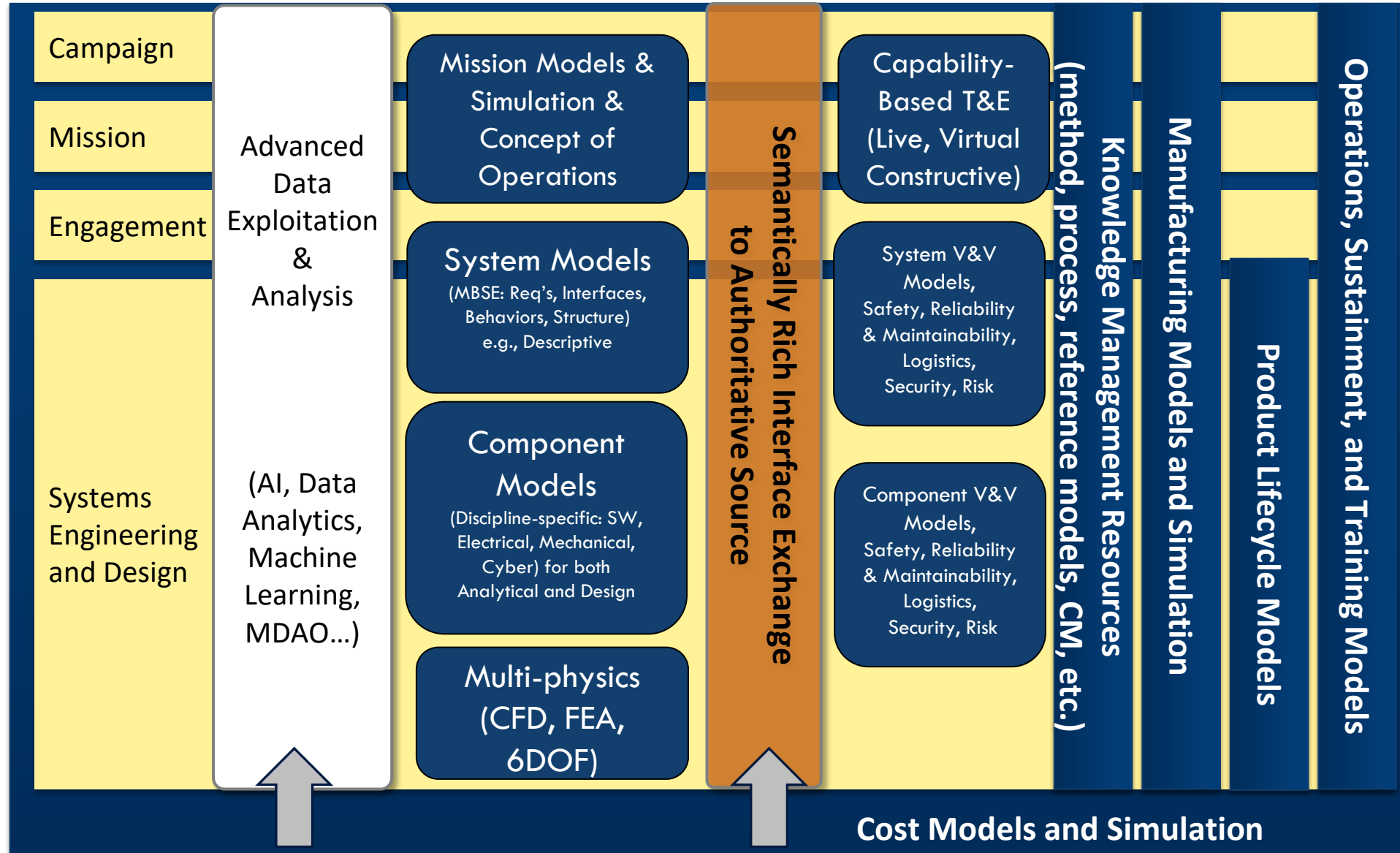


### Skyzer Search & Rescue

### Armaments Missions

### Spacer: FireSat

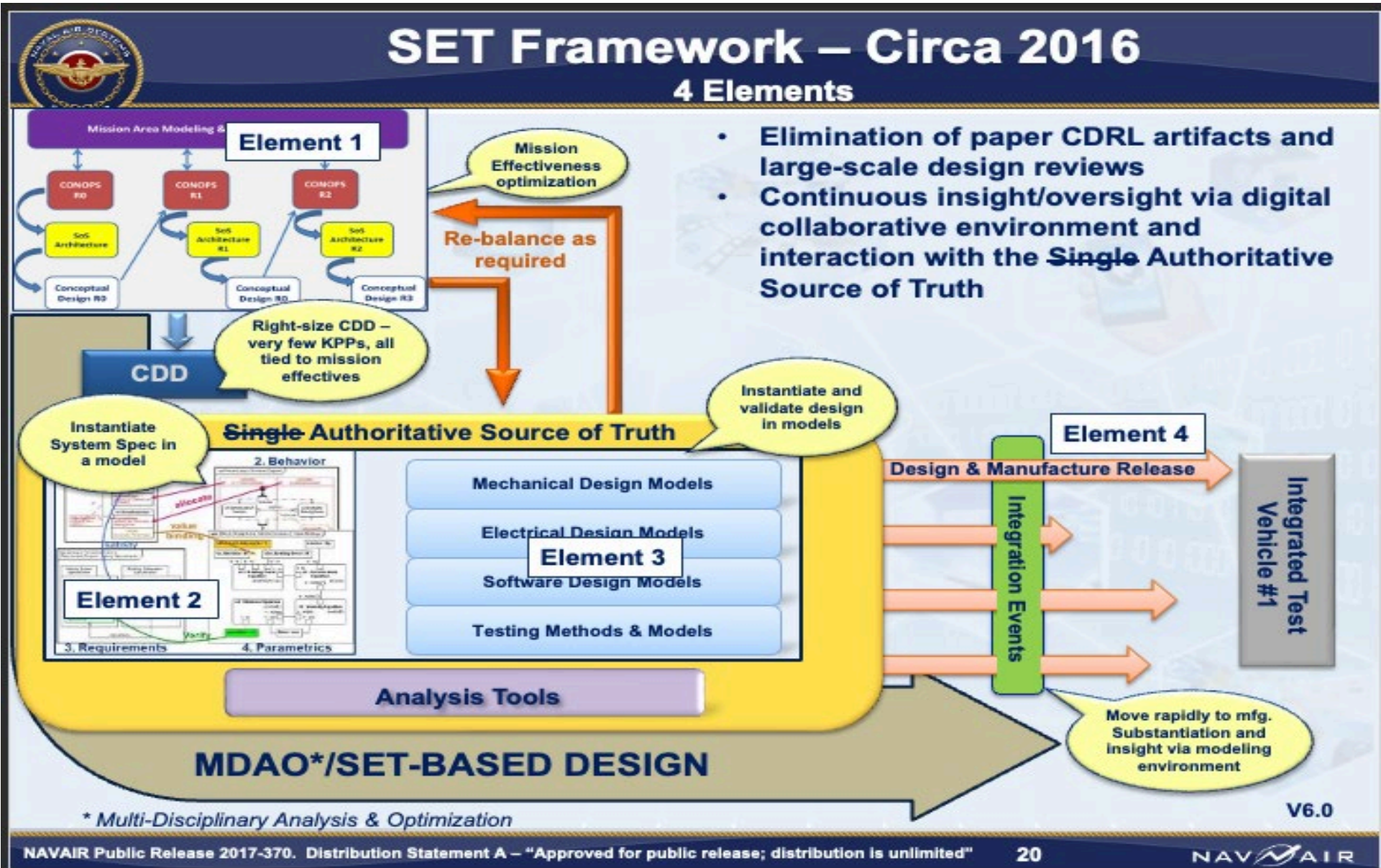


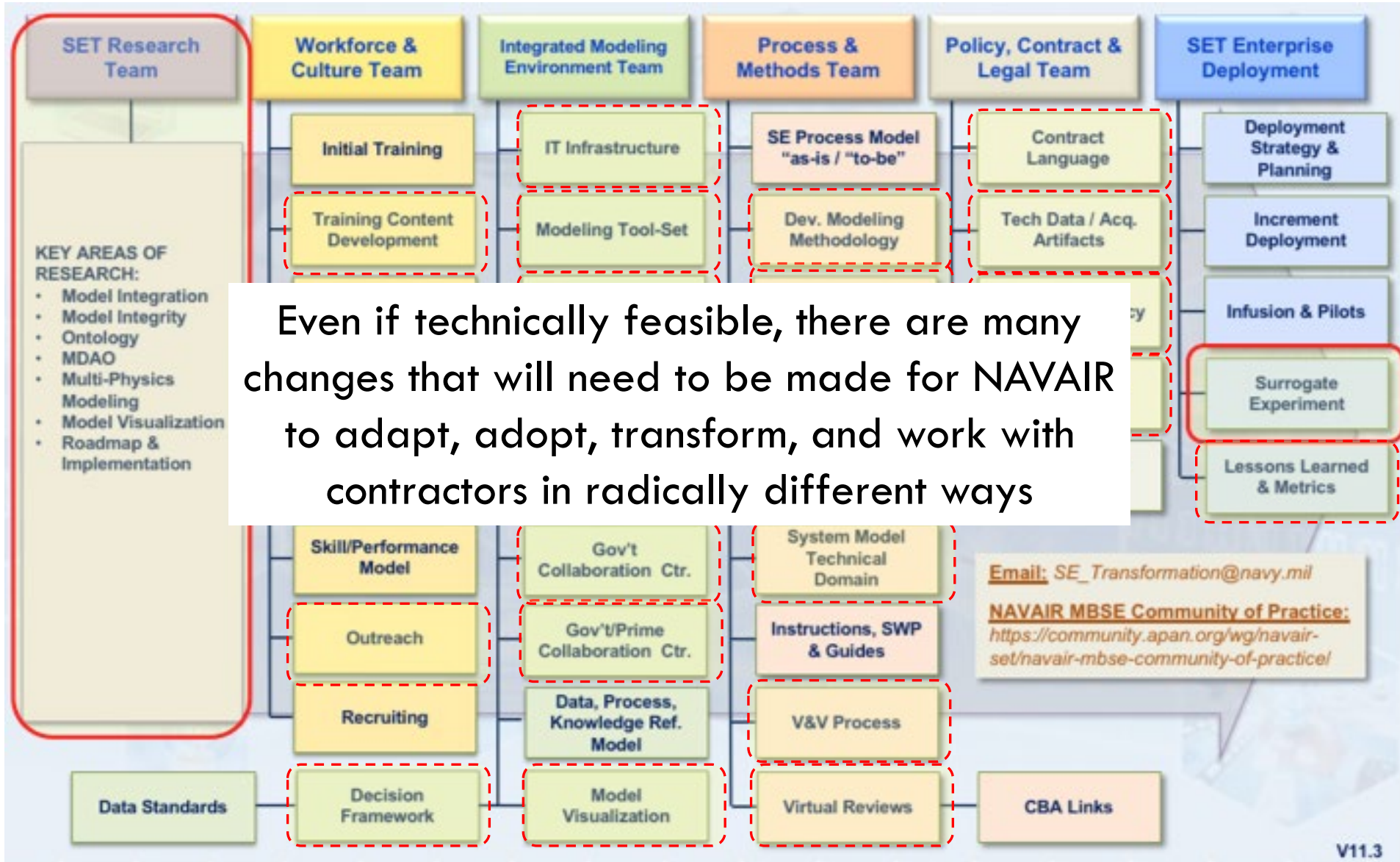


↓ 2013: Global Scan of Most Advanced and Holistic DE

1. Enabling digital technologies are changing how companies are doing business using model-centric engineering (now Digital Engineering)
2. They use model-centric environments for customer engagements, and also for design analysis and review sessions
3. They use commercial technologies and have developed a significant amount of infrastructure on their own
4. We heard about mission-level simulations that are being integrated with system simulations, digital assets & products providing a new world of services





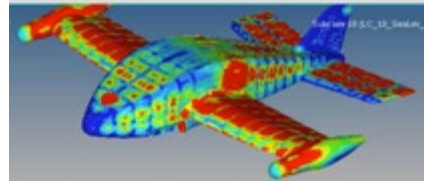


Even if technically feasible, there are many changes that will need to be made for NAVAIR to adapt, adopt, transform, and work with contractors in radically different ways

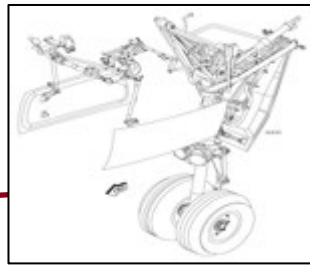
↓ 2015 Concept of Operation for SE Transformation demonstrates new Operational Paradigm

## Deep Dives by Phases

### Graphical CONOPS Scenario: Search & Rescue



P1: Multi-physics



P2: Airworthiness



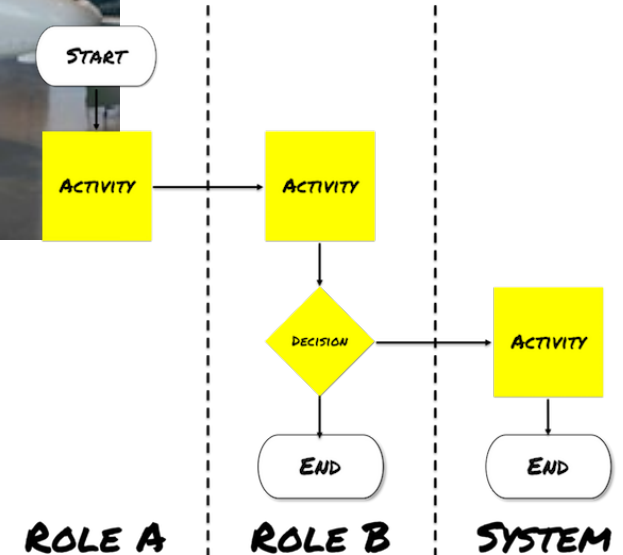
P3: Cost Modeling

Performance constraints force Multi-physics Design considerations

Similar to Bell Eagle Eye



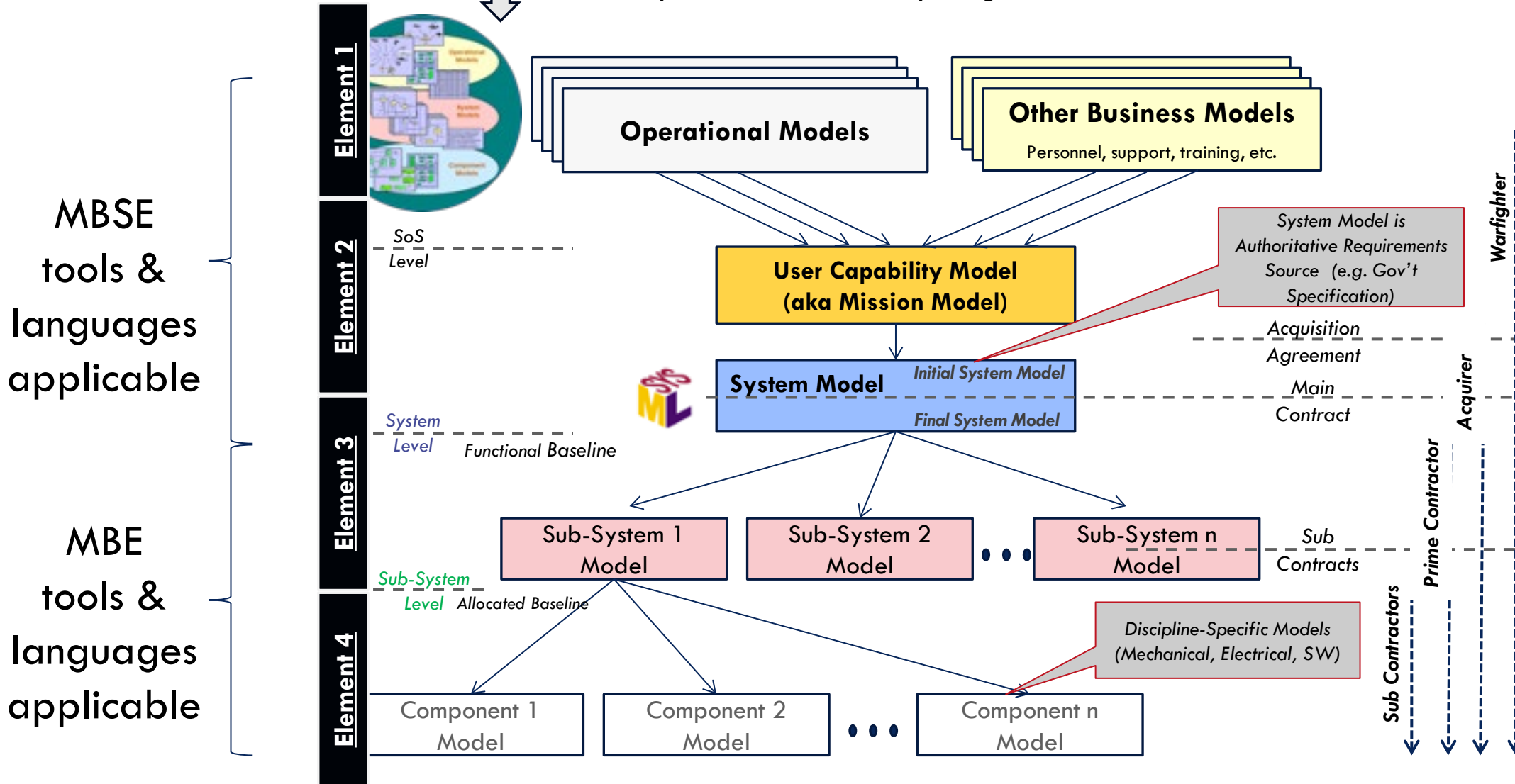
Conform to NAVAIR Systems Engineering Method (NAVSEM)



## Doing Everything in Models to Demonstrate Art-of-the-Possible



2016: Skyzer Modeled Everything in "Full Stack" to Demonstrate the Art-of-the-Possible

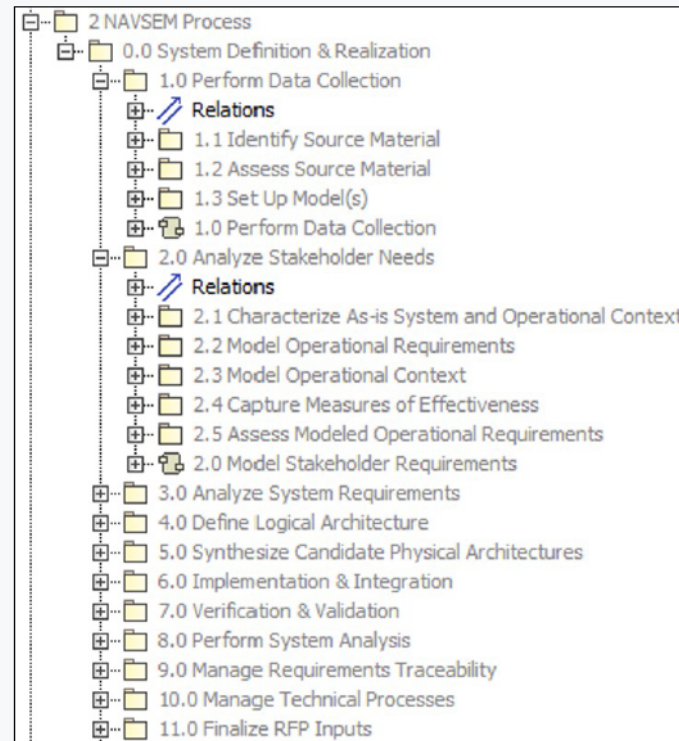


2023: Spacer replicates “Full Stack” Pattern using NAVSEM ↓

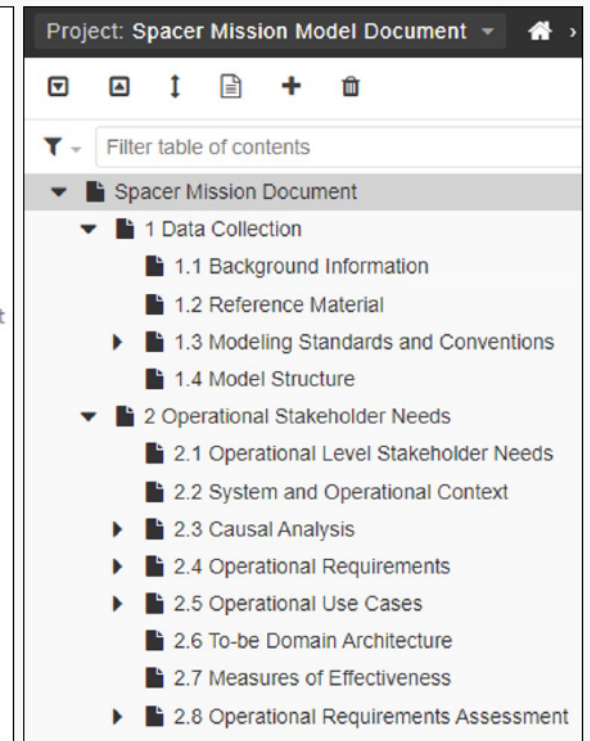
## Model’s Setup and Compliance with NAVSEM

- Using NAVSEM, models can be setup and organized more efficiently
- Document Models can be used to keep track of compliance with NAVSEM
  - The outline of the Document model is consistent with the NAVSEM process steps
  - If information is missing from an element within the outline, then this tells us model information is missing and thus not yet fully compliant with NAVSEM

Process Steps shown in MagicDraw Containment Tree



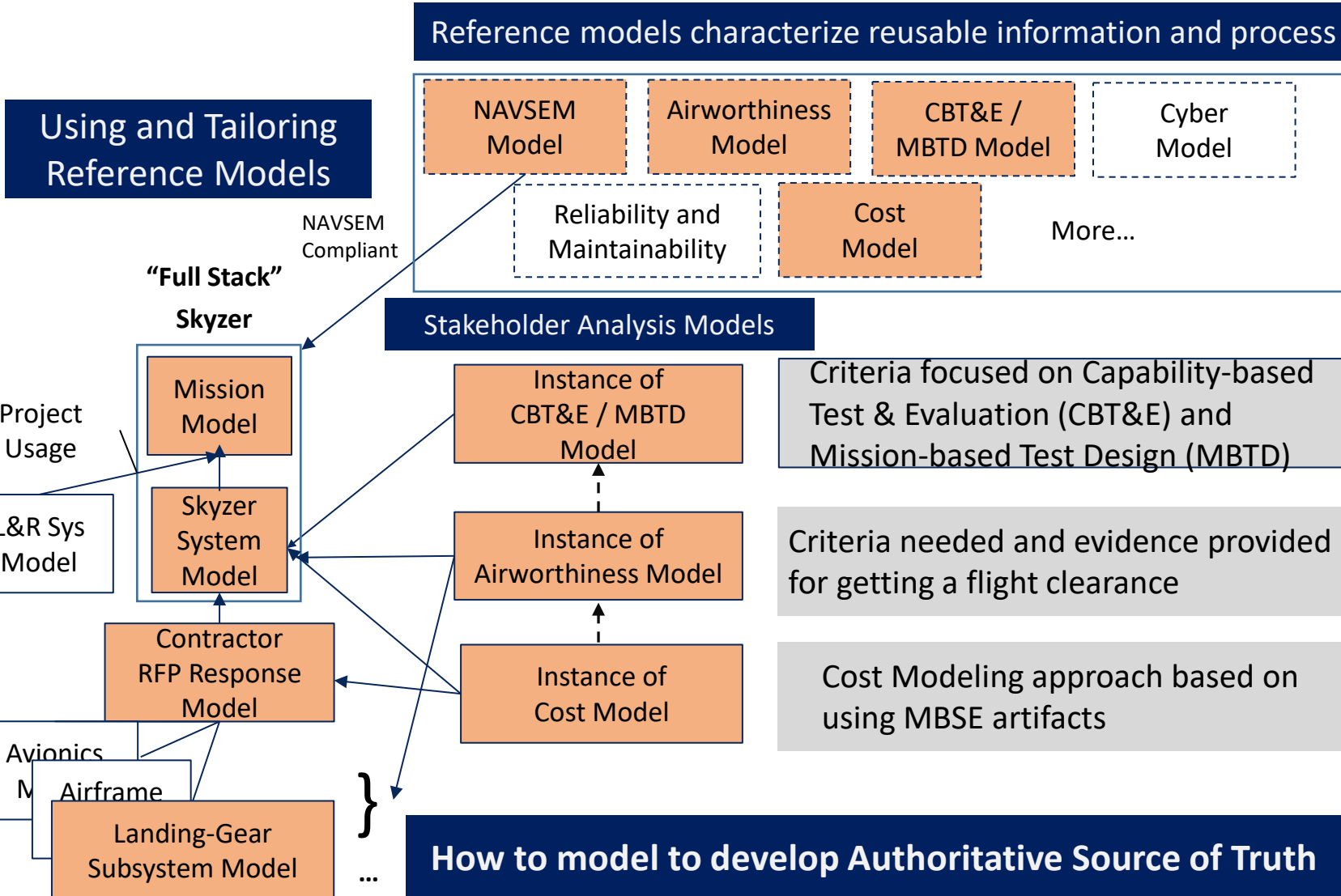
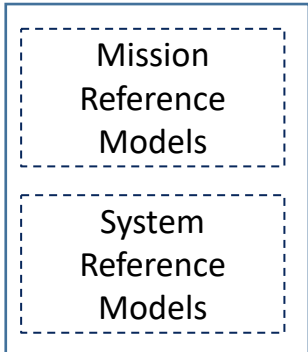
DocGen Output in OpenMBEE View Editor web-app

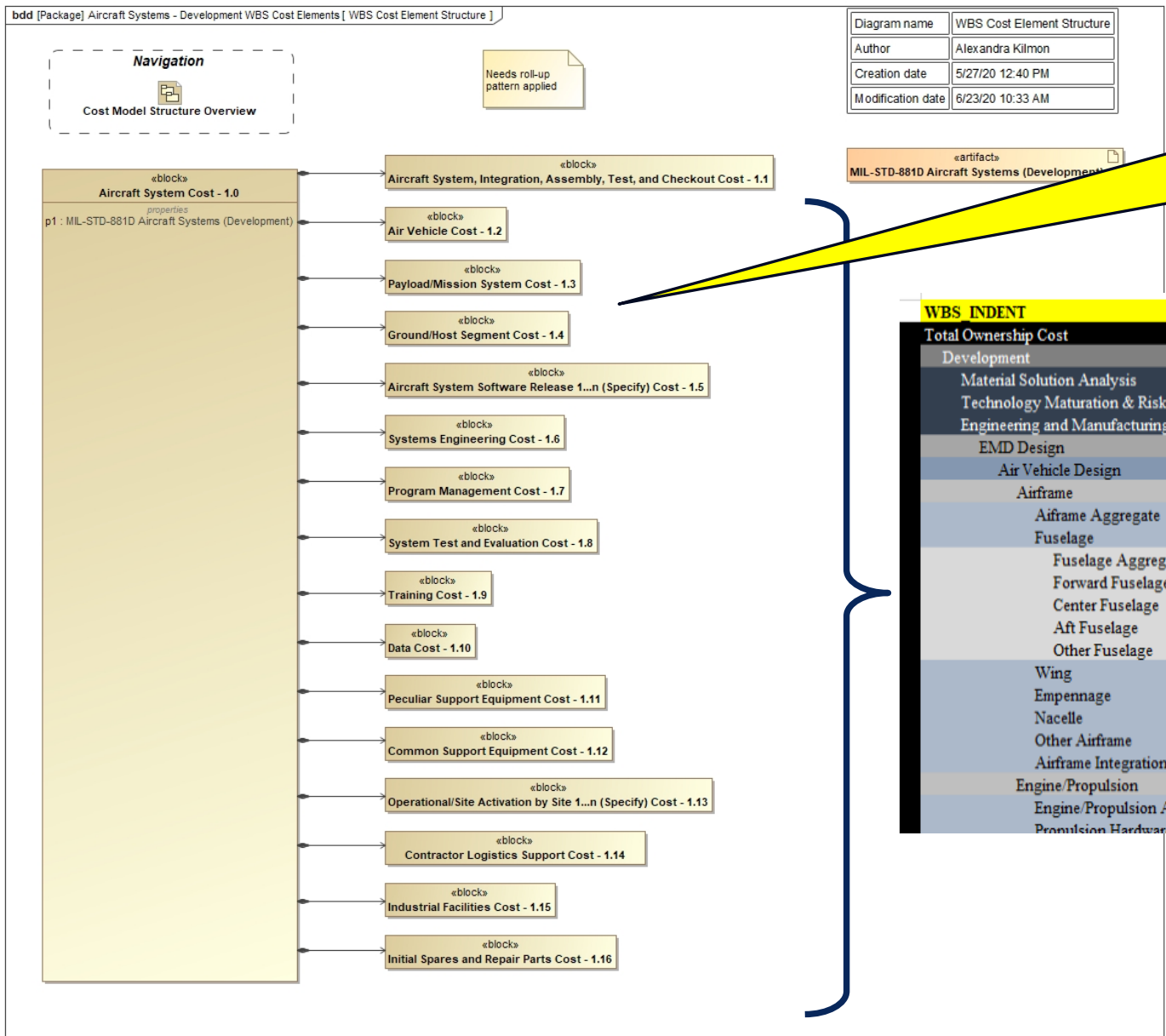


- Spacer Mission Model shown for example
- Spacer Mission Model covers Steps 1 and 2 in NAVSEM

Skyzer links MBSE Cost Model to "Full Stack" ↓

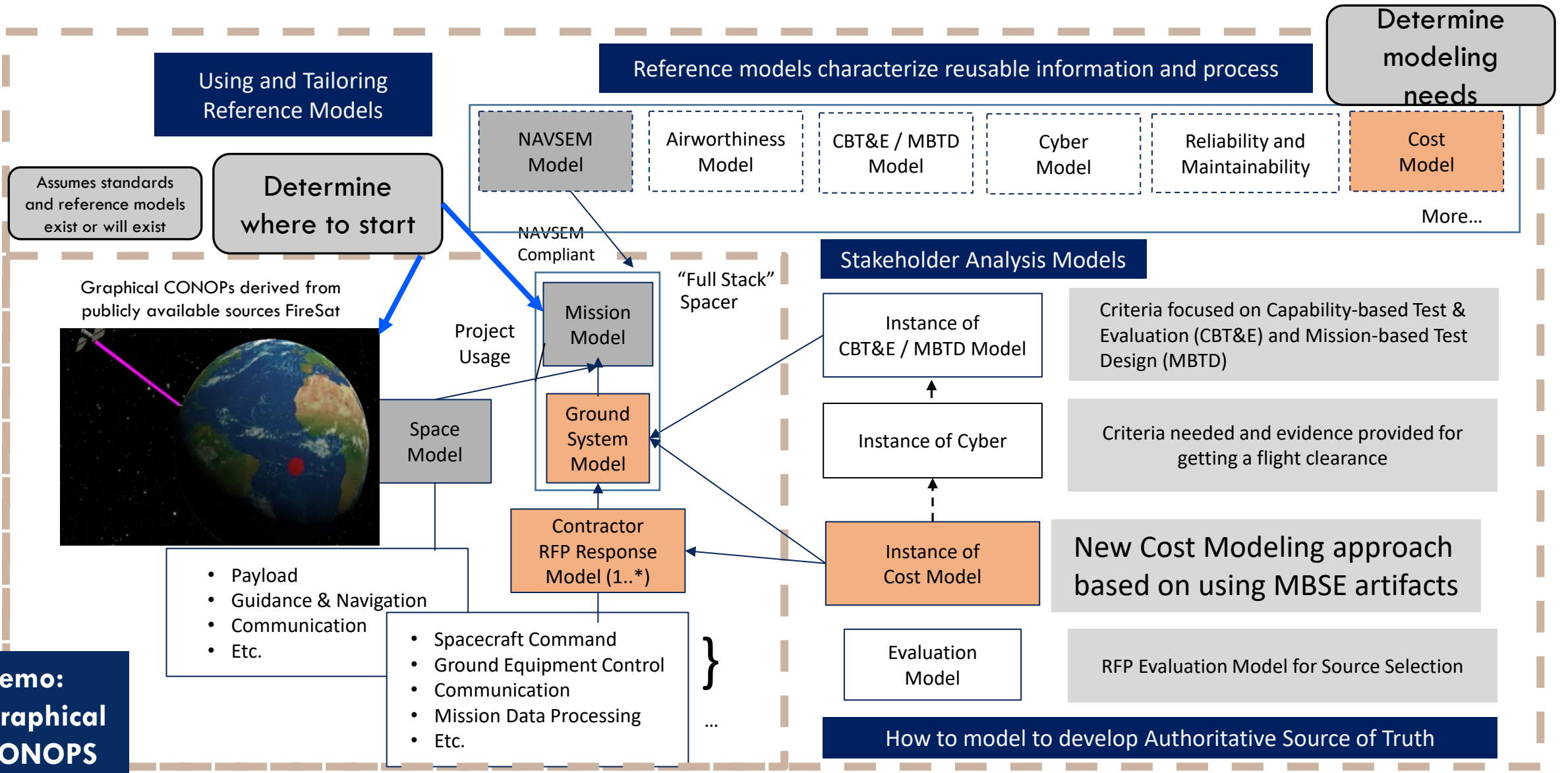
Generalization of Previous Mission/Systems



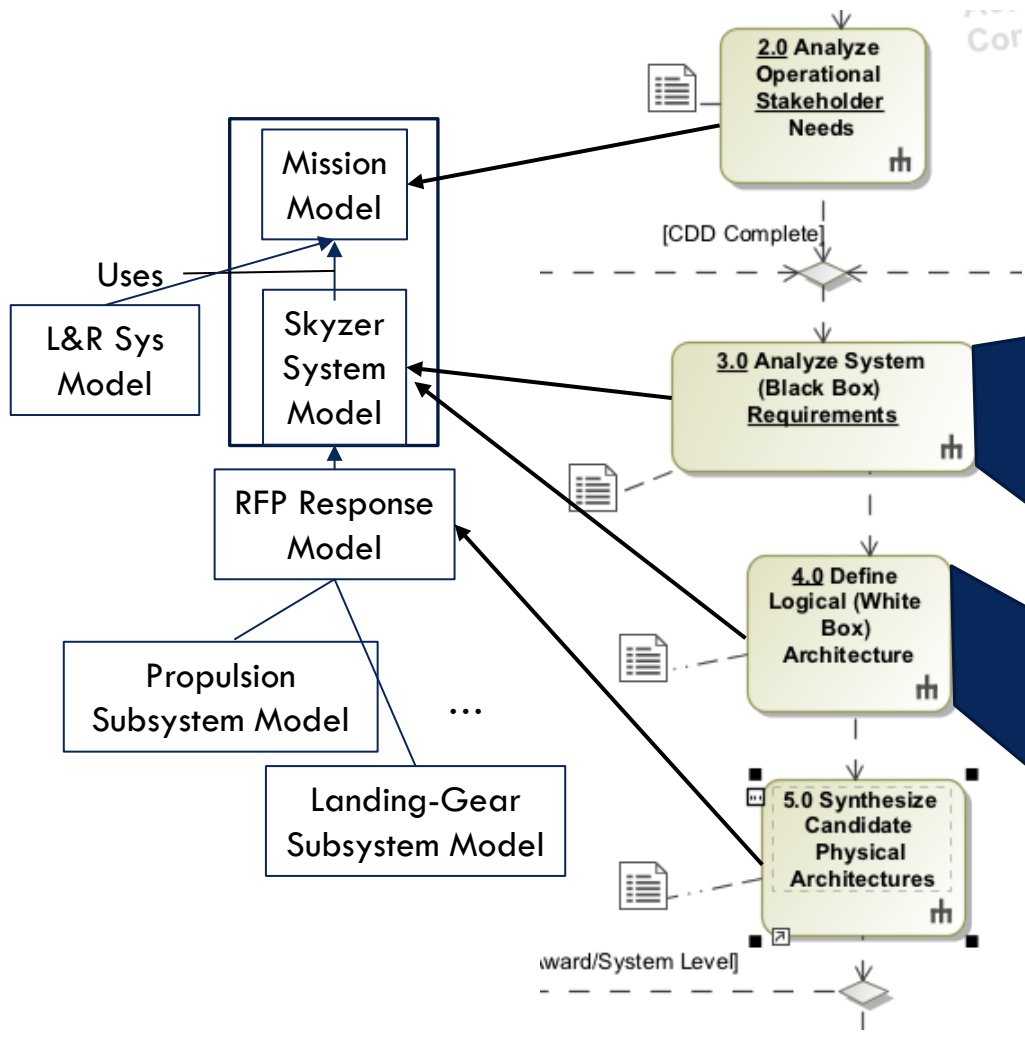


Cost Reference Model Aligns with  
Work Breakdown Structure  
from MIL-STD 881 (F)

WBS INDENT	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Ownership Cost	\$127	\$126	\$136	\$136	\$136
Development	\$14	\$14	\$24	\$24	\$24
Material Solution Analysis	\$10	\$10			
Technology Maturation & Risk Reduction			\$20	\$20	\$20
Engineering and Manufacturing Development	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$4
EMD Design	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1
Air Vehicle Design	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1
Airframe	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airframe Aggregate					
Fuselage	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fuselage Aggregate					
Forward Fuselage					
Center Fuselage					
Aft Fuselage					
Other Fuselage					
Wing					
Empennage					
Nacelle					
Other Airframe					
Airframe Integration					
Engine/Propulsion	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engine/Propulsion Aggregate					
Propulsion Hardware					



# DOCGEN GENERATED VIEW HIERARCHY TO COMPLY WITH NAVSEM STEP 3.0 AND 4.0



Surrogate Pilot Switch\_Org

Project: Skyzer\_bek1\_IM90-30\_etc

Skyzer System Model

Filter table of contents

- ▼ Skyzer System Model
  - 1 System (Black Box) Requirements
    - 1.1 Technical Domain Stakeholders
    - 1.2 Selected Operational Use Case
    - 1.3 Mission Scenarios (System Black-box)
    - 1.4 Critical System Properties and Constraints
    - 1.5 System Context
    - 1.6 System Design Constraints
    - 1.7 Black-box System Requirements
    - 1.8 System State Machine
    - 1.9 System Requirements Variation Analysis
    - 1.10 System Requirements
  - 2 Logical (White Box) Architecture
    - 2.1 Logical Decomposition
    - 2.2 Interaction Between Logical Components
    - 2.3 System Logical ibd
    - 2.4 Logical Components
    - 2.5 Alternate Logical Components Evaluation
    - 2.6 Logical Component State Machine

NAVAIR Public Release 2020-280. Distribution Statement A – “Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited”

Approved for Public Release

VE Surrogate Pilot [Switch Org](#) Search selected

Project: Skyzer System Model Document > Skyzer System Model Documents > Skyzer System Requirements Analysis (Step 3)

Filter table of contents

- Skyzer System Requirements Analysis (Step 3)
  - 1 Technical Domain Stakeholders
  - 2 Selected Operational Use Case
    - 2.1 Operational Use Case Signoff
  - 3 Mission Scenarios (System Black-box)
  - 4 Critical System Properties and Constraints
  - 5 System Context
    - 5.1 System Black-box ibd
      - 5.1.1 1. Black Box Specifications
    - 5.2 System Interface Definitions
    - 5.3 System Context Signoff
  - 6 System Design Constraints
  - 7 Black-box System Requirements
  - 8 System State Machine
  - 9 System Failure Analysis
  - 10 System Requirements Variation Analysis

uc [Package] 3. Mission Use Cases [Resupplying ships using autonomous cargo-hauling]

**Figure 3. Resupplying ships using autonomous cargo-hauling**

We place the Digital Signoff with the associated modeling element(s) that provide evidence  
We can Transform CDRLs

### 2.1 Operational Use Case Signoff

EXPORT CSV FILTER TABLE

**Table 3. Operational Use Case Signoff**

Approved Elements	Approval Status	Approved By (SME)	Approved By (Chief-Engineer)	Completeness	Comment
Selected Operational Use Case	approved	Mark Blackburn	-	100	-

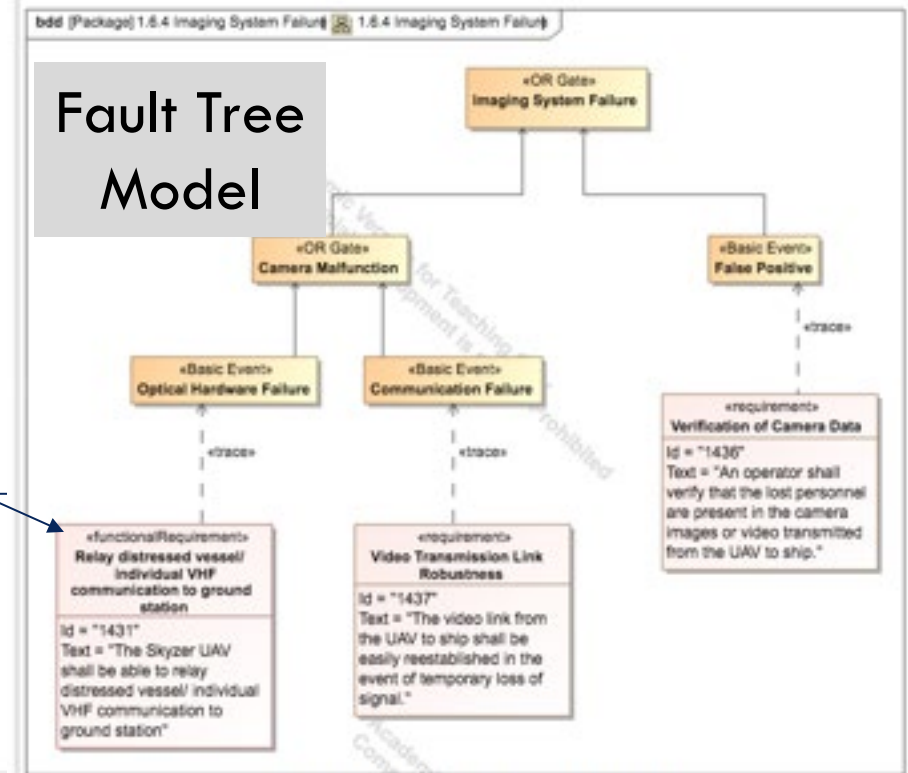
**Demo: Digital Signoffs In the Model**

↓ Skyzer demos Digital Signoff in Model to Transform CDRs

TABLE III. Risk assessment matrix

RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX				
SEVERITY \ PROBABILITY	Catastrophic (1)	Critical (2)	Marginal (3)	Negligible (4)
Frequent (A)	High	High	Serious	Medium
Probable (B)	High	High	Serious	Medium
Occasional (C)	High	Serious	Medium	Low
Remote (D)	Serious	Medium	Medium	Low
Improbable (E)	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
Eliminated (F)	Eliminated			

Mitigation Requirement to address Basic Events that could lead to Mishap for the Hazard



9.2 System Failure Analysis Signoff

Last Modified: 5/13/20 9:36 AM by ben

EXPORT CSV FILTER TABLE

Table 176. System Failure Analysis Signoff

Approved Elements	Approval Status	Approved By	Completeness	Probability	Impact	Con
3.9 Fault Tree Analysis	rejected	Adam Baker	75	25	75	may need an extra basic event added

Fault Tree analysis is the Model Artifact being assessed for a potential hazard, and assessment of Completeness, Probability and Impact is captured with Approval Status for Digital Signoff by SME



VE Surrogate Pilot Switch Org Search selected project UAT Help

Project: Skyzer\_RFP\_Altair\_v2 Skyzer\_RFP\_Response Branch: mast

Filter items in the tree

- Skyzer\_RFP\_Response
  - 1 Volume I Executive Summary
  - 2 Volume II Technical Descriptio
  - 3 Appendix

DOCLIB

## 2.1.1 Technical Cross Reference Sign Off

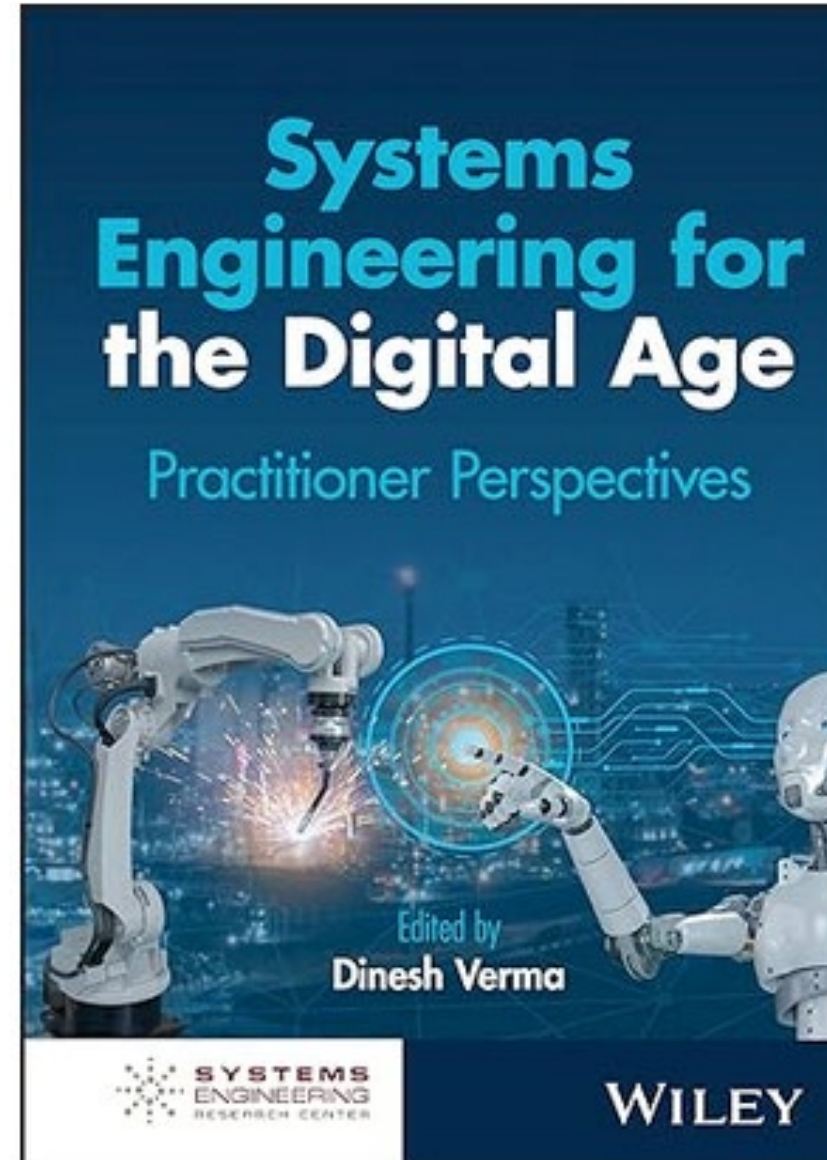
EXPORT CSV FILTER TABLE

### Technical Cross Reference Sign Off

Approved Elements	Risk	Approval Status	Approved By	Comment
Air Vehicle Performance; Operational Radius	medium	approved	Donald Polakovics	Evaluation Worksheet: Overall the aircraft far exceeds the operational radius KPP.  Potential Strengths: Very significant margin for additional mission capability and versatility.  Weaknesses: Aircraft may be larger and more expensive than necessary to do the mission.  Deficiencies: None  Uncertainty: Performance analysis could not be reviewed in its entirety due to some inconsistent data. Margins seems large enough to cover this however.
UAS Capability	very small	undefined	N/A	N/A
Air Vehicle Performance; Endurance	medium	approved	Donald Polakovics	Evaluation Worksheet: Overall the design appears to have sufficient endurance, with adequate development margin.

First four chapters reflect on research over the past 10 years

Provide guidelines related to topics covered in course modules



Semantically Rich Interface Exchange  
to Authoritative Source

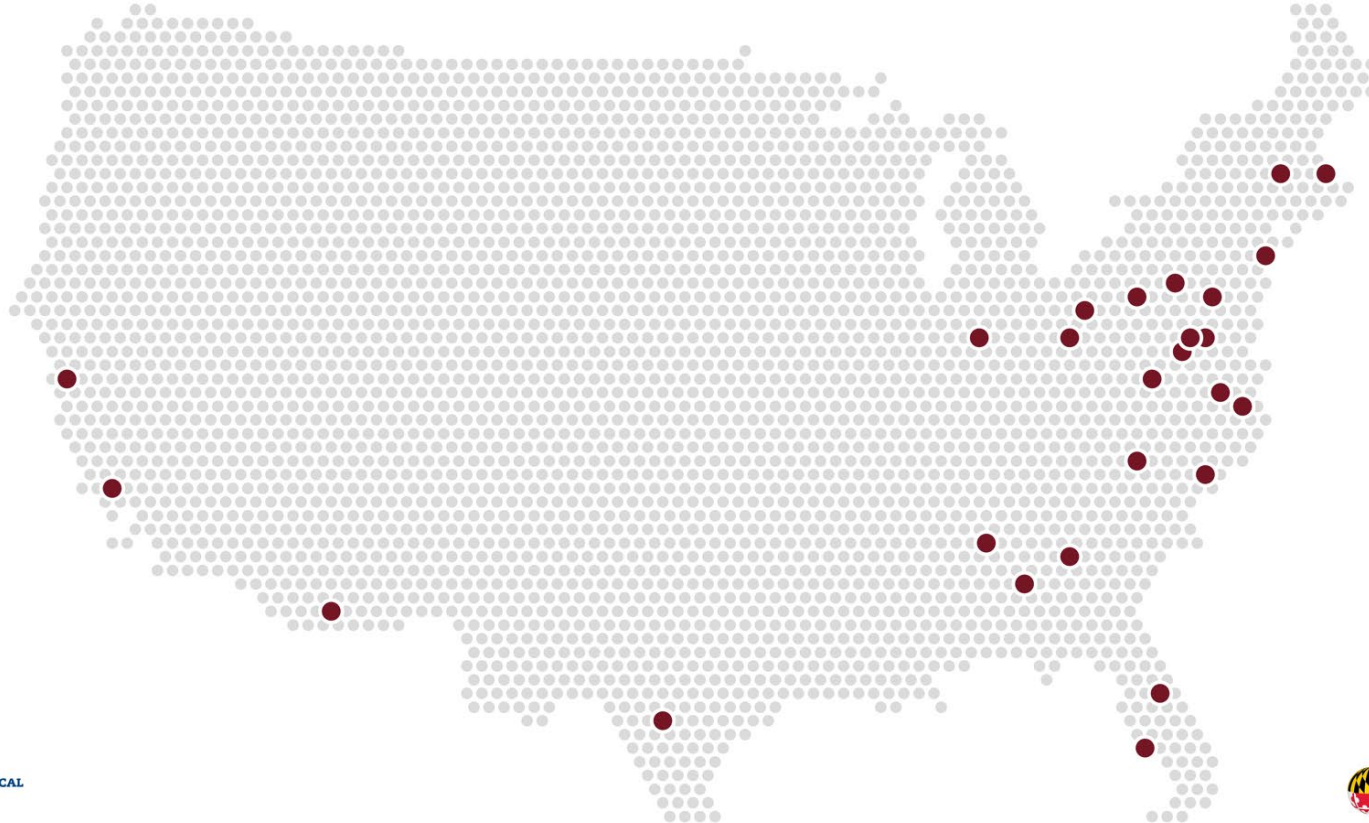
We formalized tradespace analysis methodology using SysML models, ontologies and semantic technologies with ***Armaments Interoperability and Integration Framework (IoIF)*** and workflows for US Army Armaments Center

Details discussed in NDIA talk: ***A Digital Engineering Methodology for Interoperability Using Ontologies***

Advanced  
Data  
Exploitation  
&  
Analysis

(AI, Data  
Analytics,  
Machine  
Learning,  
MDAO...)

<p>RT-48 (2013) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Rob Cloutier (Co-PI) - Stevens Eirik Hole - Stevens Gary Witus – Wayne State</p>	<p>RT-168 – Phase I &amp; II (2016) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Dinesh Verma (Co-PI) – Stevens Ralph Giffin Roger Blake - Stevens Mary Bone – Stevens Andrew Dawson – Stevens (Phase I) Rick Dove John Dzielski, Stevens Paul Grogan - Stevens Deva Henry – Stevens (Phase I) Bob Hathaway - Stevens Steven Hoffenson - Stevens Eirik Hole - Stevens Roger Jones – Stevens Benjamin Kruse - Stevens Jeff McDonald – Stevens (Phase I) Kishore Pochiraju – Stevens Chris Snyder - Stevens Gregg Vesonder – Stevens (Phase I) Lu Xiao – Stevens (Phase I) Brian Chell (Grad) – Stevens Luigi Ballarinni (Grad) – Stevens Harsh Kevadia (Grad) – Stevens Kunal Batra (Grad) – Stevens Khushali Dave (Grad) – Stevens Rob Cloutier – Visiting Professor Robin Dillon-Merrill – Georgetown Ian Grosse – UMass Tom Hagedorn – UMass Todd Richmond – USC Edgar Evangelista – USC</p>	<p>RT-195 (2018) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens Ralph Giffin - Stevens Benjamin Kruse - Stevens Russell Peak – Georgia Tech. Stephen Edwards – Georgia Tech. Adam Baker (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Marlin Ballard (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Donna Rhodes - MIT Mark Austin – Univ. Maryland Maria Coelho (Grad) – Univ. Maryland</p> <p>WRT-1008 (2019) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens John Dzielski- Stevens Benjamin Kruse - Stevens Bill Rouse – Stevens/Georgetown Russell Peak – Georgia Tech. Selcuk Cimentalay – Georgia Tech. Adam Baker (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Marlin Ballard (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Alanna Carnevale (Grad) – Georgia Tech. William Stock (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Michael Szostak (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Donna Rhodes - MIT Mark Austin – Univ. Maryland Maria Coelho (Grad) – Univ. Maryland</p> <p>WRT-1025 (2020) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mark Austin (Co-PI) – Univ. Maryland Maria Coelho (Grad) – Univ. Maryland</p>	<p>ART-002 (2018) – ART-022 (2021/23) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Dinesh Verma (Co-PI) – Stevens Kunal Batra – Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens John Dzielski, Stevens Steven Hoffenson - Stevens Steve Hespelt – Stevens Tom Hagedorn – Stevens Roger Jones – Stevens Philip Odonkor – Stevens Annie Yu – Stevens Benjamin Kruse – Stevens/VT Chris Snyder - Stevens Brian Chell – Stevens Chuck Collard– Stevens Daniel Dunbar (PhD) – Stevens Josh Maccoby (PhD) – Stevens Renee Blatchley (PhD) – Stevens Maximillian Vierlboeck (PhD) - Stevens Andrew Underwood (Ungrad) – Stevens Benjamin Steinwurtzel (Ungrad) Ariela Litvin (Ungrad) Aughdon Breslin (Ungrad) Joshua Bernstein (Ungrad) Cory Phillipe (Grad) - Stevens Ian Grosse – Univ. of Massachusetts Doug Eddy – Univ. of Massachusetts Joe Gabbard – Virginia Tech Kyle Tanous– Virginia Tech Jared Van Dam (PhD) – Virginia Tech Kelsey Quinn (PhD) – Virginia Tech</p>	<p>WRT-1036 (2020) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens John Dzielski- Stevens Russell Peak – Georgia Tech. Selcuk Cimentalay – Georgia Tech. Taylor Fields – Georgia Tech. William Stock (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Sahil Panchal – Georgia Tech Jake Sisavath – Georgia Tech Gabriel Rizzo – Georgia Tech</p> <p>WRT-1054 (2022) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens John Dzielski- Stevens Tom Hagedorn – Stevens Steve Hespelt – Stevens Chuck Collard– Stevens Daniel Dunbar (PhD) – Stevens Kevin Morrill )– Stevens Russell Peak – Georgia Tech. Selcuk Cimentalay – Georgia Tech. Taylor Fields – Georgia Tech. Adam Baker – Georgia Tech. Avik Banerjee – Georgia Tech. Vanessa J. Nuhn – Georgia Tech. Cole A. Sherling – Georgia Tech.</p> <p>WRT-1084 (2023) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Tom Hagedorn – Stevens Steve Hespelt – Stevens Chuck Collard– Stevens Daniel Dunbar – Stevens Steve Jenkins – Stevens</p>
<p>RT-118 (2014) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Rob Cloutier - Stevens Eirik Hole - Stevens Gary Witus – Wayne State</p>				
<p>RT-141 (2015) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens Gary Witus – Wayne State</p>				
<p>RT-157 (2016) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens Roger Blake - Stevens Mark Austin – Univ. Maryland Leonard Petnga – Univ. of Maryland</p>				
<p>RT-170 (2016) Mark Blackburn (PI), Stevens Mary Bone - Stevens Deva Henry - Stevens Paul Grogan - Stevens Steven Hoffenson - Stevens Mark Austin – Univ. of Maryland Leonard Petnga – Univ. of Maryland Maria Coelho (Grad) – UMD Russell Peak – Georgia Tech. Stephen Edwards – Georgia Tech. Adam Baker (Grad) – Georgia Tech. Marlin Ballard (Grad) – Georgia Tech.</p>				



# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



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