



# 2023 NERC Monitoring and Situational Awareness Conference

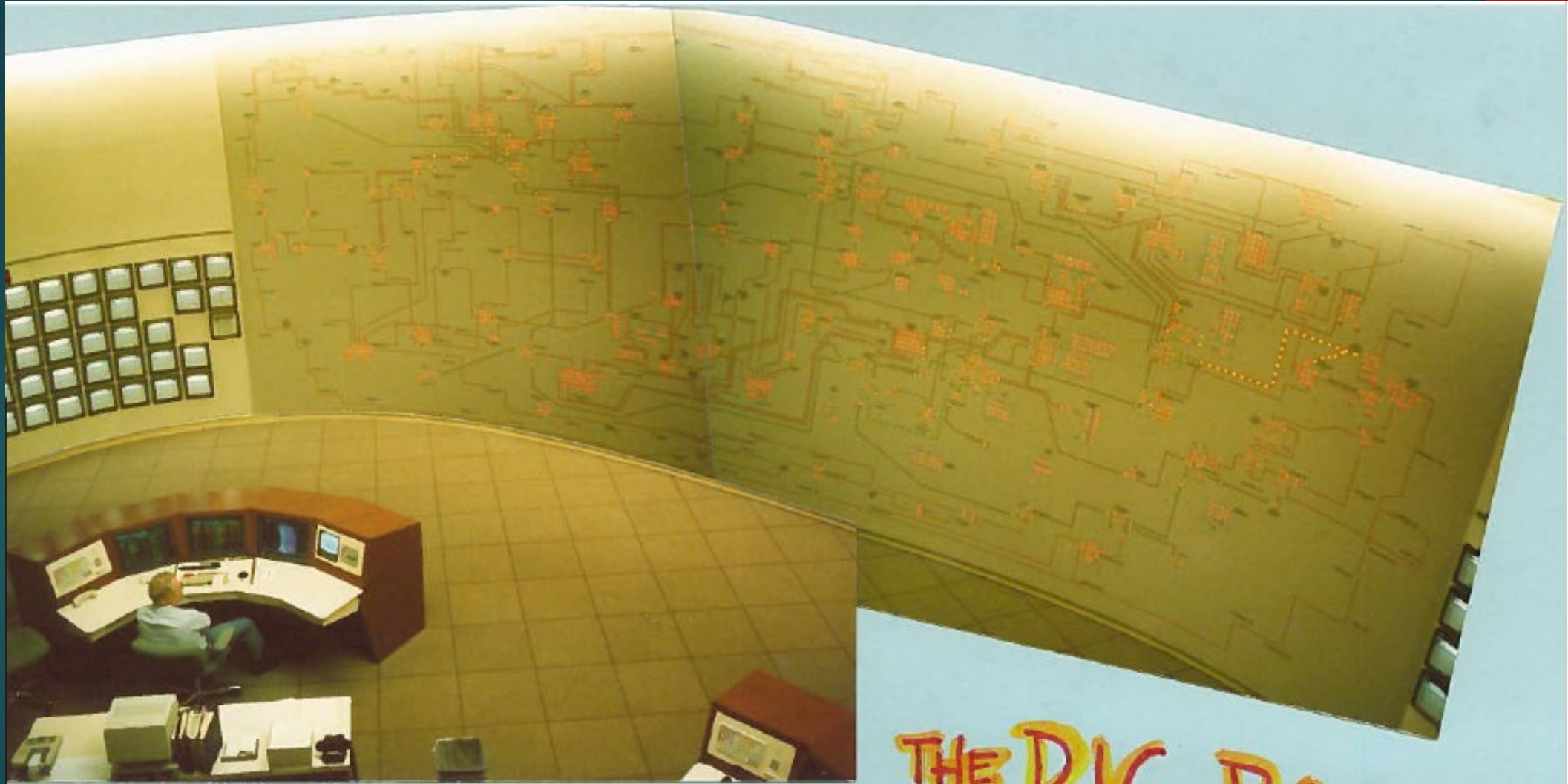
The Ever-Changing Landscape  
of the EMS Systems

# EMS Working Group

- ▶ Since 2013. 11<sup>th</sup> annual conference.
- ▶ 40+ members
- ▶ Rob Adams - *Rob.Adams@fpl.com*
- ▶ Phil Hoffer - *pehoffer@aep.com*
- ▶ Wei Qiu - *Wei.Qiu@nerc.net*



# Ever Changing Landscape of the EMS



THE BIG BOARD



# Ever Changing Landscape of the EMS





# Ever Changing Landscape of the EMS





# Conference Topics

1. Keynote Speech
2. Analysis of EMS Outages
3. The Future – twins, AI, clouds, sharing
4. FERC Order 881 and FAC-011 at Manitoba Hydro
5. PJM & SPP EMS Upgrades
6. Lessons Learned
7. Vendor panel – situational awareness, security, communications



# Analysis of EMS Outages

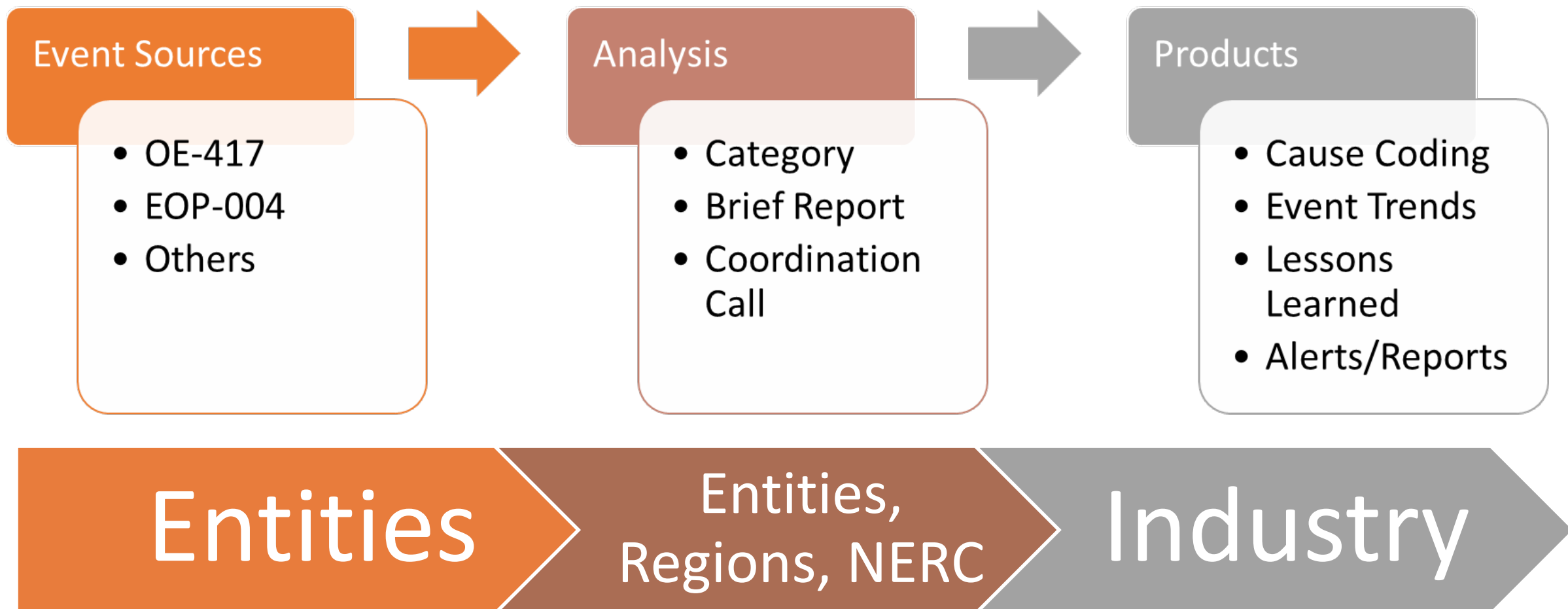
Wei Qiu, Lead Engineer of Event Analysis, NERC EA  
NERC 11th Annual Monitoring and Situational Awareness Conference  
October 3, 2023



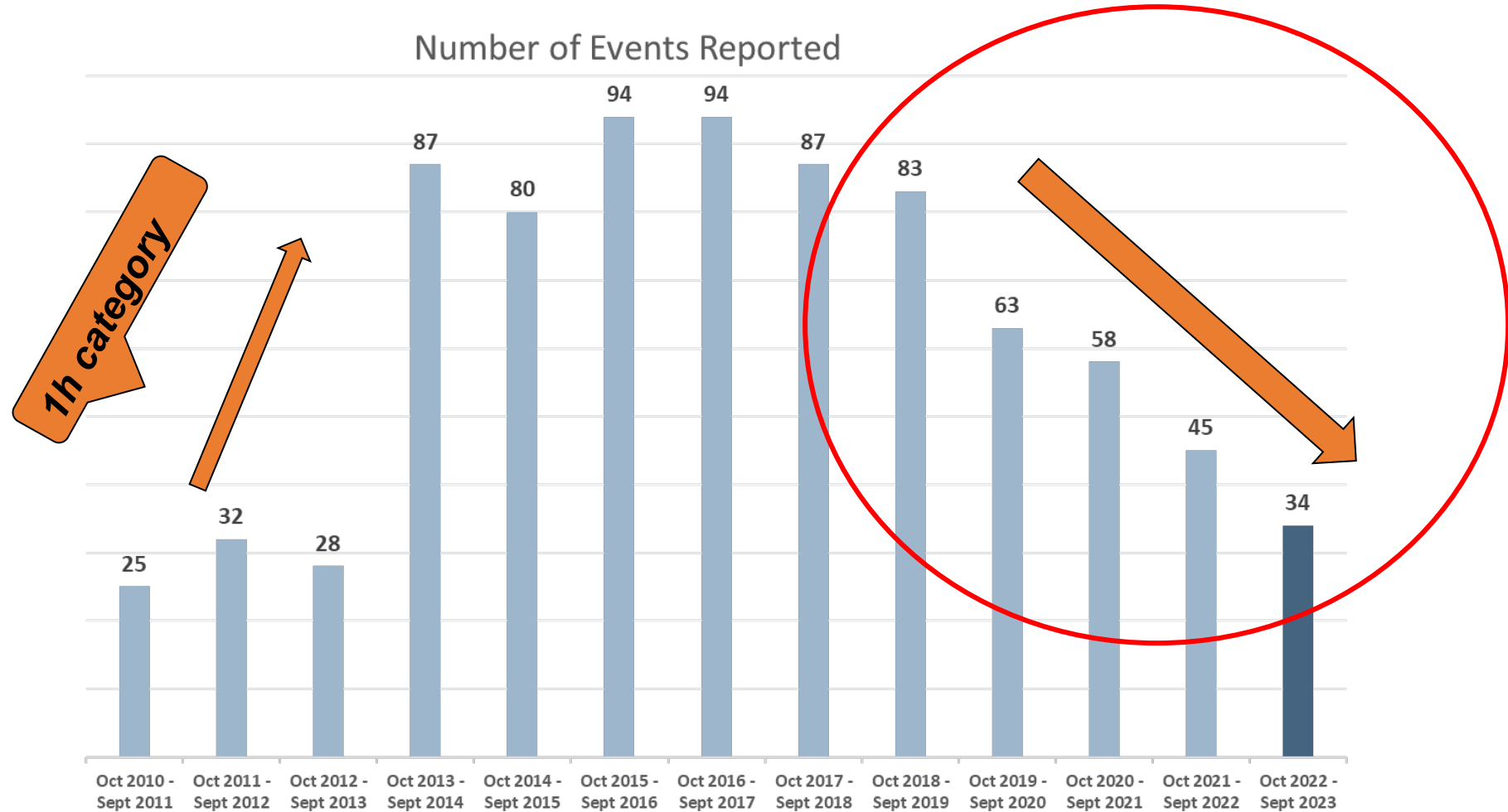
- ERO Event Analysis Process
- Data, Analysis, and Trends
- Key Takeaways
- Q&A

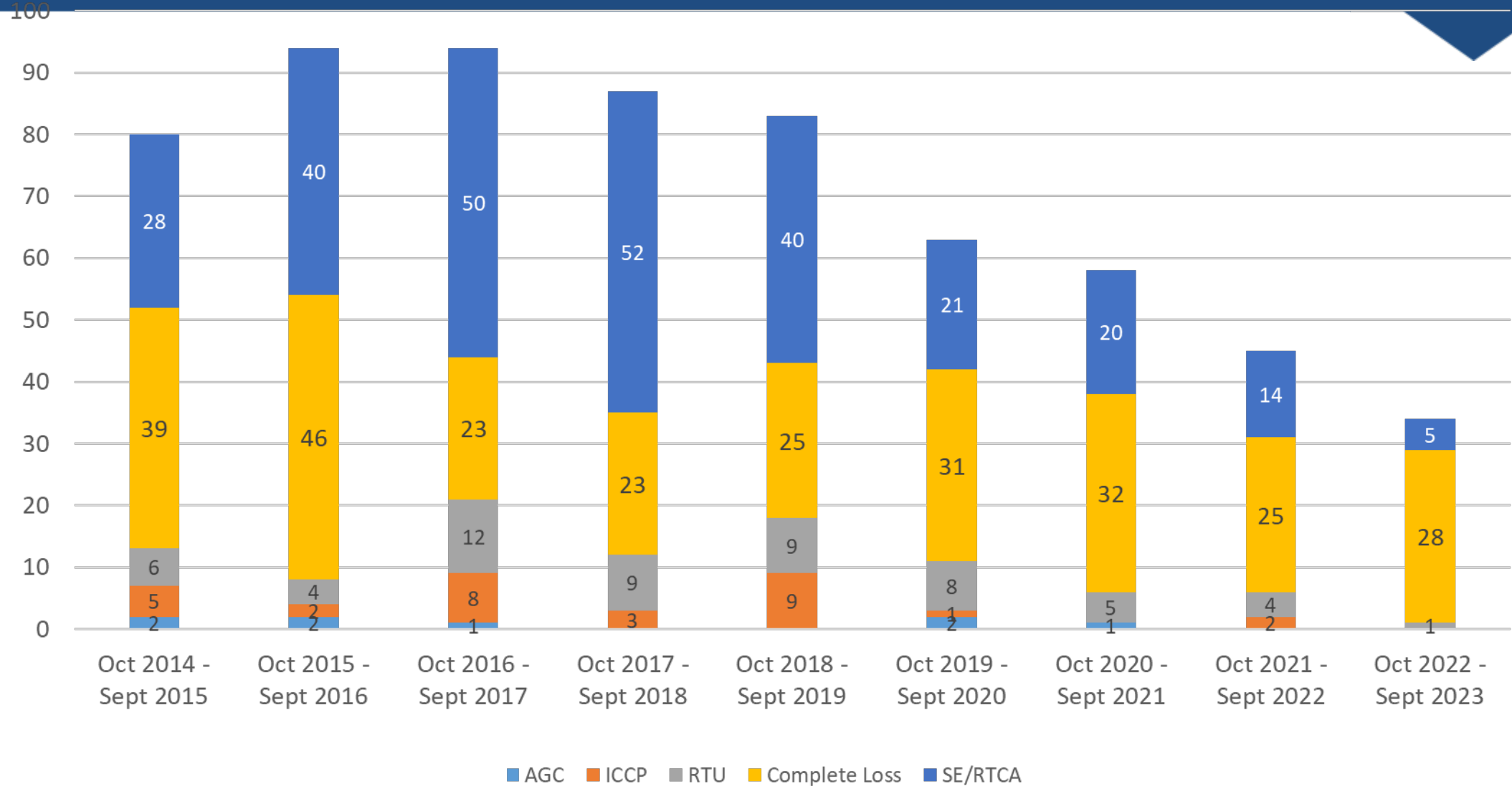


- Promote a structured and consistent approach to performing event analysis
- Values
  - ERO and industry to learn from off-normal events and to develop corrective actions to prevent recurrence.
  - Lessons to be learned and potential recommendations shared with industry to mitigate the risk of recurrence.
  - Effectiveness requires industry participation and support.
  - Continuous improvement is the mindset desired to instill in industry design and operating practices.



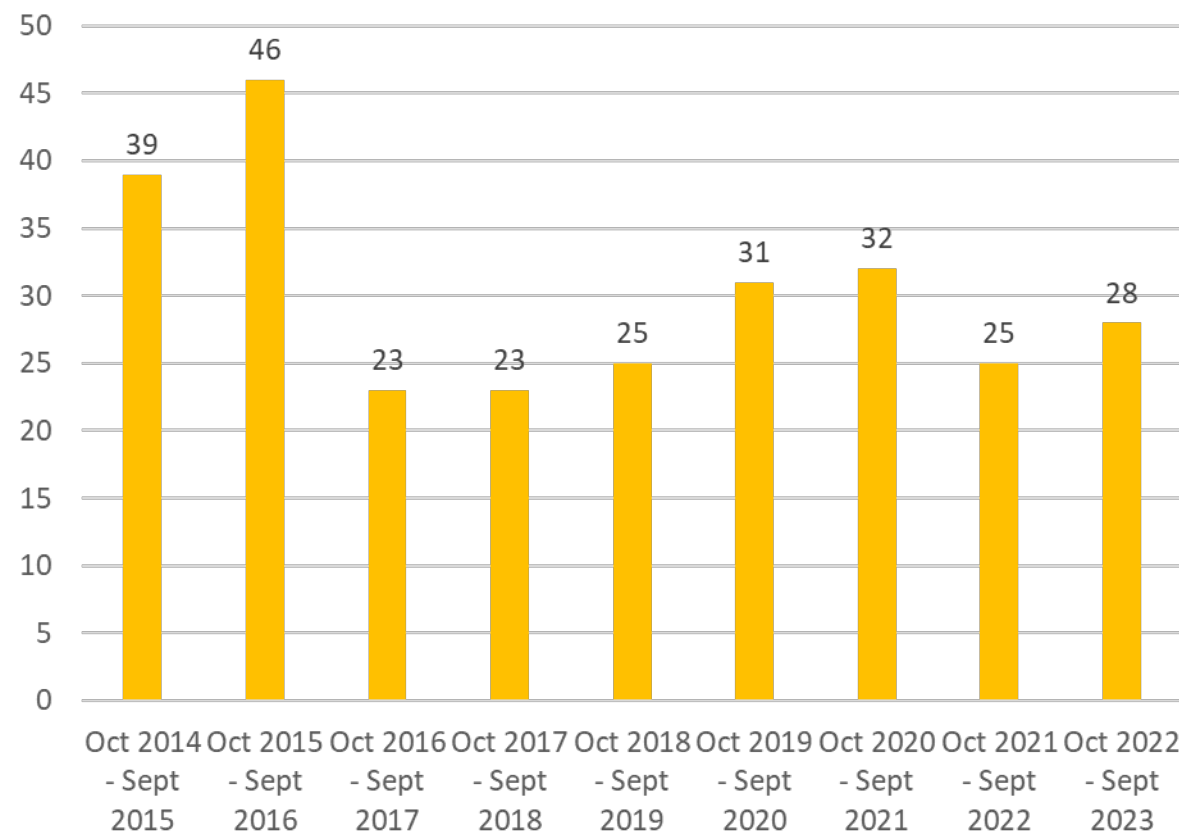


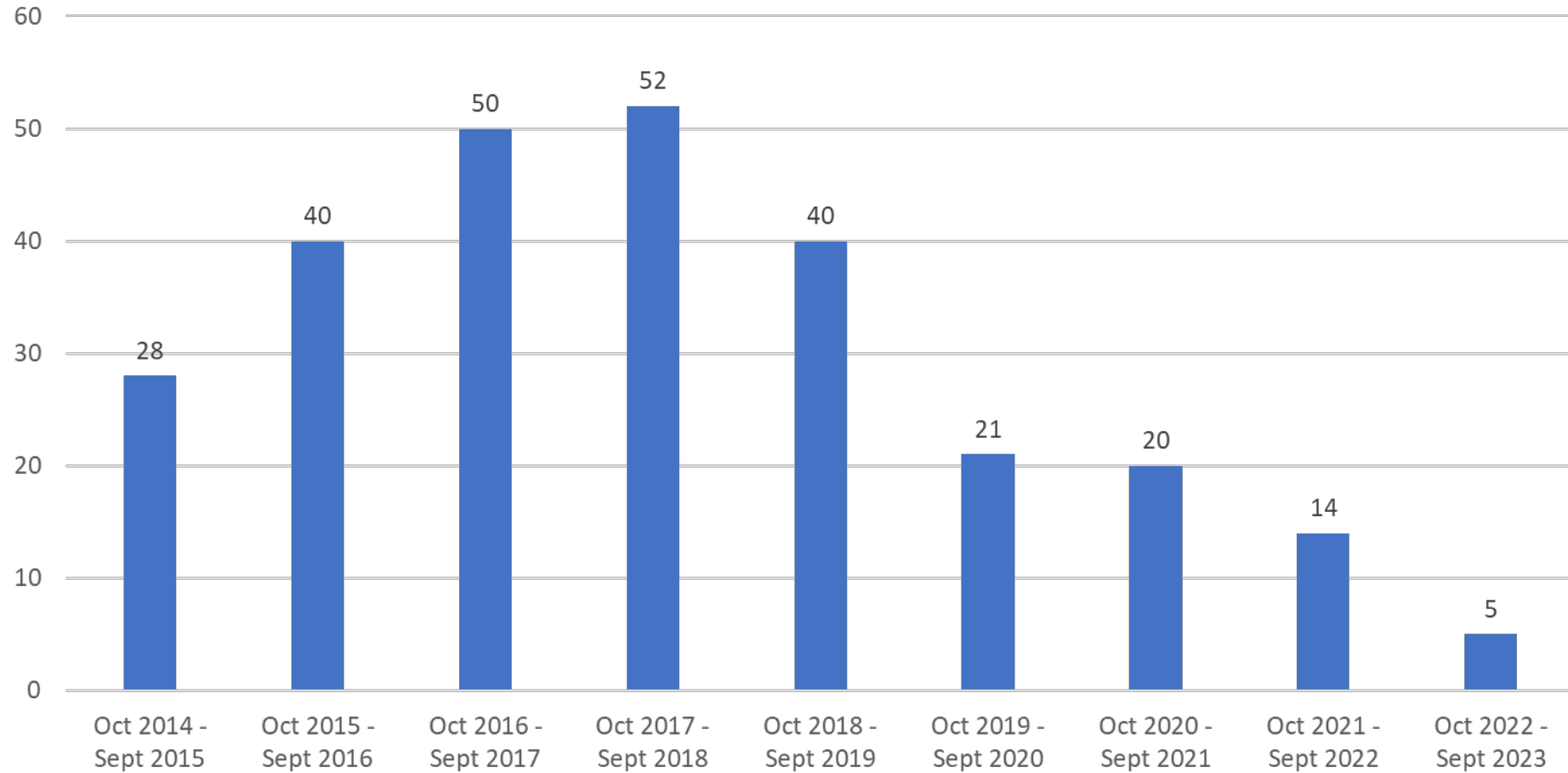






- Redundancy and Diversity of Communications between PCC and BCC
  - Operators and the host EMS servers are on different physical sites
- Model update after EMS upgrade
  - Procedure
  - Testing
- EMS Health Assessment
  - Network communication (flapping)
  - Resource usage (disk, cpu, memory, etc)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party software (anti-virus, SQL, etc)
- Facility power
  - UPS/PDU







- Original

*Loss of monitoring or control at a Control Center such that it **significantly affects** the entity's ability to **make operating decisions** for 30 continuous minutes or more.*

- Proposed 1h definition

*Loss of monitoring and/or control at a Control Center such that it **degrades** the entity's ability to make **Real-time operating decisions that are necessary** to maintain reliability of the BES in the entity's footprint for 30 continuous minutes or more*

- “**degrades**” means less-than required functioning of any monitoring/control component, process, or capability.

- Loss of Situational Awareness

- Manage (2019)
- Monitor (2021)
- Monitor (2023)



Changing Resource Mix	Manage - 2019	Manage - 2021	Manage - 2023
Resource Adequacy and Performance	Manage - 2019	Manage - 2021	Manage - 2023
Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities	Manage - 2019	Manage - 2021	Manage - 2023
Extreme Natural Events/Extreme Events	Monitor - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Critical Infrastructure Interdependencies	Manage - 2019	Manage - 2021	Manage - 2023
Bulk Power System Planning	Manage - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Physical Security Vulnerabilities	Monitor - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Control and Protection Systems Complexity	Monitor - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Loss of Situational Awareness	Manage - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Human Performance and Skilled Workforce	Monitor - 2019	Monitor - 2021	Monitor - 2023
Electromagnetic Pulse		Monitor - 2021**	Monitor - 2023



- EMS reliability and resilience is continuously improving
- Complete loss became the most prevailing failure for the fourth year in a row
- Calling for participating in the EAP
- Things we all can improve
  - Redundancy and Diversity of Communications between PCC and BCC
  - Testing and procedure of model update
  - EMS Health Assessment



# Questions and Answers

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**ResilientGrid**

Go Beyond the One Line™

***Strengthening Wide-Area Situational  
Awareness Across North America with  
SAFNRv3***

Mike Legatt, Ph.D.

Tony Tatum

NERC Monitoring and Situation Awareness Conference

October 3, 2023



## Core Philosophies:

“All organizations are perfectly aligned to get the results they get.”

Arthur W. Jones

“For every complex human problem, there is a solution that is neat, simple, and wrong.”

H.L. Mencken

# Human Factors Overview

# Complexity, Complicatedness, Speed and Depth

**Complex:** Many interdependent components

Hard to get order, control, or predictably. “Emergent system”

**Complicated:** Many independent components

Once you can separate components, you can deal with each of them systematically

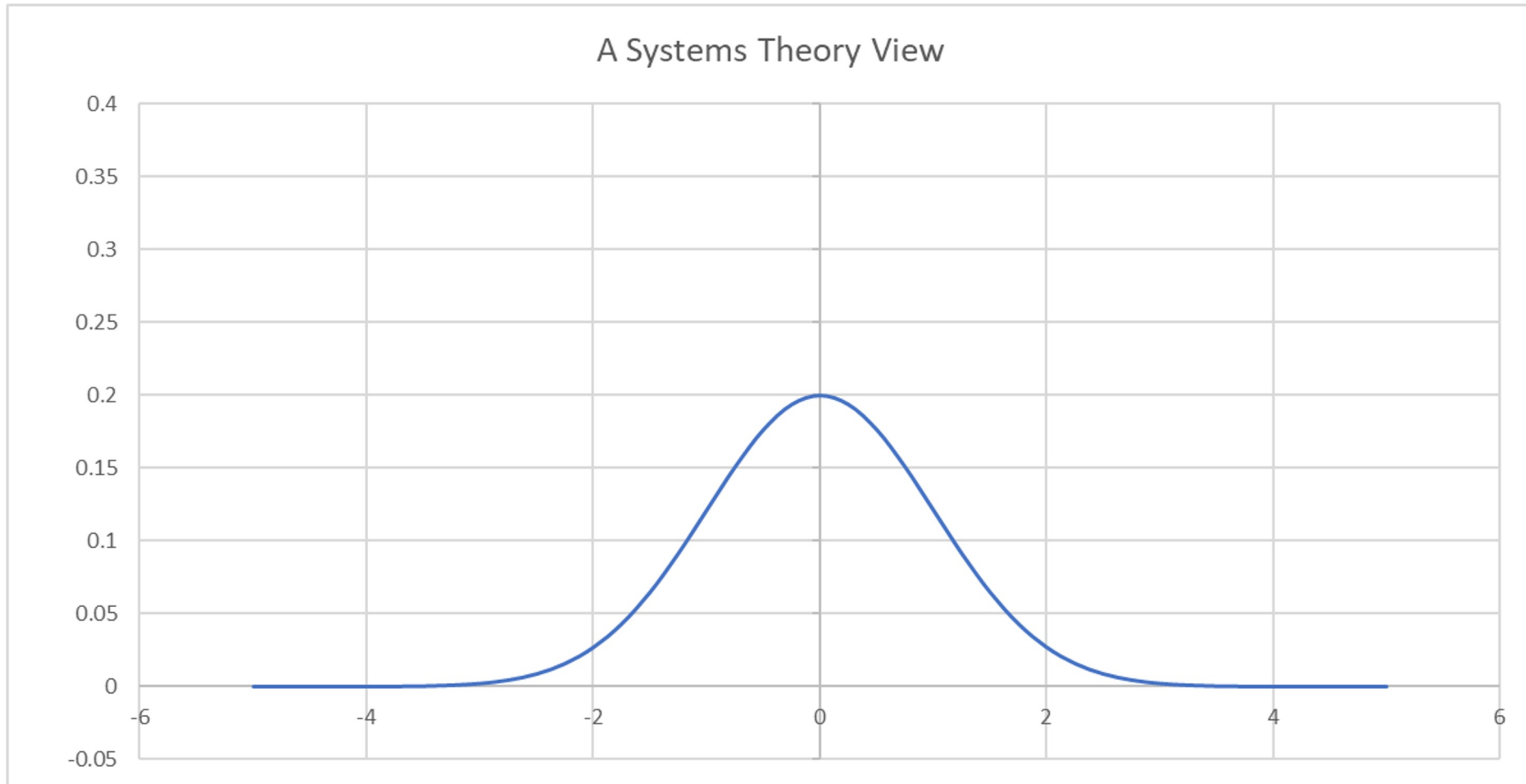
**Speed and Depth:** Growth of big and fast data.

Drowning in data, thirsty for information

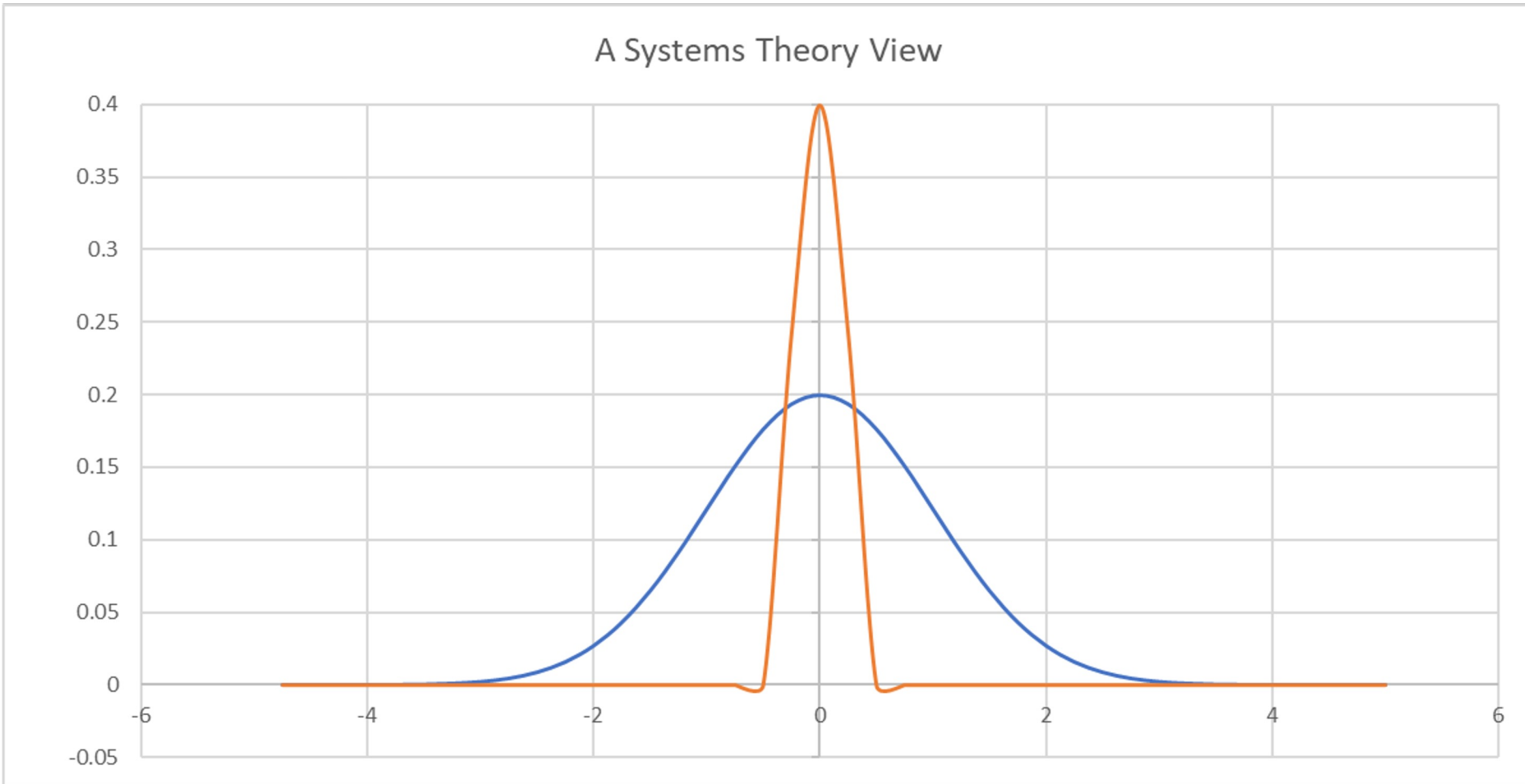
**Electric Power is increasing in all of these areas!**



# Where are we? A Systems Theory View



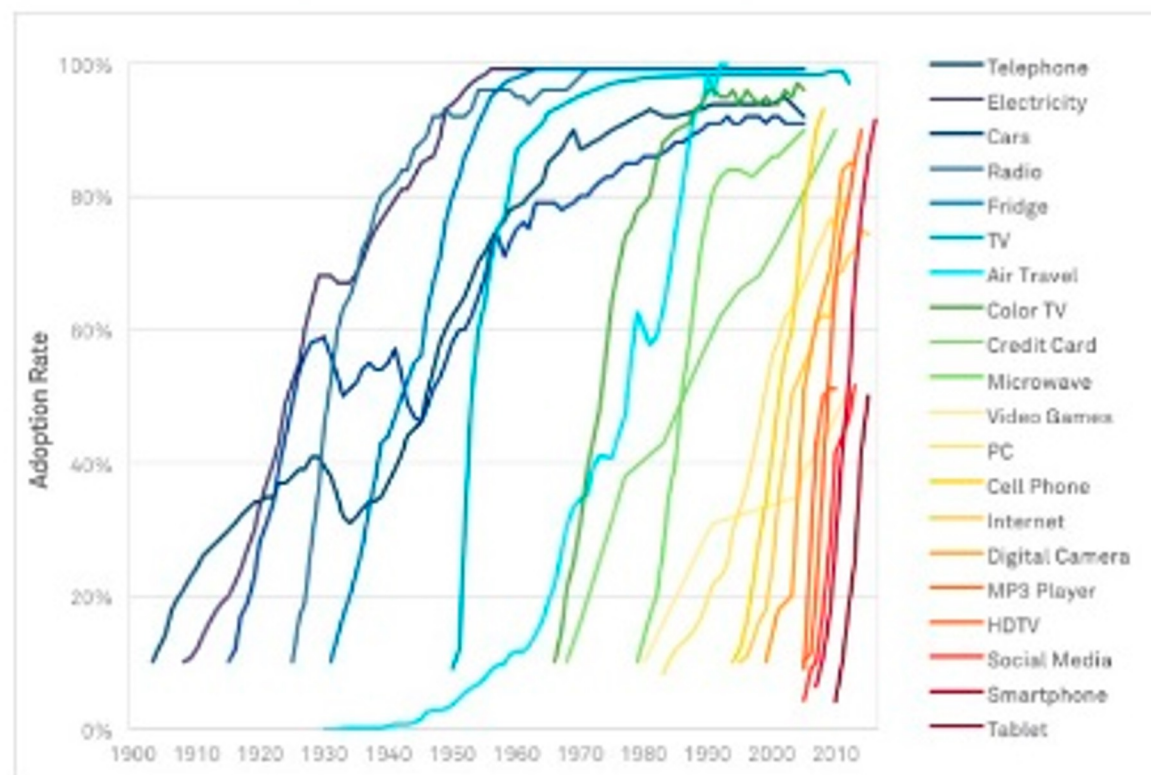
# Where are we? A Systems Theory View



# Growing Rates of Change

## Yet Each Generation Keeps Coming on Faster Than the Last

Exhausting our Traditional Approach to Technology Enablement



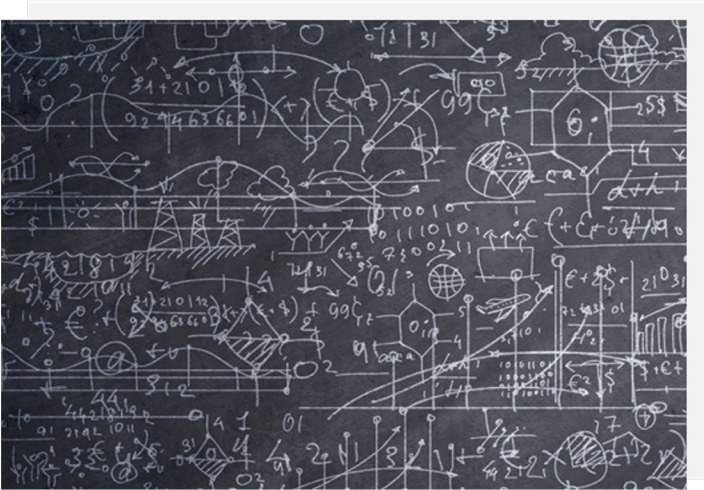
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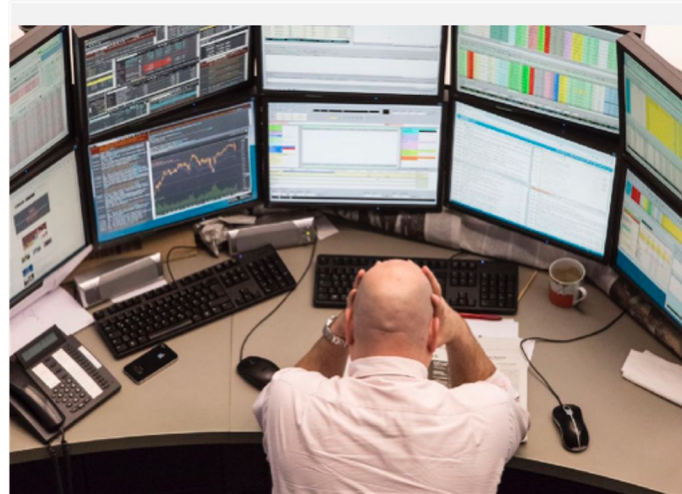




# Increasing challenges



COMPLEXITY



STRESS



INTERDEPENDENCE

# Reliability, Robustness, Resilience

- Critical infrastructure resilience: physical and human components
- Resilience Engineering: Humans are the primary source of resiliency for an infrastructure
  - This is especially true as growing infrastructure nexus challenges occur (e.g., electric-natural gas)
- Therefore, to strengthen an organization's resiliency, you need tools to support and enhance operators'
  - Situational awareness
  - Decision-making
  - Collaboration

# Situational Awareness







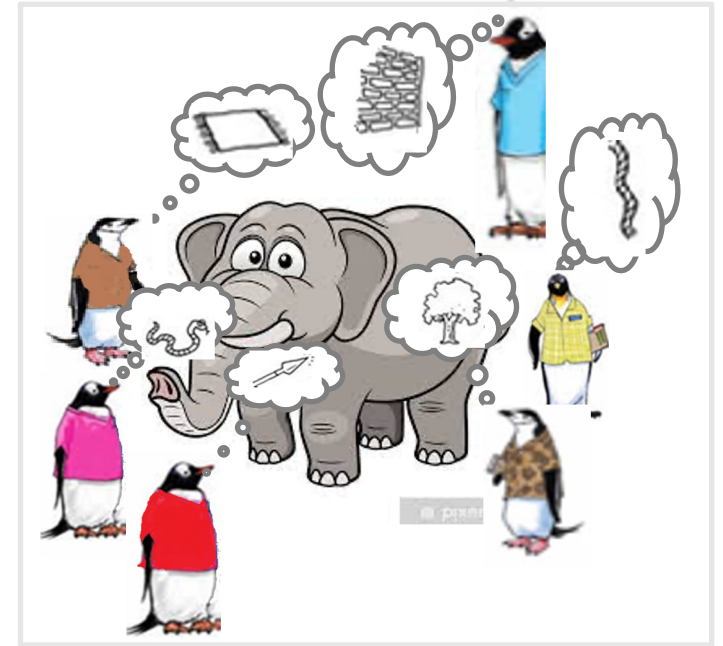


# Data vs. Information



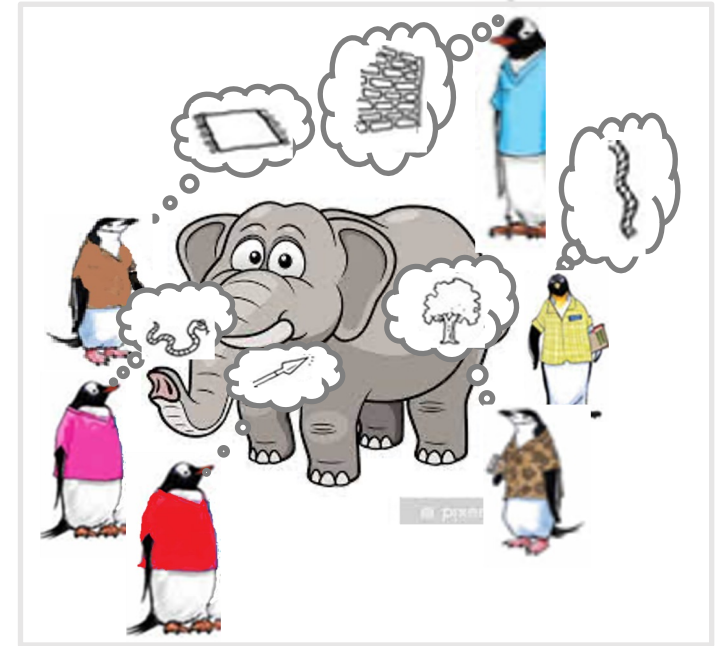
# Shared SA / CROP

- **Common Relevant Operational Picture (CROP)** - Being able to share common views reduces friction and error risks. During events, ability to collaborate a critical function



# Shared SA / CROP

- **Mental Models** - How individuals internally represent the task they're performing, situation they're in, or technology they're using
- **Shared Mental Models** – team members having same understanding of
  - Team activities and task at hand
  - Team goals
  - Changing roles and responsibilities as events unfold
  - Procedures and processes



# SAFNR Overview



# SAFNRev3 Overview

- Hosted in secured data centers in Austin, Texas, and Suwanee, Georgia
- Users authenticated via NERC
- Connectivity through three MPLS networks: EIDSN, WIDSN, WAN
- Continuous work with RCs to maintain reliability as their systems and models change
- Updated network model:
  - EMS Network Models
  - ICCP Connectivity
  - Geospatial information for transmission infrastructure

# SAFNRv3 Overview

- Integrated situational awareness for NERC, FERC, REs and RCs
  - Supports timely communications and collaboration with key stakeholders
- Model and real-time data across the continental US for
  - Lines  $\geq$  200 kV
  - Units  $\geq$  500 MW
  - One bus per substation  $\geq$  200 kV
- Meteorological and Weather Data
- Weather alerts (e.g., flood warnings)
- External sources (e.g., wildfires)

# SAFNRev3 Status

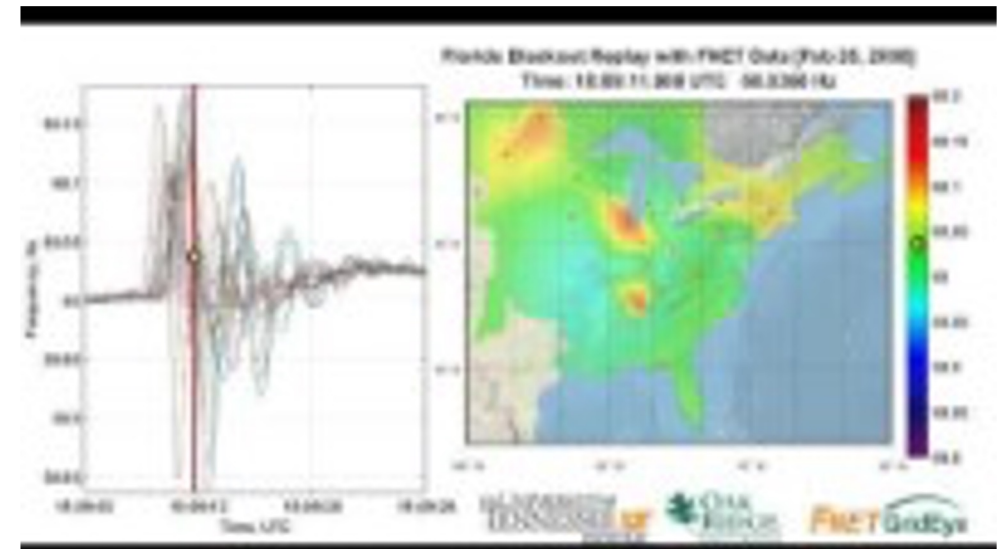
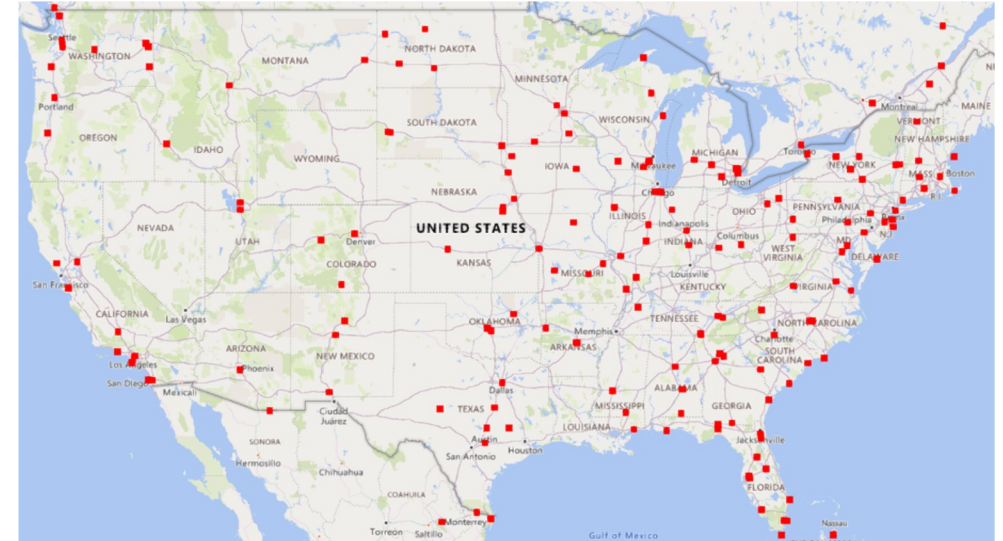
- SAFNR Network Model in continuous improvement process
  - Integrated model built and updated from RC data (network model, geospatial, and ICCP data)
  - Ensuring the SAFNR model stays up-to-date is critical for shared situational awareness
    - Equipment within each RC territory, and the ties between the RCs
- Forced Oscillation Detection in SAFNR
  - UTK FNET to bring detected forced oscillation alerts into the RMS

# FNET Overview



# FNET Overview

- Developed at University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Deployment of Frequency Disturbance Recorder (FDR) units around the US (and world)
- Location and triangulation of grid events, such as
  - Oscillations
  - Inter-area oscillations
  - Large unit and load changes



# Continuous Improvement

# Continuous Improvement

- September 28, 2023: Synchronized Measurement Working Group (SMWG) presentation
  - Identifying oscillation modes and sources
  - Identifying use cases for different SAFNR users
  - Identifying opportunities to decrease user activation energy on post-forced oscillation activities
- Ongoing feedback from SANFR User Groups, and SAFNR users overall



Thank You!!!

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<https://resilientgrid.com/connect>



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# **FERC Order 881 and FAC-011 Implementation at Manitoba Hydro**

NERC Monitoring and Situational Awareness  
October 2023

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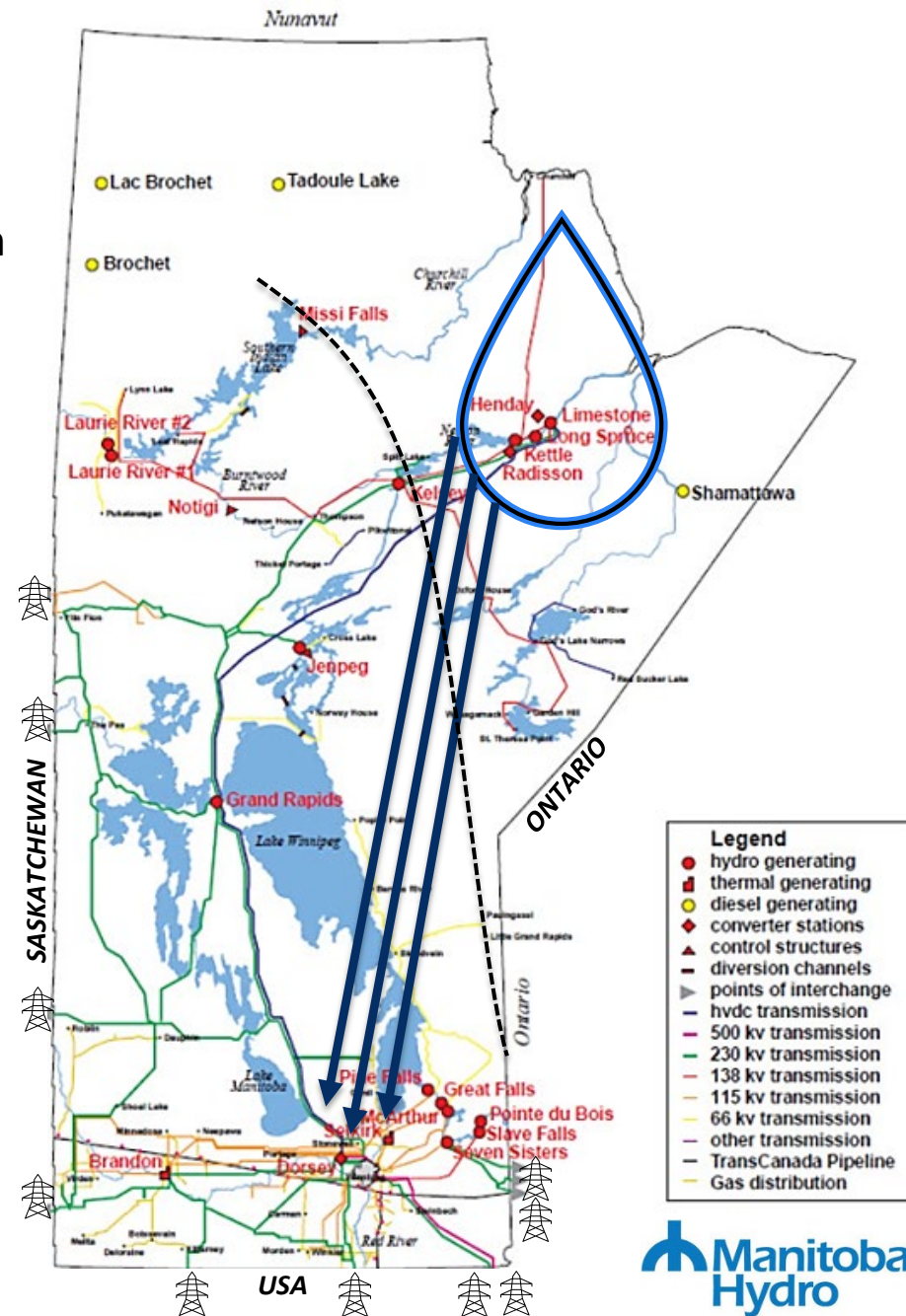
# Content

- Introduction
- FERC 881
- FAC-011-4
- Implementation
- Q&A

Manitoba Hydro is a vertically integrated utility; responsible for power generation, transmission, and distribution in the Canadian province of Manitoba

### System features:

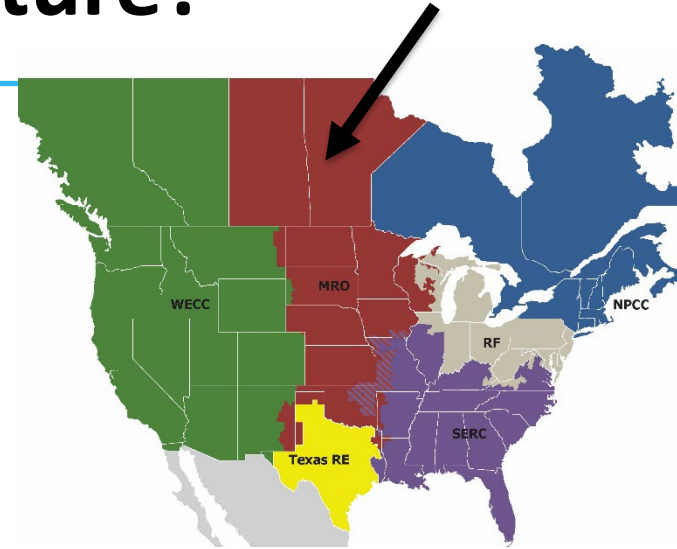
- ~6200 MW Gen and ~5000 MW Peak Load
- ~95% Hydro and ~11,000 km of Transmission Lines
- Asynchronous Norther Collector system island connected by 3 HVDC Bipoles
- Tie lines to SaskPower, MISO, Hydro One
- Variety of SPS/RAS, 2 SVCs, Phase Shifters on the interface and internally, fast switching capacitors



# Where does Manitoba Hydro fit into the big picture?

## **MH is part of the Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO)**

- is a regional electric reliability council under North American Electric Reliability Corporation authority (NERC)
- ensures entities are in compliance with mandatory reliability standards
- conducts assessments of the grid's ability to meet electric power demand
- analyzes regional system events



## **MH is part of Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)**

- MH is a coordinating member of the MISO organization
- MH has very strong interconnection with MISO
  - Export capacity 3100 MW
  - Import Capacity 1400 MW
- MISO serves as MH Reliability Coordinator



# Significant Changes

MH System Operations will experience significant changes:

- **FERC order 881**
  - July 2025
  
- **FAC-011-4**
  - April 1, 2024 (USA)
  - July 1, 2025 (Manitoba)
  
- **GE EMP 3.4 upgrade**
  - Q3 2024



# FERC 881

**FERC issued order 881 requesting entities to implement the following by July 2025:**

- Implement Ambient Adjusted Rating (AAR)s for real-time operations and forecasted hourly for the next 10 days
- Implement seasonal ratings beyond day 10 (minimum 4 seasons)
- Develop a methodology for emergency ratings for AAR
- Use AAR/seasonal rating in Transmission Service Request (TSR) evaluations
- Implement necessary tariff changes

## **Update Facility Rating Methodology and Applications**

- Define four seasons and associated ratings

# FERC 881 Tasks

## Implementing AAR in the MH System Control Center

- Divide province into temperature zones and identify BES Facilities in each zone
- Transfer ambient ratings from Facility Ratings System (FRS) to EMS
- Bring temperature measurements and forecasts into EMS for each zone
- Integrate the RTDYN application into EMS for both real-time and forecast instances
- Update operating instructions and operator training
- Transfer current and future ratings to MISO via Limit Exchange Portal (LEP)

# FERC 881 Jurisdiction

- MH is Not Under FERC Jurisdiction
- MH is voluntarily implementing these recommendations

## *Why?*

- Maximize our system usage
- Use current capacity more effectively
- Make better informed decisions regarding system expansion
- Reduce alarms by using ambient ratings compared to a conservative seasonal fixed limit rating
- Will (hopefully) reduce the number of SOL exceedances
  - Reduce impact on operators
  - Reduce compliance burden

# FERC 881 - MH AAR Methodology

## Day/Night Ratings

- Analysis on day-night ratings has been completed
- Night: no solar radiation, less wind (negates the cooling affect)
- Day: solar radiation, more wind (increases cooling affect)
- Our studies concluded there is no advantage for individual day and night ratings at the same ambient temperatures

# FERC 881 - Seasonal Facility Ratings

- Developed 4 seasonal ratings for use in seasonal study analysis
- MH network model based on the following:

Season	Ambient Temperature [°C]	Solar Altitude Assumption	Soil Temperature °C (Southern Manitoba)	Soil Temperature °C (Northern Manitoba)
Spring April 01- May 31	20	May 31 high noon	5	0
Summer June 01 – Aug. 31	40	June 21 at high noon	20	20
Fall Sept. 01- Oct. 31	20	September 01 at high noon	20	20
Winter Nov. 01– March 31	0	March 31 high noon	5	0

- MH determined air temperature and soil temperature will be treated independently
- Underground cables will require seasonal rating for only winter and summer.



# FAC-011-04

- FAC-011-4 standard now requires that RTCA violations are reported as SOL exceedances based on associated timer logic
- May identify where system improvements are required
- Requires multiple EMS application enhancements
- RTCA will be used to report steady-state alarming instead of, or in conjunction with SCADA
- Operating procedures will change due to SOL timing requirements
- DSA Tools (VSAT and TSAT) implementation in real-time

# FERC 881/FAC-11 EMS Changes

	Now	In 2025
Number of Seasons	2	4
Real-time System operation	Seasonal Ratings are used. Apply Ambient rating by exception	AAR will be used full time
Applying AAR	Manual override by operators when needed	Automatic by dedicated EMS application (RTDYN)
Change of rating	Twice a year	Every hour
Emergency Rating for AAR	No	Two emergency Ratings
Monitoring of timer logic and SOL Exceedance Communication with MISO	No	Yes

# EMS - Implementation

Expected to be implemented in a two phase EMP Upgrade project:

- Base product upgrade from EMP 3.2 to EMP 3.4
- RTCA:
  - Support for FAC-11
  - Any number of limits and individual timer logic per violation
  - Recording and reporting of SOL's
- RTDYN:
  - Support for Ambient Adjusted Ratings in real-time and 240 hour forecast
  - Modeling RT AARs in ICCP from RTDYN
  - New RTDYN Forecast tool for lookahead ratings
- Limit Exchange Portal
  - WebAPI will be used to exchange hourly ratings for next 10 days with MISO
  - Container-based implementation

# EMS – Facility Ratings System

**BES Facility Ratings are now ambient determined at the following levels:**

- Normal, E1, E2, LDSH

**The Facility Ratings System is being updated to support:**

- Additional emergency ratings
- 4 seasons
- AAR -50 to 50°C (58 to 122°F)

Sample: Seasonal ratings

Season	Normal Rating	Emergency Rating I	Emergency Rating II	Emergency Rating III
Season I				
Season II				
Season III				
Season IV				

Sample: AAR ratings

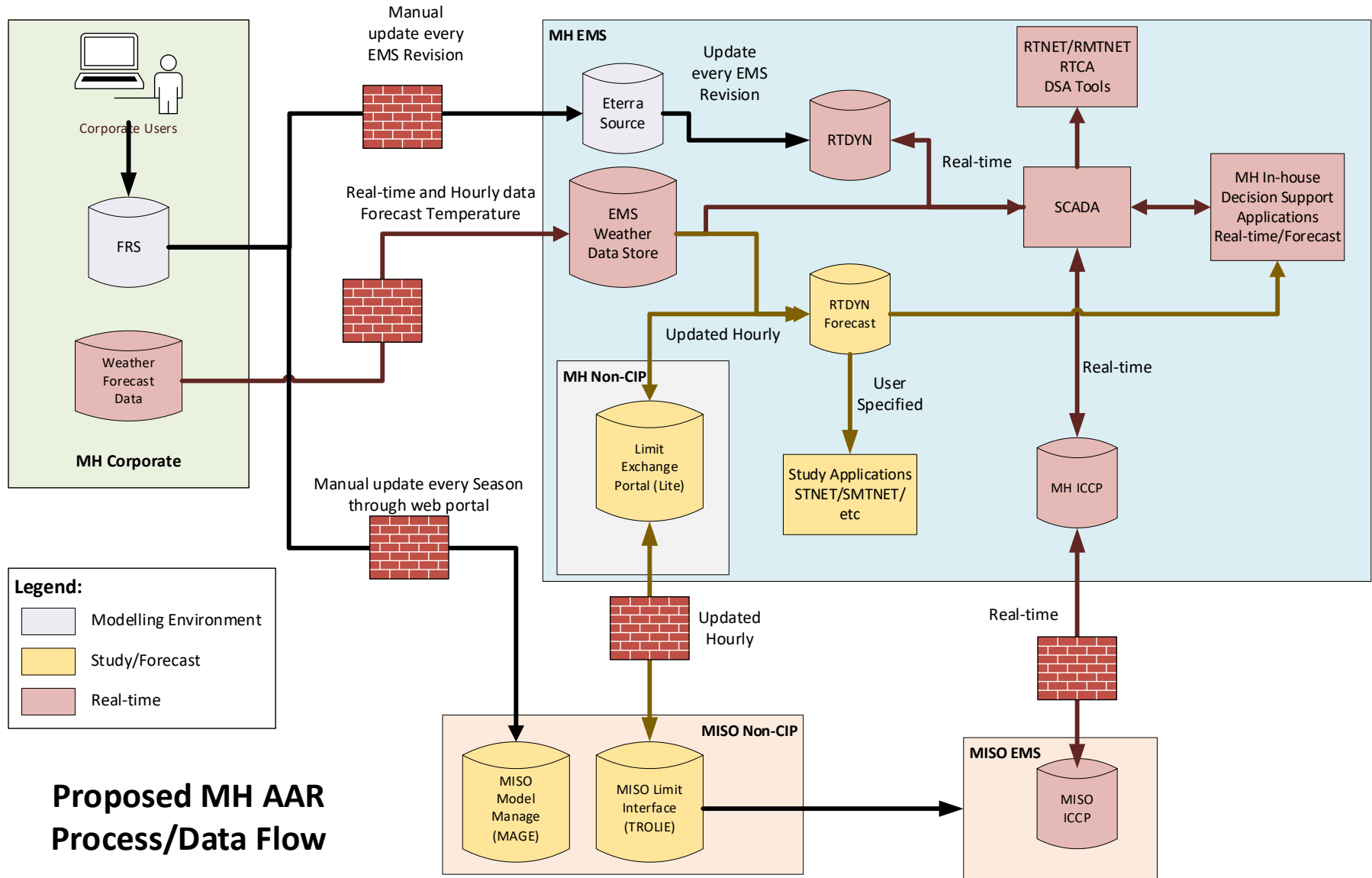
Temp. (°C)	Rating			
	Normal	Emer. I	Emer II	Emer III
-50				
-45				
-40				
⋮				
40				
45				
50				



# EMS - Transferring Ratings to MISO

- Seasonal rating: Using MAGE modeling system
- Real-time AAR: Using ICCP
- Forecasted AAR: GE Limit Exchange Portal
  - MISO will act as clearing house when facilities have multiple owners
  - MH will get final rating for tie lines from MISO
  - MISO to store rating history
  - One can query the real-time rating for a line on a given date and time for the last 5 years

# Proposed MH AAR Process/Data Flow



Proposed MH AAR Process/Data Flow

# Some Notable Experiences

- FERC 881 forces us to look at different in-house applications which use ratings and combine logic
  - GLAP (Load Forecast), ADHAP (HVDC Limits)
  - RTDYN becomes the single system-of-record
- The requirement for topology driven limits adds another layer of complexity
- This project opened lines of communication between different groups allowing
  - Improvement of FRS methodology
  - The discovery of incorrect assumptions (e.g. cable subcomponents are subject to AAR)
  - Improved collaboration between Asset owners and Operations groups

# Questions?



# PJM EMS Upgrade and Cutover Practice

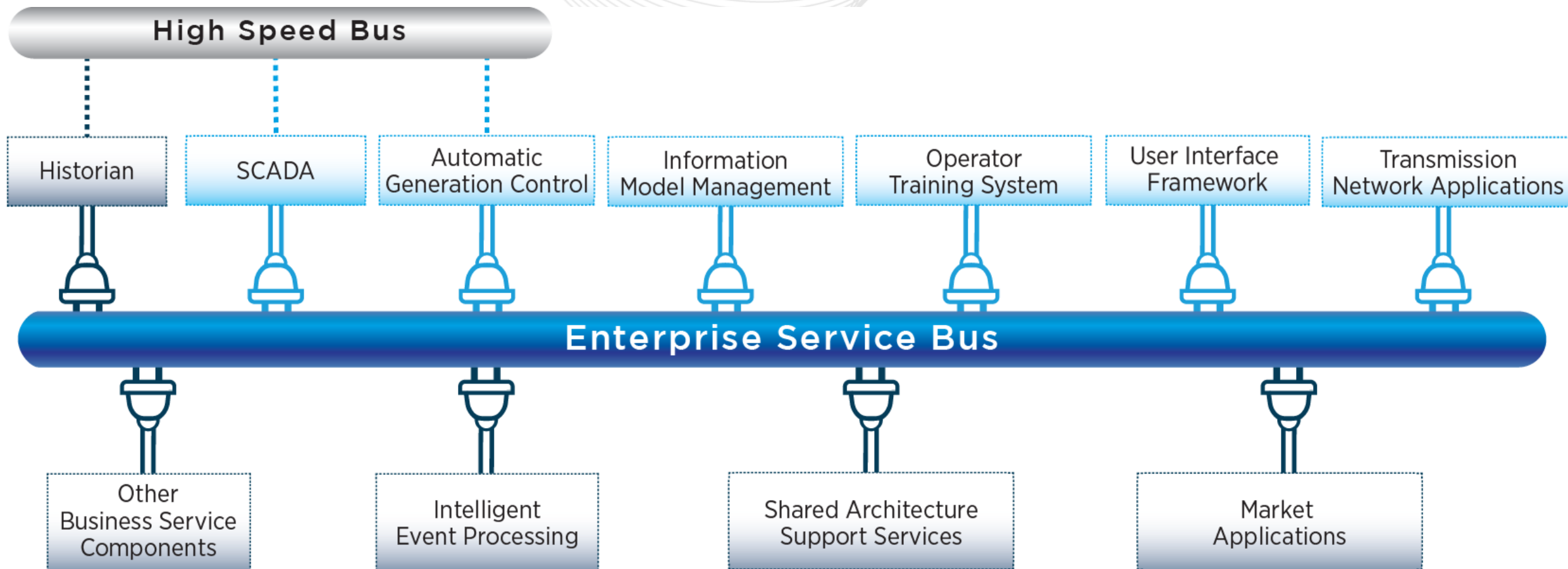
Adamy Garcia  
Manager, EMS Technologies  
Jeff Tiemann,  
Sr. Manager, EMS Technologies

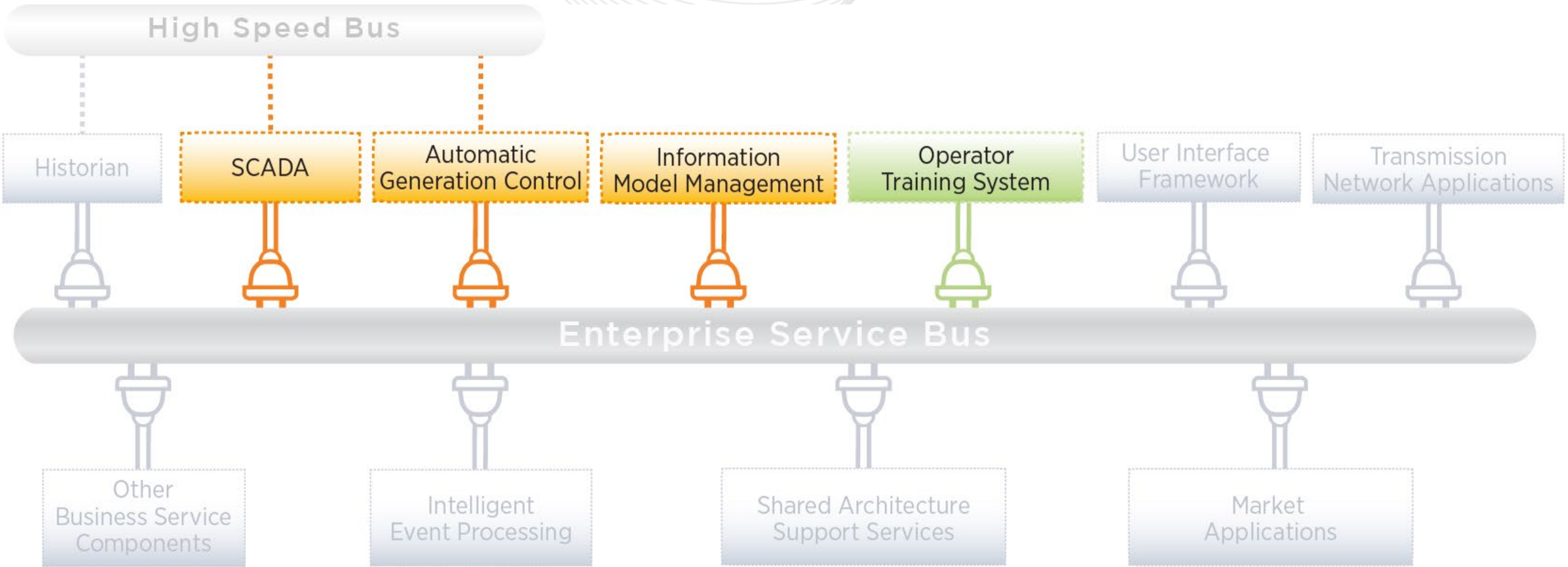


# EMS Upgrade Overview



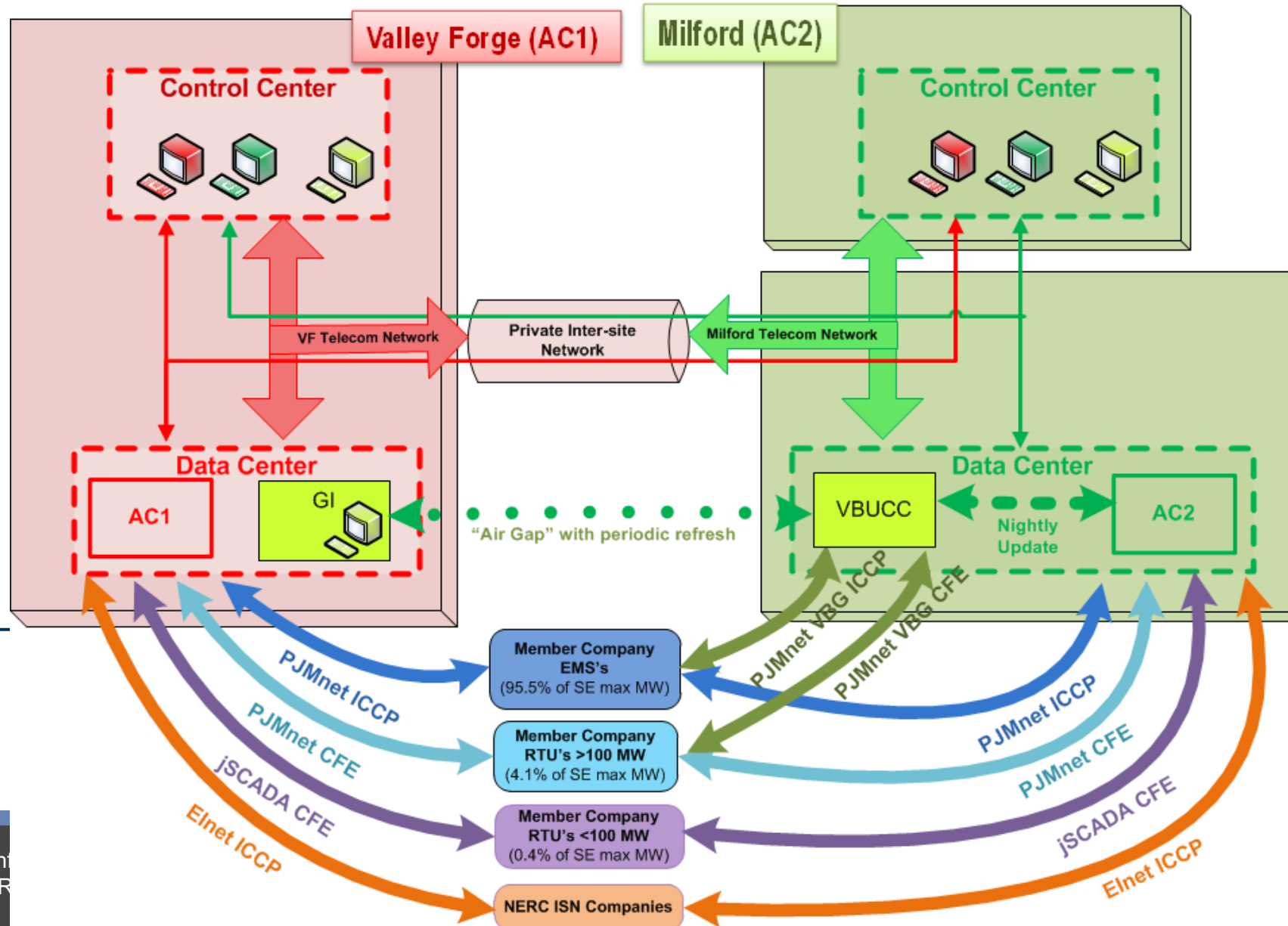
# PJM's Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) Implementation





# Dual Primary Control Centers

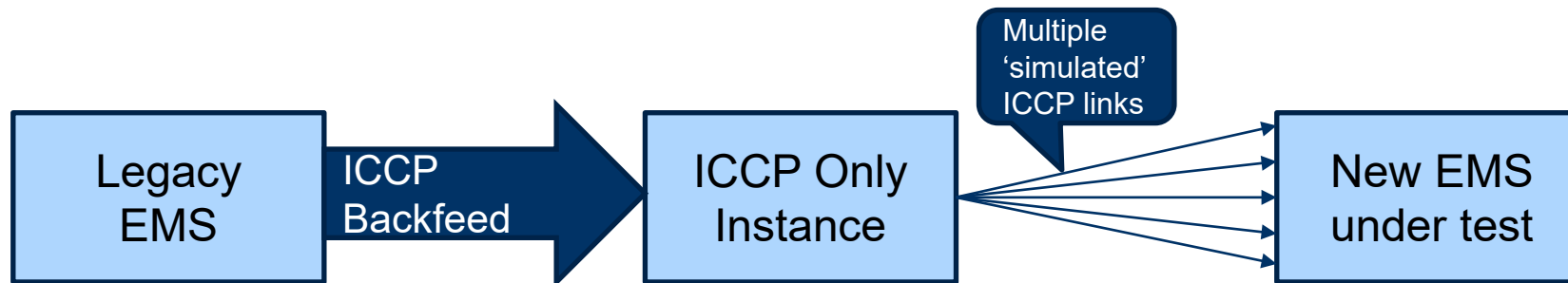
Illustration of PJM's redundant communication between AC1 and AC2 and continuous communication, operational awareness of our Member Companies



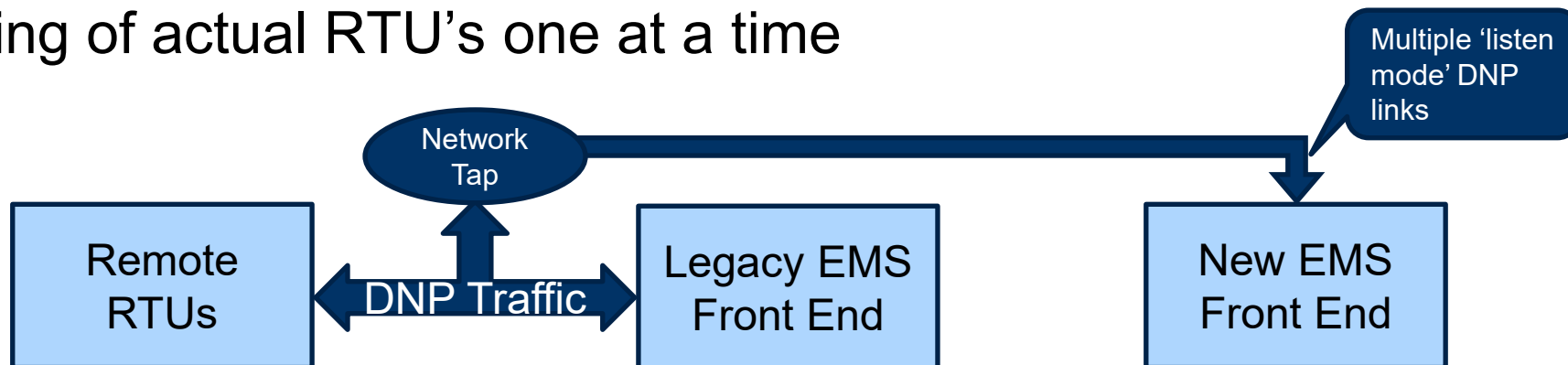
# EMS Upgrade Testing and Mock Cutovers



- Used 'backfeed' ICCP link with all incoming data from 'legacy' EMS
- Used intermediate 'ICCP only' instance to act as 'remote' feeds
  - Flipped client and server points from production definitions
  - Allowed for override data testing without impacting production data
  - Allowed for 'alarm flood' testing by toggling breakers on intermediate system
- Direct testing of actual ICCP links to remote EMS systems one at a time



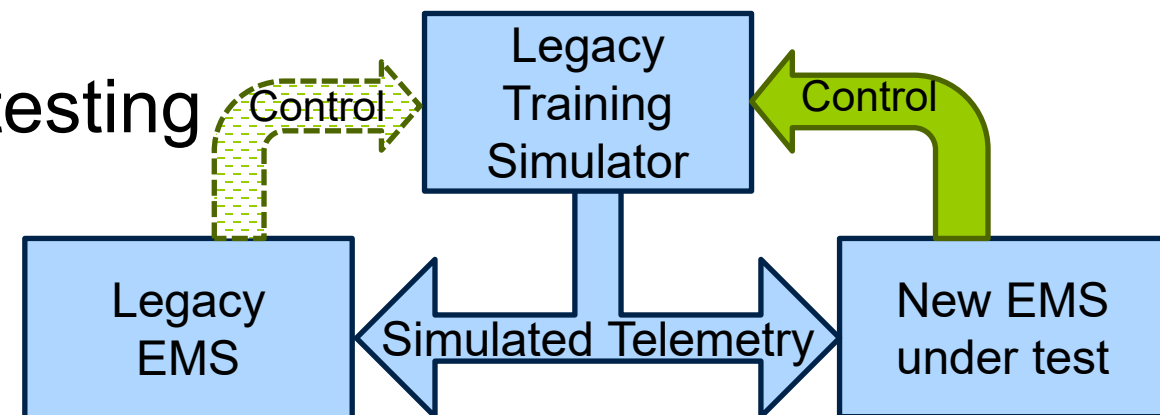
- Use of test RTU to simulate specific RTU configurations
  - RTU was able to simulate multiple RTU configurations
  - Testing manual overrides to values and qualities with no production data impacts
  - Use of ESP8266 Microcontroller (MCU) for continuous 'closed-loop' and performance testing
- Tested RTU's in 'listen' mode
  - Allowed testing of incoming data on all RTU's in parallel
  - Used existing network monitoring taps to forward DNP traffic
- Direct testing of actual RTU's one at a time



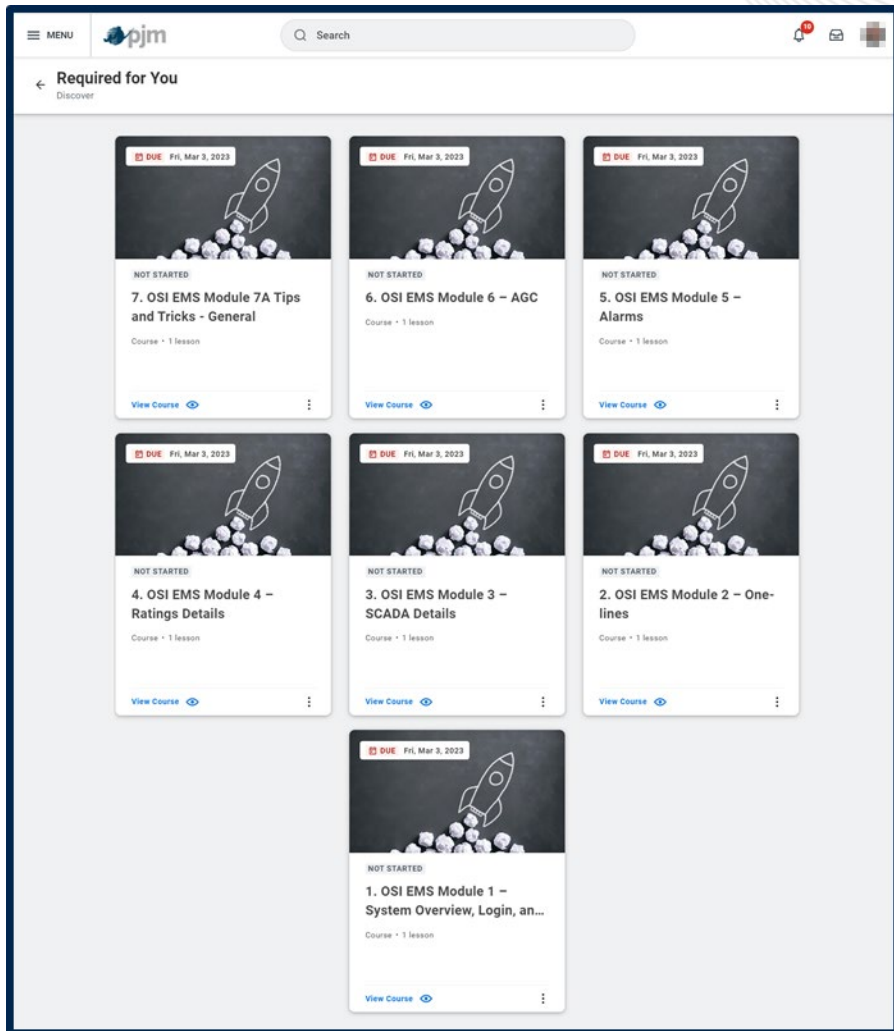
- Automated Daily Health Checks
- Alarm Comparison Checks
  - Alarm consistency between new EMS sites
  - Alarm consistency between new and old EMS
- Data Consistency Checks
  - Both value and quality code exceptions
- Alarm Flood Testing
  - Breaker toggles by volume and time


- Tests client SSO login for each domains
- Tests if any processes are dead
- Tests if any processes restarted in a 3 minute window
- Checks if the failover health of every monarch node is healthy
- Queries the alarm historian for any alarms within a configured period
- Checks a list of configured system values
- Checks that the analog, status, accumulator, station, units, plants, tie lines, and setpoint counts are the same across domains
- Checks if a configured ICCP import point has not updated within a configured time period
- Check if a configured ICCP export point has not sent within a configured time period
- Tests if a configured synchronization health metric for the measurement sync is healthy
- Warn for any SOA task that has more than a configured number of failures
- Warn for any SOA task that has not run within a configured time period
- Tests that the state of each GPS clock is 'ONLINE'
- Warns if the GPS clocks timestamp hasn't updated within a configured time period
- Tests that each configured calculation formula record is 'ON'
- Checks that the state of each formula record is 'ACTIVE'
- Warns if the calculation formula has not run within a configured time period

- Existing simulator was updated to feed multiple EMS instances
  - One in 'listen', one in 'control'
  - Able to configure either 'new' or 'old' in 'control'
- Used for operator training
- Used for 'side by side' application testing
- Used for 'island mode' testing



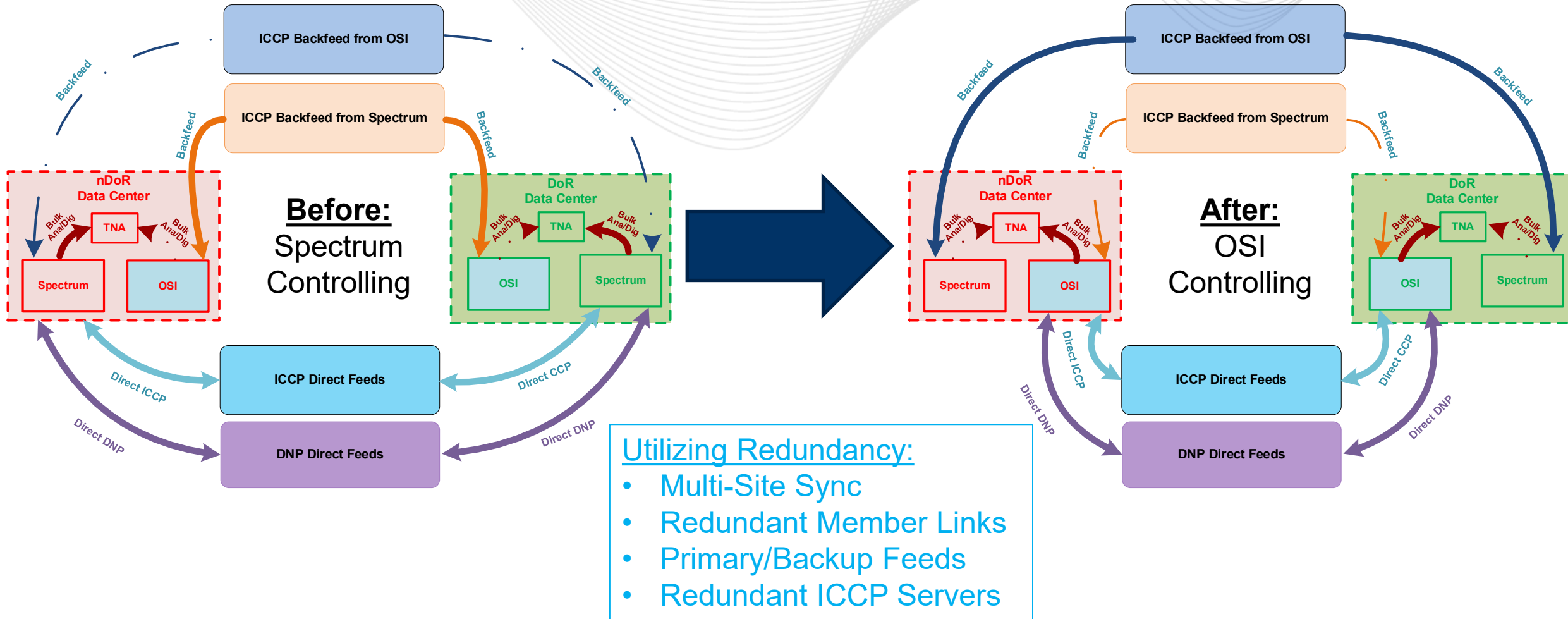
# On-line Training Module Example



SCADA/AGC Systems	
Current	New
<b>SIEMENS</b> <i>Spectrum</i>	 <b>OSI</b> <i>Monarch</i>
✓ Connect to PJM members	✓
✓ Collect incoming data	✓
✓ Send outgoing PJM data	✓
✓ Send/receive data via SOA	✓
✗ EITK handles SOA data	✓

Spectrum	Monarch	
AC1 PC	EMS1	Production
AC2 PC	EMS2	
AC1 PCT	QAS1	
AC2 PCT	QAS2	
VBUC	VB62	
AC1 PC	SEMS1	Stage
AC2 PC	SEMS2	
AC1 PCT	SQAS1	
AC2 PCT	SQAS2	
		Used to test software updates and integrations with other PJM systems



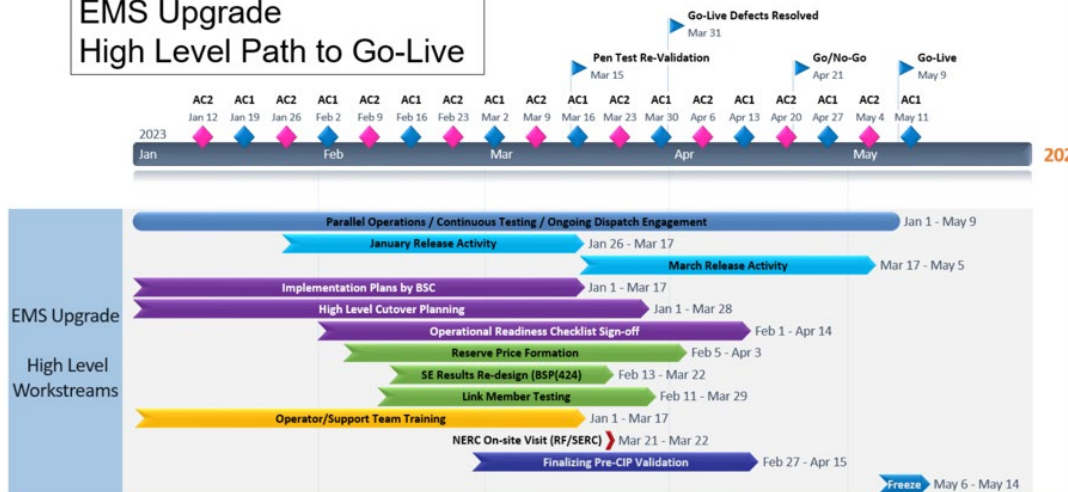


## Cutover Readiness

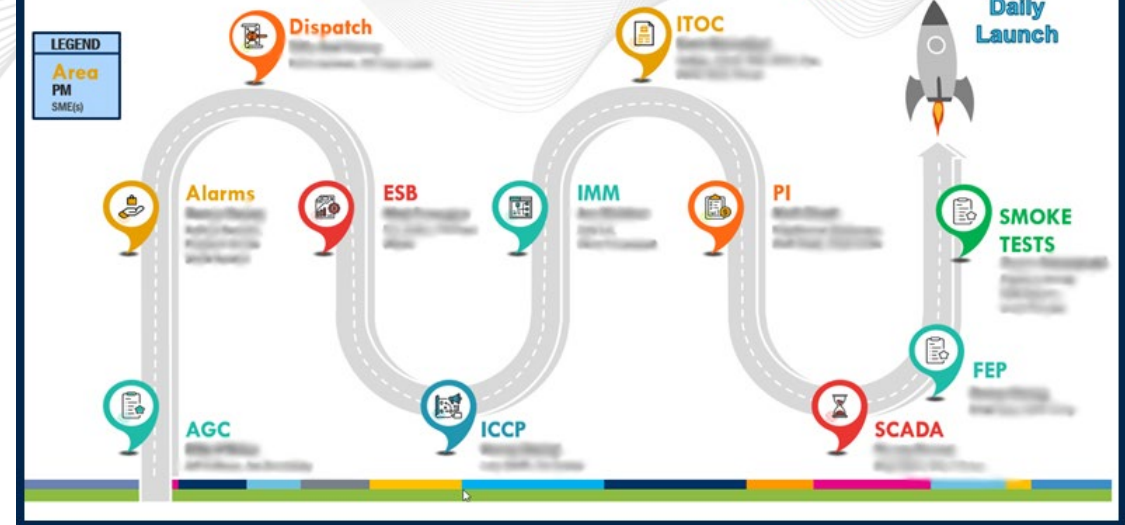


Change Management Currently Active ([Link To Guidance](#))

## EMS Upgrade High Level Path to Go-Live



## Daily KPI Reviews (How Are We Operating?)



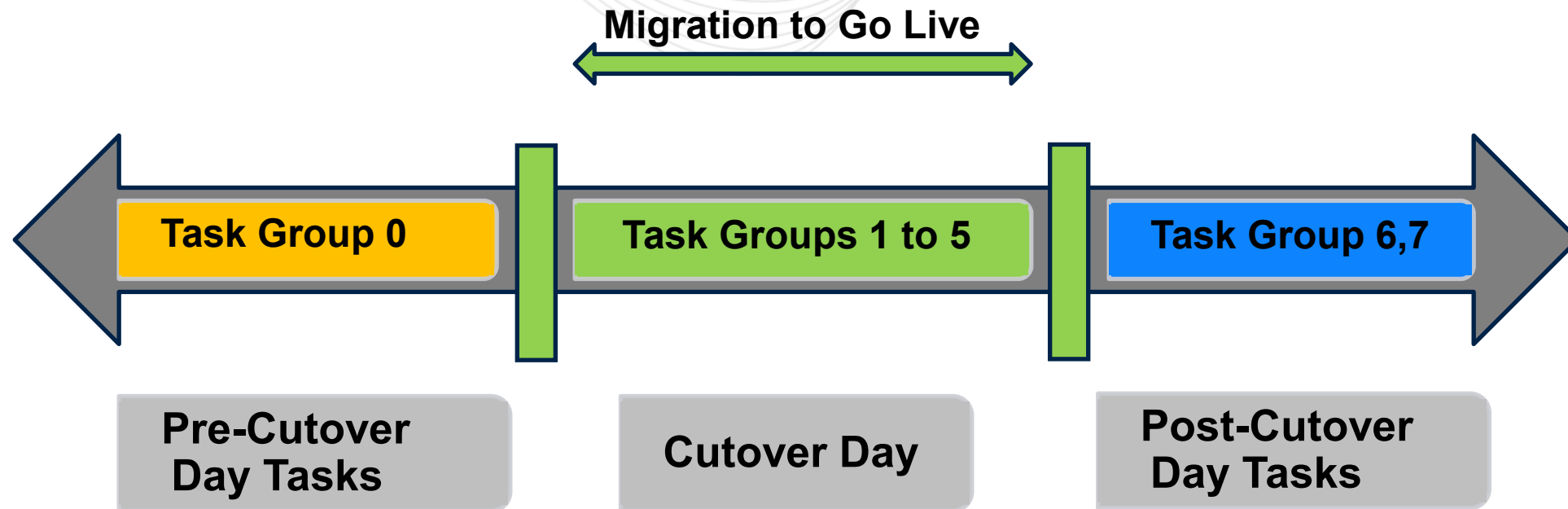
## KPI Dashboard:

The KPIs below use the following indicators for 7x24 launch readiness:

KPI Legend	
Status	Indicates
WIP CALCULATING	KPI is being calculated prior to posting
GO 4 LAUNCH	No issues to report, within KPI threshold
OUTSIDE THRESHOLD	KPI has exceeded threshold, needs attention or indicates significant process/system failure

Area	AGC	Alarm	System Sync	ESB	ICCP	Activations	ITOC	PI	System Use	System Stability
KPI Title	ACE Deviation Comparison	OSI Alarm Differences	Monarch Siemens Comparison	Overall Performance	Link Availability	Activate and Prepare Jobs	Alerts reported to Tivoli or by the ITOC	No Gaps In Reporting	User Activity	Restarts
30 Jan 2023	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH
29 Jan 2023	OUTSIDE THRESHOLD	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH
28 Jan 2023	OUTSIDE THRESHOLD	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH
27 Jan 2023	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	GO 4 LAUNCH	OUTSIDE THRESHOLD Expand...



- Use of 'Control Room Coordinators' helped operator readiness
  - SME's on-shift with operators during parallel ops to answer questions and document issues
  - Also 7x24 post-cutover support as new dispatch teams came on-shift
- Multiple 'mock' cutovers helped refine final cutover process
  - PJM cutover the 'non-data of record' to the new EMS multiple times as part of 'mock' cutovers
  - Legacy EMS was backfed by 'new' EMS to keep it available
- Early availability of simulator helped both training, and application testing
- Leveraged 'hot-hot' configuration so both Legacy and new EMS never lost data during cutover
- Leveraged automated test scripts during cutover and in post-production monitoring
- Leveraged KPI's and Splunk log collections for performance monitoring (rather than periodic performance test)

- Link data testing ensured data quality, but network and protocol configuration details still needed to be adjusted on some links during testing with remote connections
- On-site coordinated testing is the best approach
- Control Room shift team and supervisor came off normal shift 1 month before cutover
- Leveraged 3 Part Communication during all mock cut-overs
  - Gave practice for cutover day
- Timing for CIP designation was about a month before cutover





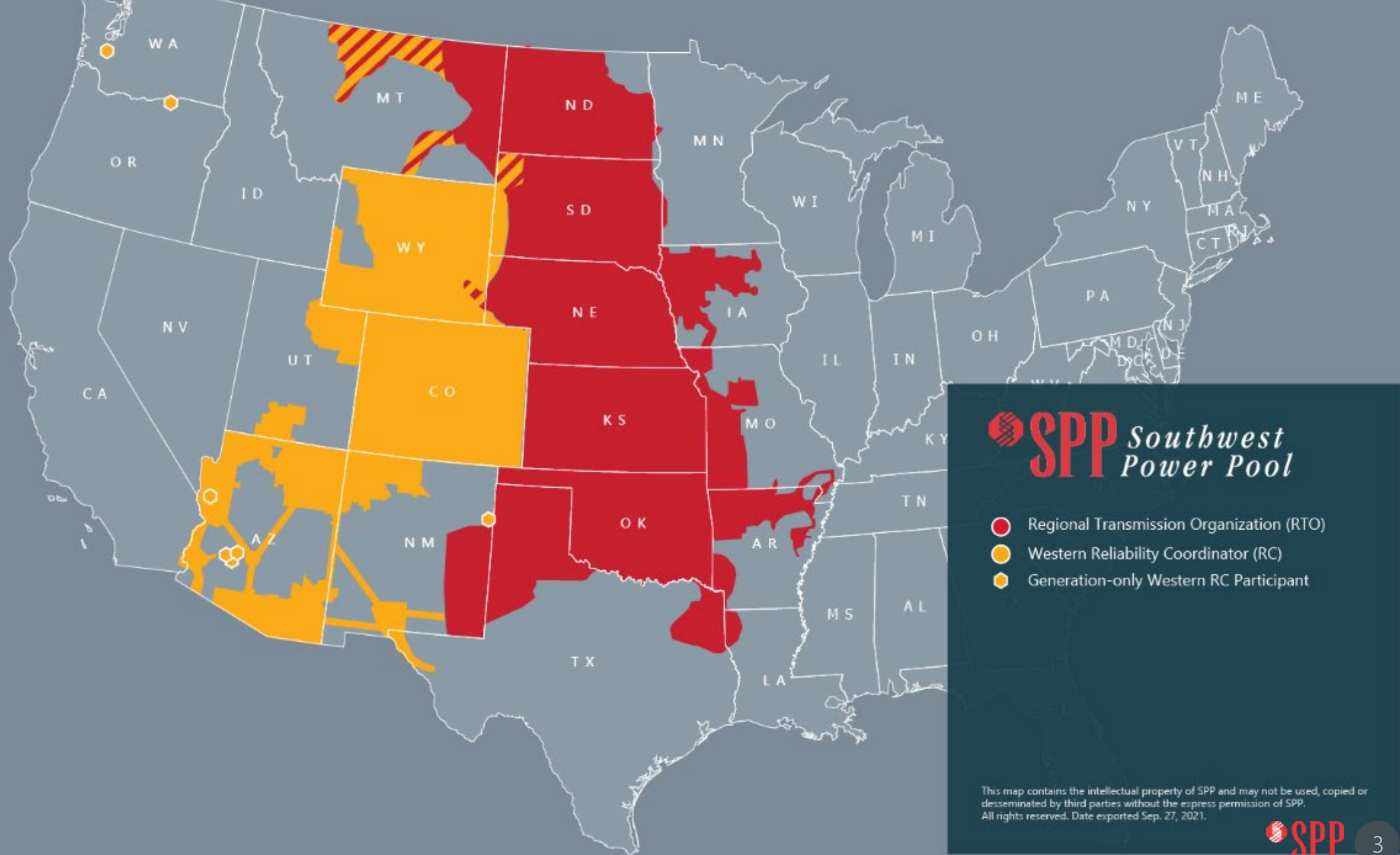
# QUALITY CONTROL OF SETTINGS & EMS UPGRADE CUTOVER PROCESSES

2023 NERC SITUATIONAL AWARENESS CONFERENCE  
WECC OFFICE - SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH









**SPP** *Southwest Power Pool*

- Regional Transmission Organization (RTO)
- Western Reliability Coordinator (RC)
- Generation-only Western RC Participant

This map contains the intellectual property of SPP and may not be used, copied or disseminated by third parties without the express permission of SPP. All rights reserved. Date exported Sep. 27, 2021.

A map of the Western United States (Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador) is shown in the background. The map is color-coded to show the locations of RC participants. A legend in the bottom right corner indicates that a yellow dot represents a 'Generation-only Western RC Participant'. The map also shows the 'SPP Power Pool' boundary. The text 'This map contains the intellectual property of SPP and may not be used, copied or disseminated by third parties without the express permission of SPP. All rights reserved. Date exported Sep. 27, 2021.' is visible in the bottom right corner.

- New hardware & operating system

- New software & user interface

- Updated modeling tool

- Updated Dispatch Training Simulator

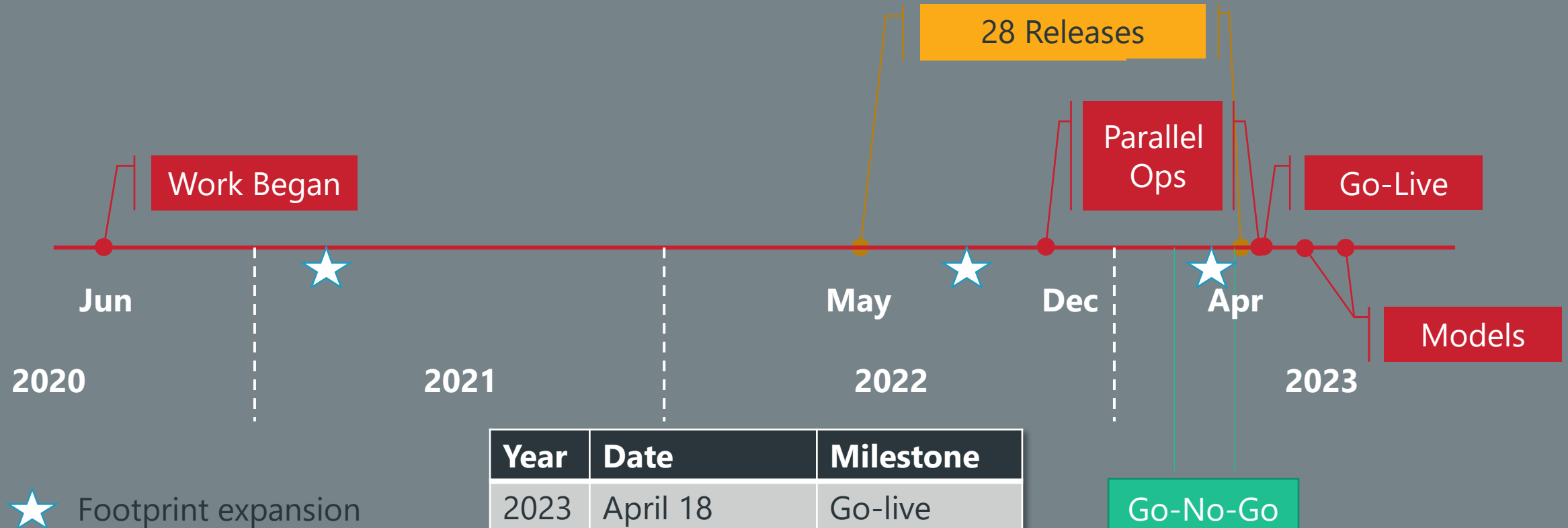
- Updated interface between EMS and market systems

- New Tariff Services Available Flowgate Capability (AFC) calculator

- New flowgate management tool

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# SPP EMS UPGRADE TIMELINE



Year	Date	Milestone
2023	April 18	Go-live
2023	April 14	Go-No-Go
2023	April 4	QA Go-live
2023	February 16	Go-No-Go



## UPGRADE BY THE NUMBERS

- 55 core team members over 3+ years
- 28+ software releases
- 300+ tracked issues (defects, enhancements, etc.)
- 76 updated procedure documents
- 72 operators trained
- 140 high impact application settings
- 11 teams with tasks during the 4-hour cutover

# THE MORE EYES, EARLIER, THE BETTER

- Identified that database pointer method changed
- Appropriate focus on settings and configurations throughout
- Contingencies were inserting, not removing equipment
- Model quality validated by multiple personnel
- Early exposure led to consensus for go-no-go decisions
- Could have identified issues earlier in exported case formats earlier

# CHECK SETTINGS ON ALL SYSTEMS

- Found that software settings in the virtual machines were missing on one server
- Assigned personnel responsible for the settings of each application in the EMS
- Checked that settings persisted over the course of failovers, model loads, study solutions, and other maintenance tasks
- Signed off on settings at the beginning of parallel operations, again throughout it, and finally prior to cutovers in both the QA and in PROD environments

# DOCUMENTATION OF SETTINGS

- List the following
  - Setting name, application name
  - Location of setting in user interface
  - Description of the setting's purpose (may need to supplement the vendor's description)
  - Vendor's recommended setting value
  - SPP's normal setting value
  - Reasons a user might adjust the setting
  - Any related NERC Standards related to the setting
- Document in a place that is linked/searchable/version tracked

# EXAMPLE OF A DOCUMENTED SETTING

Application	Display	Name	Value	Description
RTNET	Real-Time Network Process Parameters (SE_PARAMETERS)	Maximum Iterations Voltage Convergence	100	Limits the number of REPEAT, REFACTOR, and FACTOR iterations.  Maximum number of iterations allowed in one voltage convergence cycle. GE recommends a value of 18.  See our analysis here: <a href="#">Analysis of Voltage Convergence Maximum Iterations limits</a>



# QUESTION ASSUMPTIONS

- Schema names might not change, but data type might
- Vendor may develop on a different operating system
  - Windows – filenames case insensitive
  - Unix – filenames case sensitive
  - Not reproducible at vendor

# VALIDATIONS CAN GIVE A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

- Verify out-of-the-box validations
- Check results in every situation you can imagine
  - At initial model export
  - At manual model update by users
  - Before and after solutions run
  - Over time after operator input and study solutions
- Things that surprised us
  - Validations checked subsets of records in the database
  - Important new fields are not captured by validations

# OPERATE IN PARALLEL AS LONG AS POSSIBLE

- Run all EMS applications in parallel with production systems
- Upload models to the new systems
- Perform system maintenance on the new systems
- Get operators' eyes on the system (all functions)
- Give yourself enough time to catch issues you didn't imagine
- Know what you can and cannot exercise in parallel operations
  - Market interface, data historian, situational awareness tools

# MODELS & CIM SETTINGS

- Approach modeling as a conversion process to avoid dual modeling
  - Test ability to model apart from conversion process
- Go all-in on the conversion process. Don't settle for manual adjustments after each conversion
- Remember these are also risky cutovers
  - First model migration after the application cutover
  - First model w/o the conversion process

A photograph of two operators in a control room. They are seated at a desk with multiple computer monitors. The operator on the left is wearing a red shirt, and the operator on the right is wearing a grey shirt. The monitors display various data, including a large map with colored circles and a table with yellow and red rows. The room has a dark ceiling and a carpeted floor.

## APRIL 18, 2023 – SUCCESS!

- Developed script and rehearsed it with support and operator teams that would conduct the work
- Operators and all support teams provided input
- Dress rehearsal held with the Operator crew
- Cutover successful
- Follow-up model uploads on 5/1 and 6/1 also successful



# RECUPERATION

- 17% of PTO used 55% of the way through the year
- 4 cancelled vacations
- Little Rock tornado
- Plan rest
  - Discuss it in meetings,
  - Promote it to leadership
  - Stage upcoming work



# SETTINGS QC CHECKLIST

- ✓ Ask Vendor for a list of new settings
- ✓ Compare the database schema of new to old systems
- ✓ Give your team ample time to monitor the systems in a production or production-like environment 24x7
- ✓ Give built-in software validations low trust
- ✓ Get as many eyes on your new system as early as possible
- ✓ Document settings and establish controls

# CUTOVER QC CHECKLIST

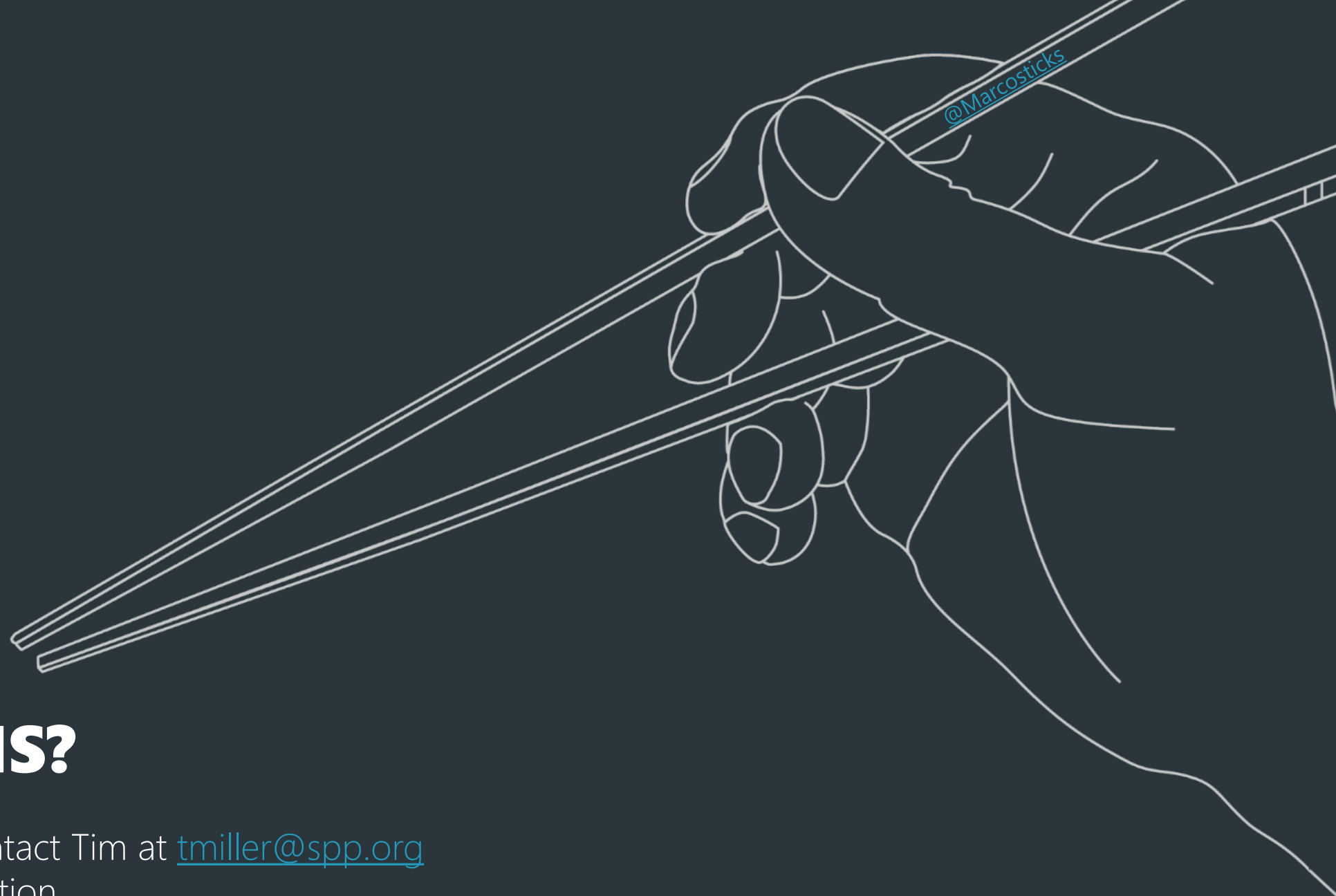
- ✓ Develop a high-level cutover script
- ✓ Develop detailed task-level cutover scripts
- ✓ Exercise the scripts in a lower environment
- ✓ Include end users in the walkthrough exercise
- ✓ Learn from the exercise and make adjustments
- ✓ Schedule the same users & support staff for the walkthrough exercise and the production cutover





# DESIGN CHECKLIST

- Simplify interfaces
- Streamline validations
- Reduce critical settings
- Specify one way to
  - Navigate to displays and menus
  - Run a study or kick off a process
  - Perform a validation



# QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact Tim at [tmiller@spp.org](mailto:tmiller@spp.org) for additional information.





# Architecting for Cloud Integration and Migration

MISO Model Manager Case Study

October 3, 2023

# Topics



- Project background
- Cloud aspects of project

# Geographically, MISO is the largest regional transmission and independent system operator in North America

## KEY FACTS ABOUT MISO

15 states + Manitoba

42 million customers

\$22 billion market

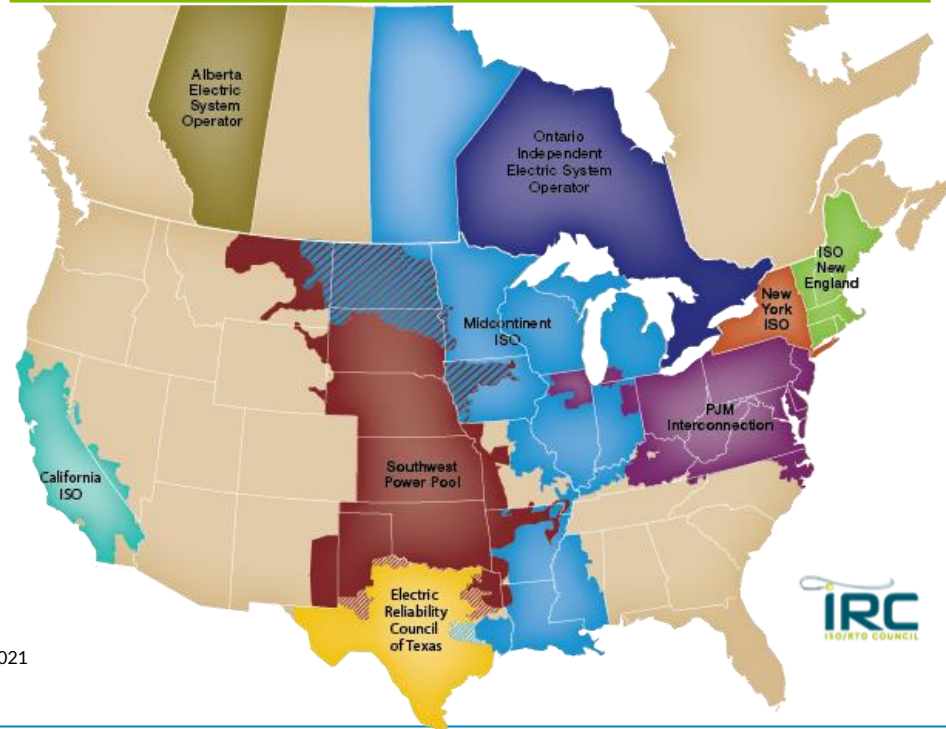
> 6,700 generation units with 184,000 MW capacity

65,800 miles of high voltage transmission lines

> 180 member utilities

> 470 market participants

## ISO FOOTPRINTS



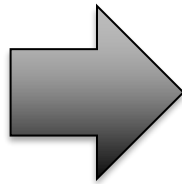
As of 01/2021

# Model Manager Project Background

# Current modeling challenges drive future opportunities addressed by MISO Model Manager project

## Challenges

- Infrequent bulk updates
- Multiple disjointed customer touch points
- Multiple, non-standard sources of information
- Home grown system, difficult to support



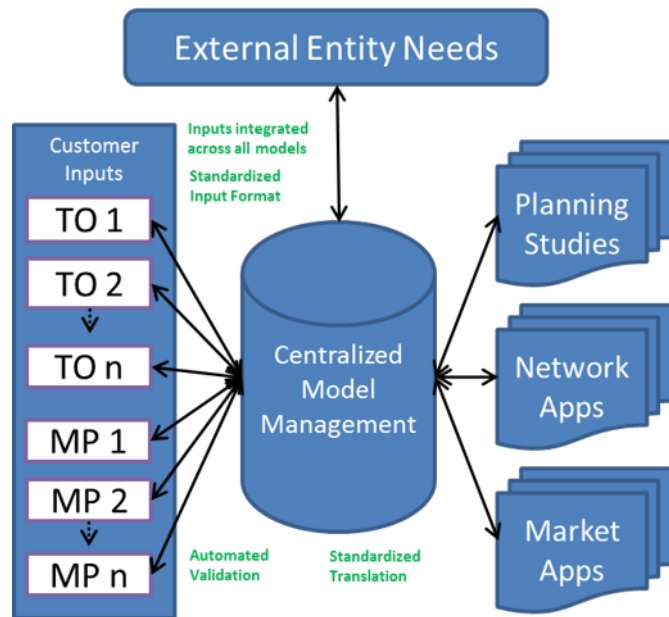
## Opportunities

- Frequent  $\Delta$  updates
- Enhanced Customer Experience
- Industry standard data exchange formats
- Modern scalable, system with reduced support needs



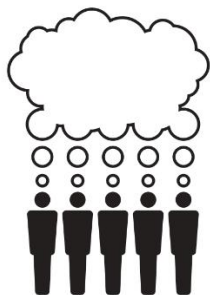
# MISO Model Manager project near-term vision

- Provide improved modeling tools for Network, Commercial, and Planning
- Improve validation with timely feedback to data submitters
- Improve visualization of existing data and future changes for submitters and reviewers
- Improve data exchange using Common Information Model (CIM)
- Synchronized source of power system modeling data in MISO



# MISO Model Manager project long-term vision

## Collaboration / Collection

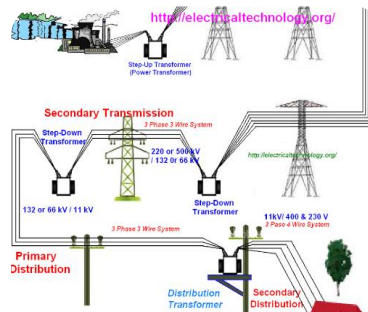


### Member sourced & reviewed model data

- Validation & visualization
- Workflow automation
- Single consistent user experience
- Data issue tracking & resolution
- Chat bot assistants

Customer Experience

## Curation

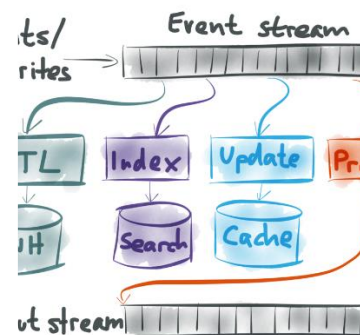


### Organize & present data

Translate and transform data  
Integrated and mapped data  
Data change management  
Model production and validation  
Data transparency

Model Data Source

## Synchronization



### Model update propagation

- Accurate data exchange, CIM XML
- Application Programming Interfaces
- Event-based message stream
- Incremental updates available frequently

Application Integration

# Cloud Architecture Aspects

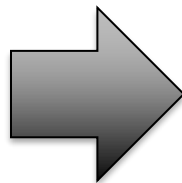
# Why did we choose a cloud hosted solution?

- Business value of cloud resources
  - A cloud hosted Software as a Service (SaaS) solution would reduce number of systems MISO IT staff is required to support
- Performance for large power system model
- Scalability of cloud to maintain performance as business needs grow
- Security – Cloud vendors must provide secure environment that keeps up with changing threat environment

# Architecture collaboration & engagement

## Architecture Services

Realize business strategy and achieve measurable business outcomes by leading best-in-class architecture principles, standards & practices.



## Key Architecture Initiatives

- Enable consistent standards-based access for all users & APIs
- Real-time cloud access and service level monitoring
- Refinement of Prototype to Phase 1 integration components
- Refine flexible API & messaging for phase 1 and phase 2 downstream model ingestion



# What is different from on premises?

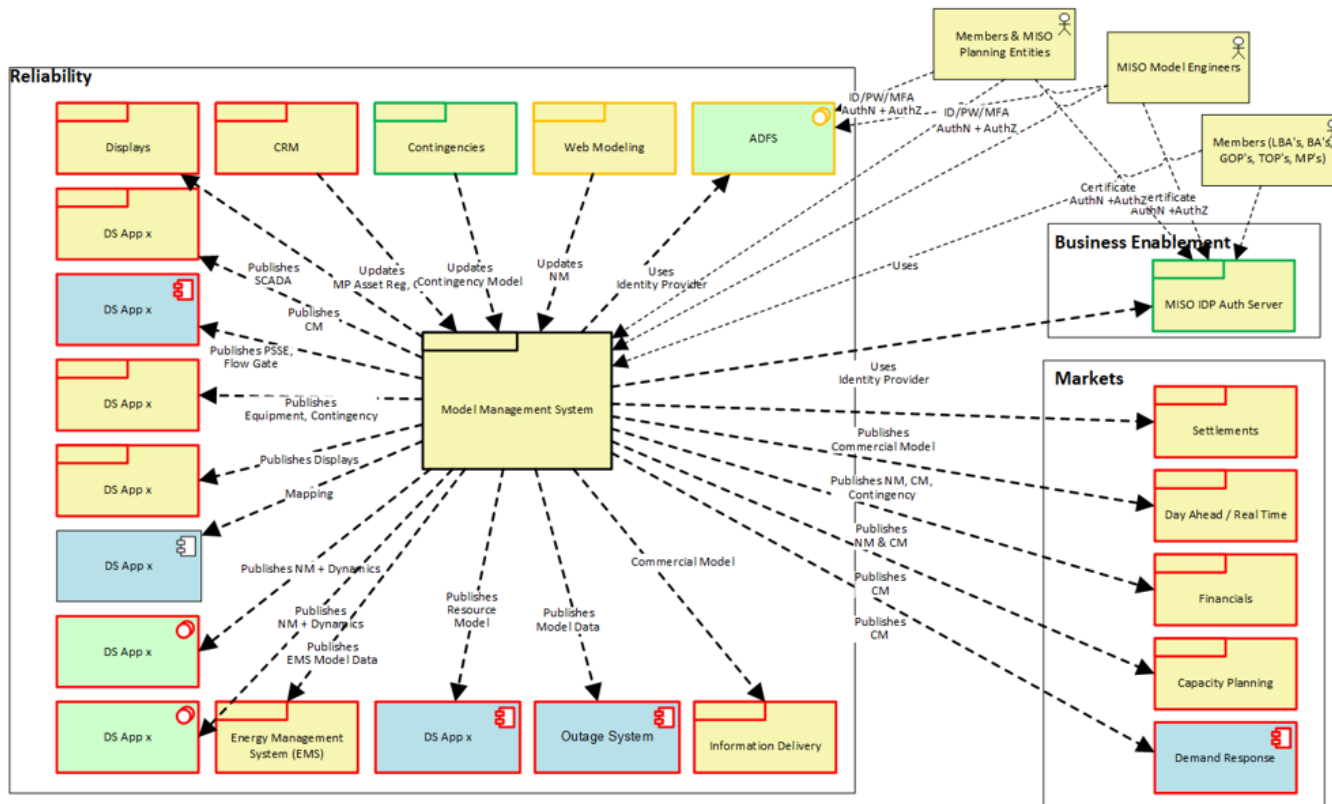
- Provisioning and configuration is dynamic, not physical, and it can be done quickly w/o purchase orders
- Infrastructure is defined with code and easily managed and visualized
- Auto-scaling can be built-in to expand and contract as needed
- Rich automatic data retention and management
- Integrated set of services, proprietary and standards based

# Architecture Design – Context Diagram

20+ System Integrations

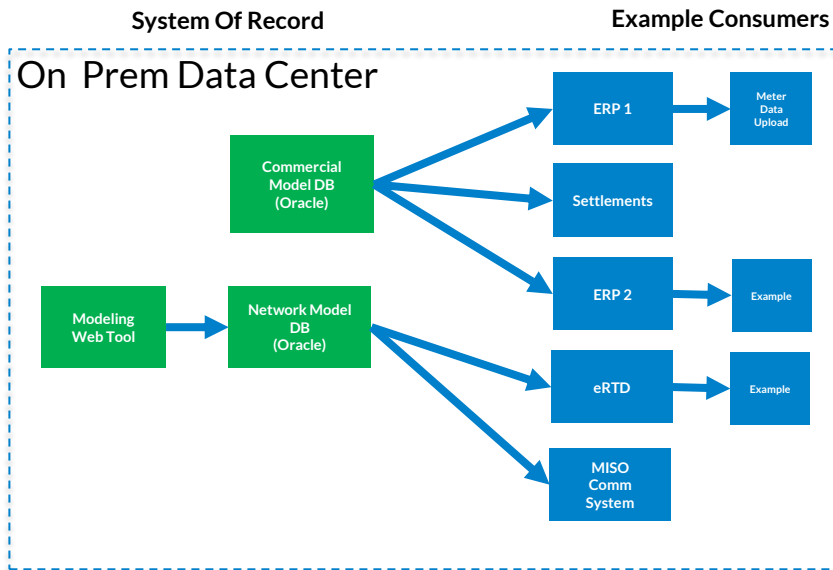
10+ Unique Model Types

Internal, External, and Programmatic User Access

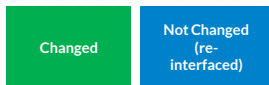


# Architecture Design – Integration Path

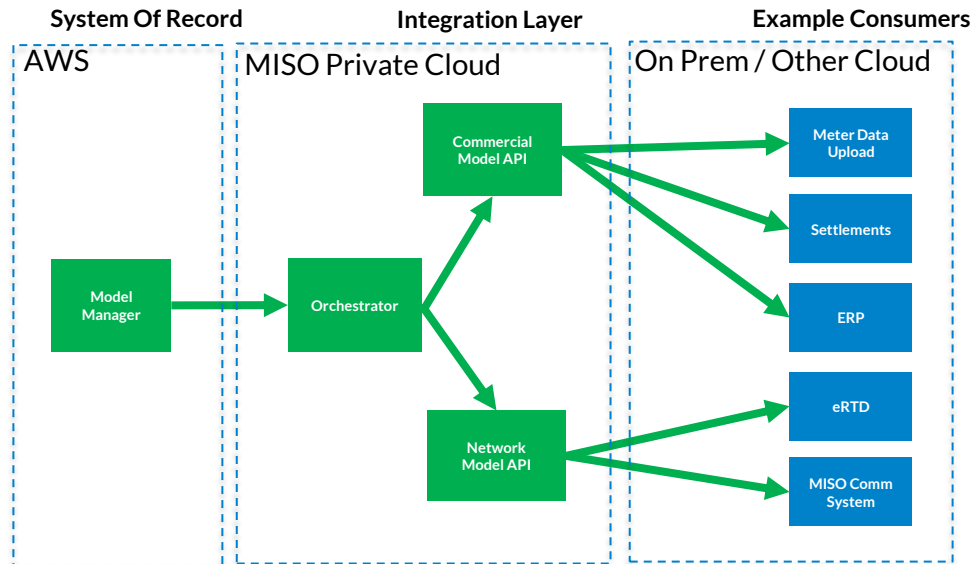
## Legacy State



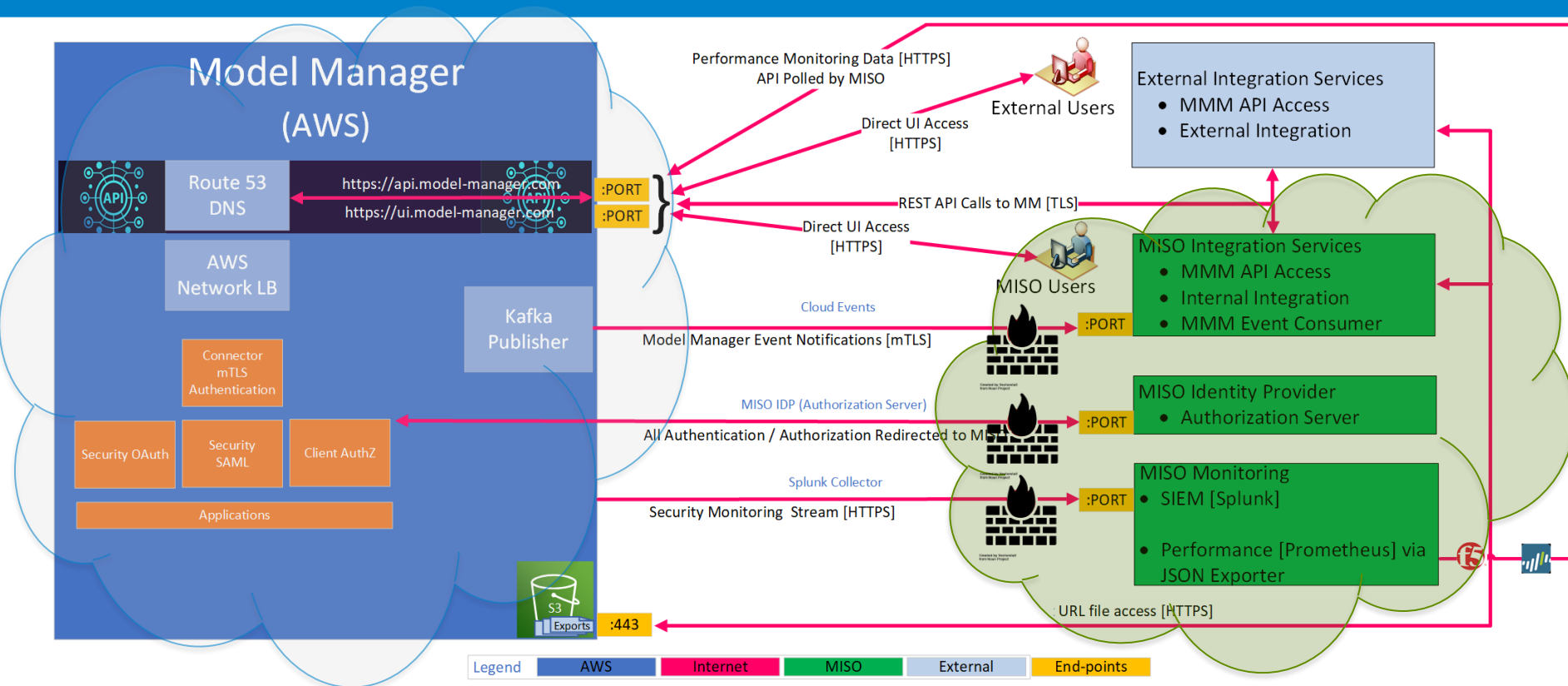
Key:



## Target State



# Architecture Design – Components & Communication



# Architecture Concepts and Realization

Concept	Realization
<b>Event-driven Architecture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kafka Publisher (AWS, using claim check pattern)</li><li>• Kafka Cluster/Topics (MISO Private Cloud)</li><li>• Kafka Mirror Maker (propagate messages to other env.)</li></ul>
<b>Cloud Environments Integration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Model Manager REST API Layer (AWS)</li><li>• Firewall Ingress/Egress</li><li>• Strimzi Kafka Bridge (HTTP to Kafka)</li><li>• Ambassador (API Gateway)</li></ul>
<b>Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kubernetes Cluster (MPC)</li><li>• MISO-side Model Manager Orchestrator &amp; Integration Services (Kafka &amp; REST API)</li><li>• AWS-side service integration via REST APIs with Kafka eventing</li></ul>

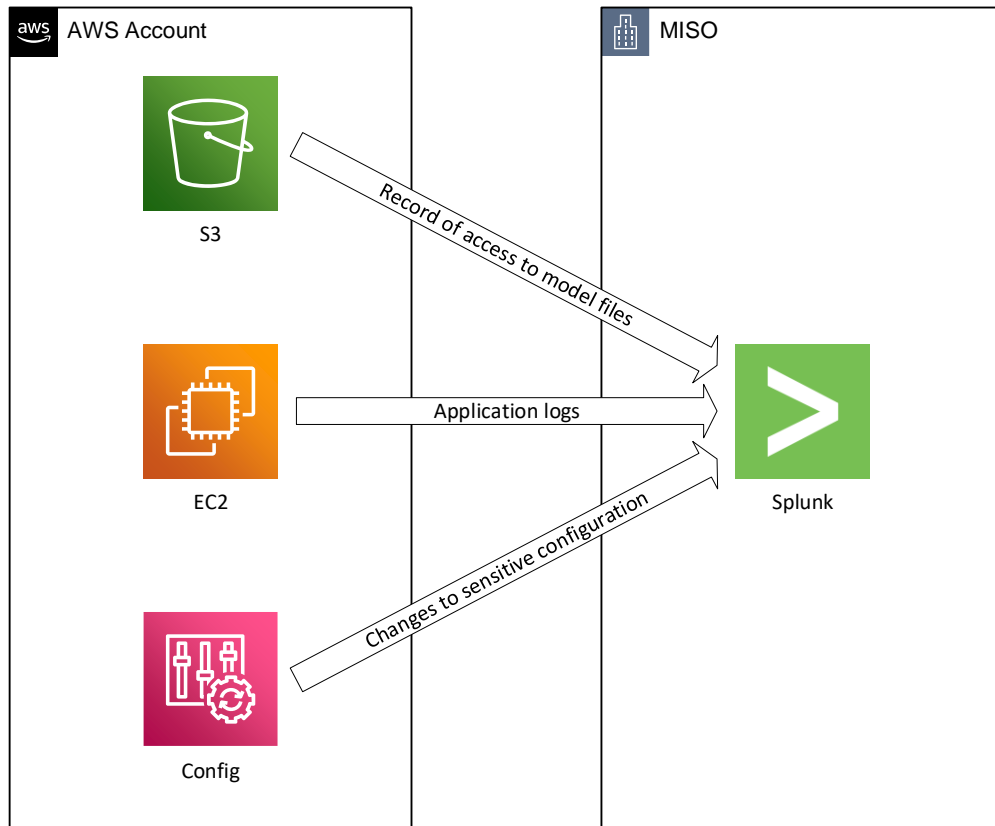


# Architecture Concepts and Realization - continued

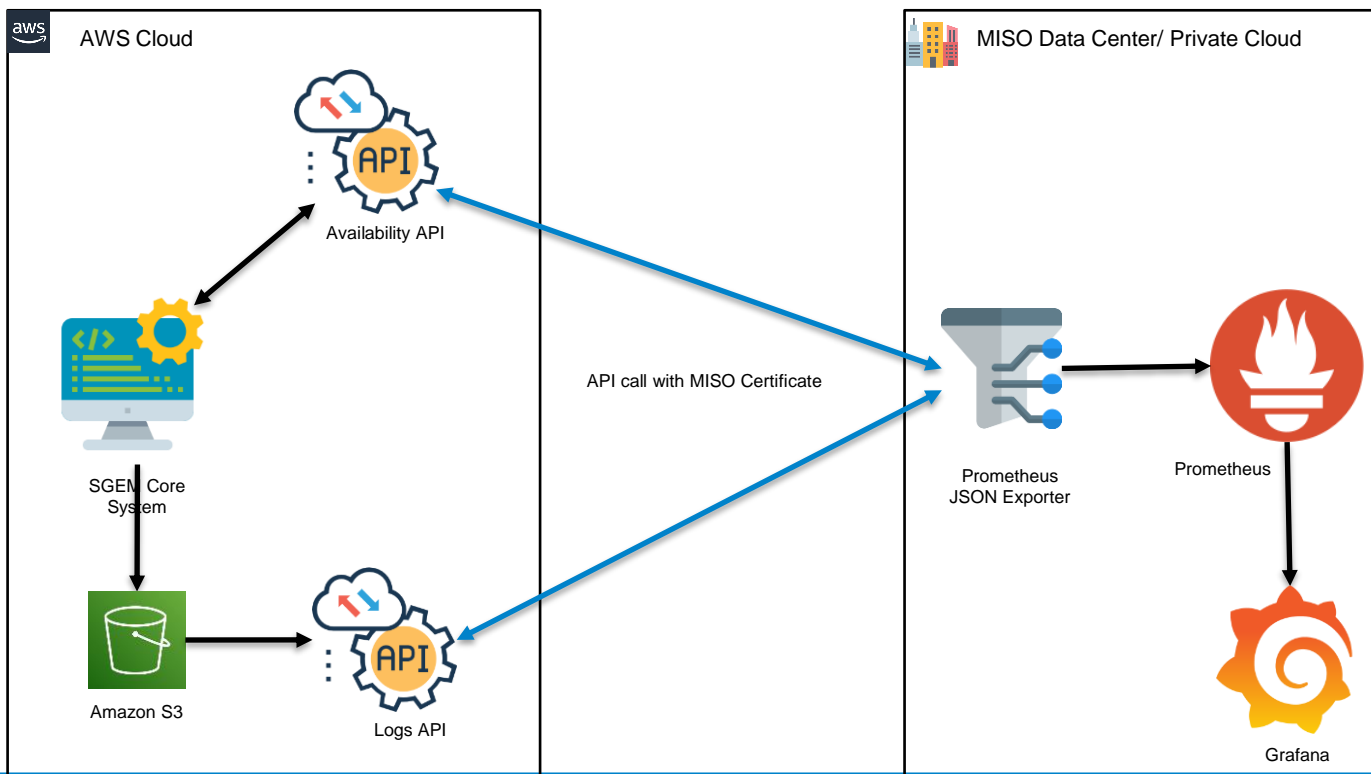
Concept	Realization
Security Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Firewall secured Virtual IPs</li><li>• Mutual TLS (client + server trust validation, encryption)</li><li>• OAuth2/OIDC Consistent UI &amp; API AuthN/AuthZ)</li><li>• x.509 public CA certificates for identity (users and APIs)</li></ul>
Object Store	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AWS S3 (System of Record Model Exports)</li><li>• MinIO (S3 Compliant Object Store on MPC)</li><li>• WinZip compatible archives</li><li>• Storing models in XML/RDF CIM 16 w/MISO extensions</li></ul>
Observability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Streaming SIEM data from AWS to MISO Splunk via Firehose</li><li>• Vendor-created REST API consumed at MISO with Prometheus JSON exporter, visualized in Grafana</li></ul>

# Cross cloud observability

- > File access
- > Application access
- > Configuration changes
  - Availability
  - Performance



# Cross cloud observability – Service Levels



# Cross cloud observability - Dashboards

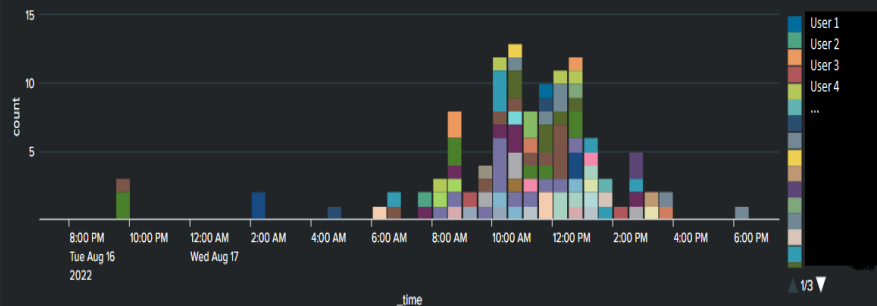
## Security Information Event Management (Splunk via Kinesis Firehose)

### MISO Model Manager [Show Filters](#)

Export

Dashboard to monitor login events to the MISO Model Manager application in AWS

#### MMM Prod Application Logins

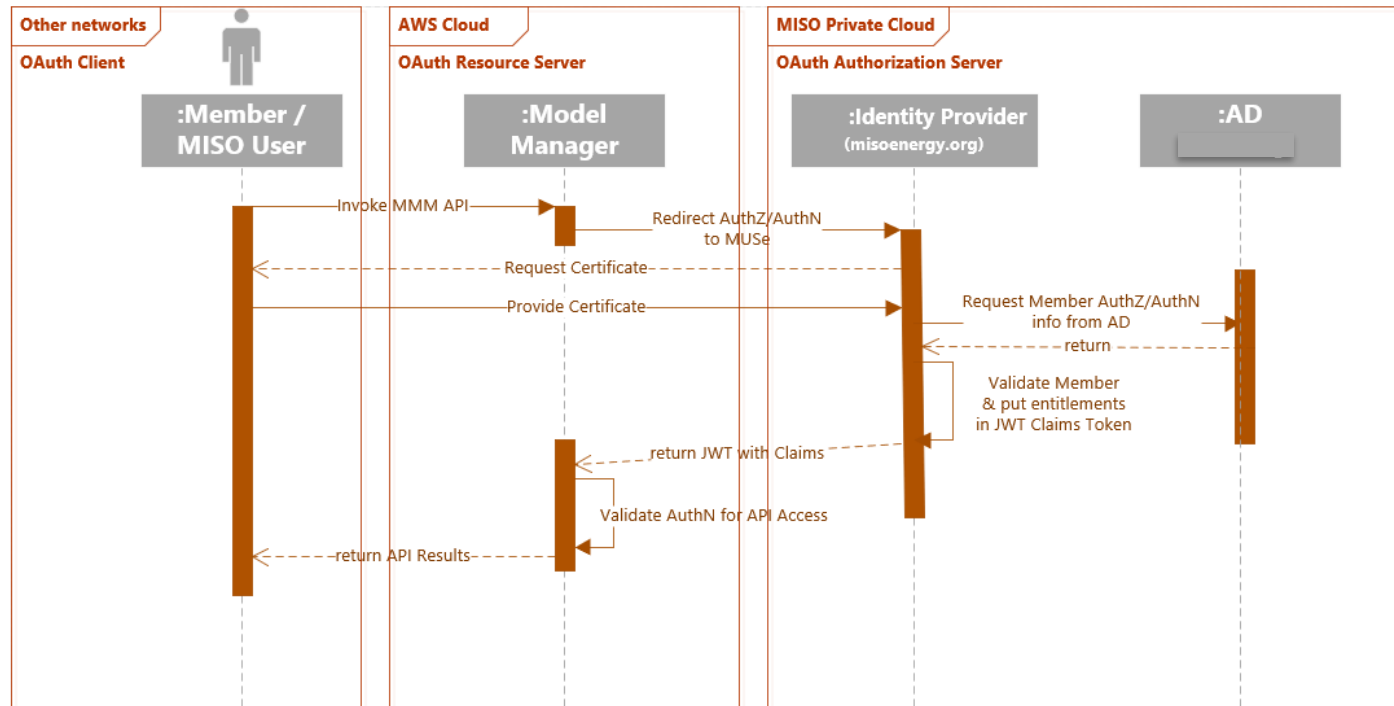


## Service Level Objectives (Prometheus / Grafana via REST API)



# Securing application on cloud hybrid solution

- Mutual TLS
- x.509 certificates
- OAuth2 / OIDC Protocol
- IAM managed by MISO Auth Server





# Cloud implementation challenges and benefits

Challenges	Benefits
First cloud-hosted solution	Easy provisioning of new environments
Extensive system security planning	FedRAMP compliant services
How to secure CEII classified data and meet ~80 FedRAMP security reqs.	Secure, built-in data retention & life-cycle services
Cross-platform networking & access	Scalable with flexible costs
Event-driven messaging design	De facto standards such as S3
Integration with other MISO systems	Rich set of available services
Troubleshooting across platforms	Enables us to let the vendor address issues if system is not performing

# Adjustments for SaaS in the Cloud

- SaaS in the Cloud requires the vendor to address issues if system is not performing
  - Support staff must redirect support issues to vendor
- Data is in the cloud and must be downloaded
  - Large model to download – zipped file 300 MB
- SaaS in the Cloud does not allow MISO staff direct database access for this solution
  - Must use ad hoc query environment in application
  - API access provided by vendor for downstream MISO integrations

# Conclusions on SaaS in the Cloud

- Pleased with performance on large power system model
- Much of our vision has been achieved
- Vendor has been responsive to issues
- Architecture provides consistent access and visibility across environments
- Architecture allowed efficient migration of services from MISO private cloud to both Azure and on prem



Questions?

# Contact Information

- Joseph Brennan, Director, Architecture Services  
[jobrennan@misoenergy.org](mailto:jobrennan@misoenergy.org)





# Digital Twin's Role in the Control Room of the Future (CROF)

Seong Choi, Engineering Lead (NREL)  
Sean Erickson, Transmission Advisor (WAPA)  
Hongming Zhang, CEO (CoreWSM Consulting)  
October 3, 2023

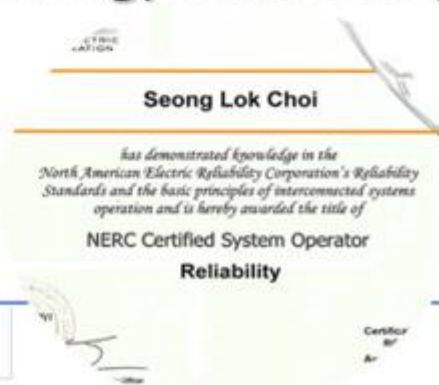
NERC Monitoring and Situational Awareness Technical Conference



# Speakers



Seong Choi,  
Engineer Lead  
National Renewable  
Energy Laboratory



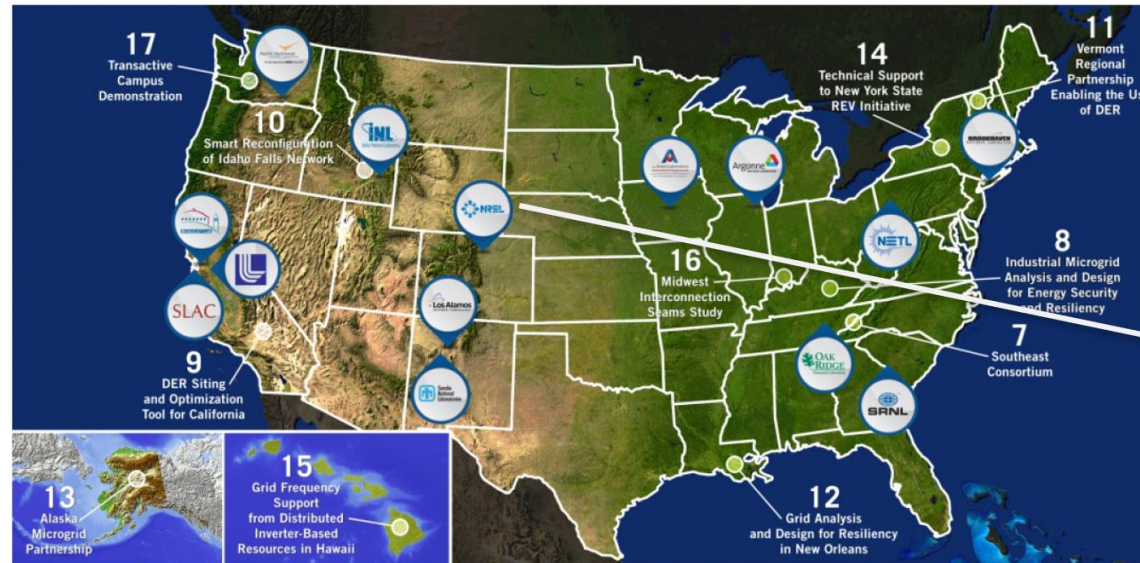
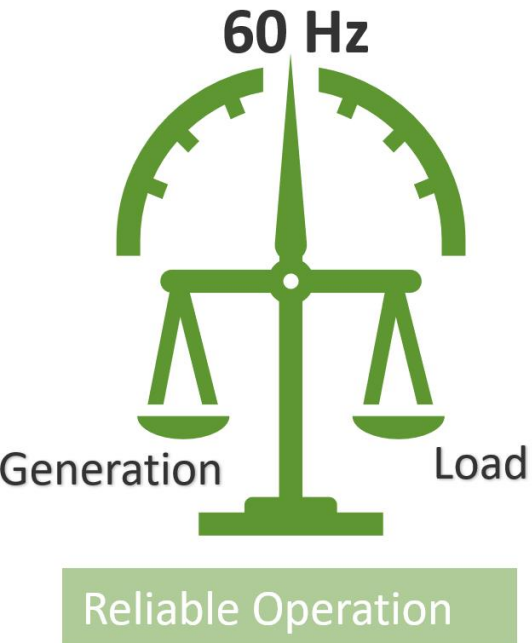
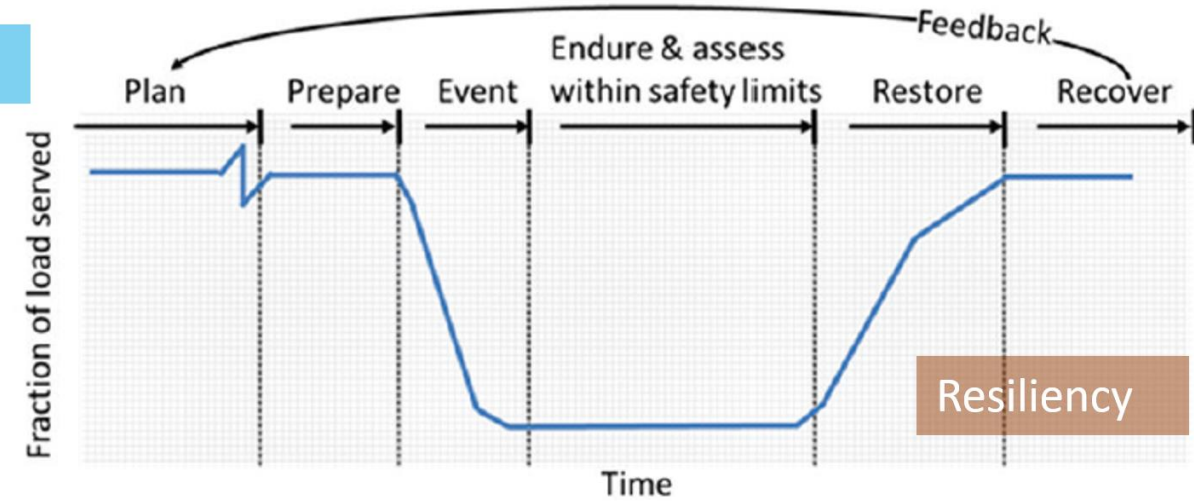
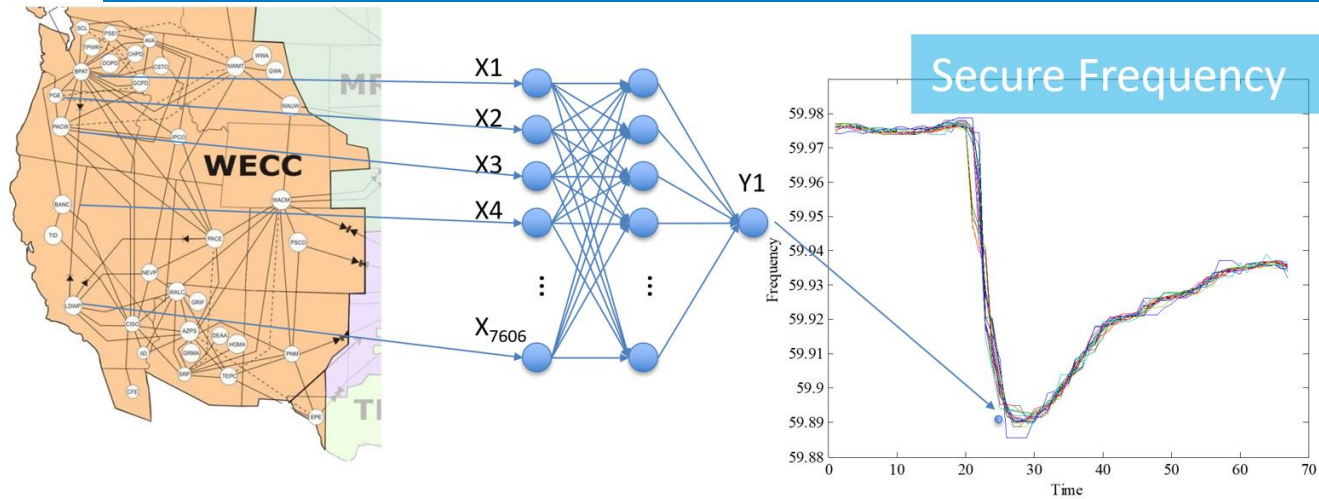
Sean Erickson,  
Transmission  
Advisor



Hongming Zhang,  
CEO

CoreWSM Consulting

# U.S. Department of Energy Goal: Toward a Secure, Reliable, and Resilient Grid

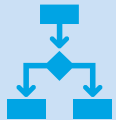


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | OFFICE OF  
**ELECTRICITY**

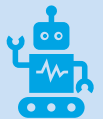
# Today's Agenda



Exploring Energy Transition Challenges in the Control Room Operation



Why System Operators Are Critical in the Clean Energy Transition?



Can Advanced Technologies Support System Operators?

AI/ML, Digital Twin & Dynamic Dashboard



NREL R&D Initiatives in Advanced Technology

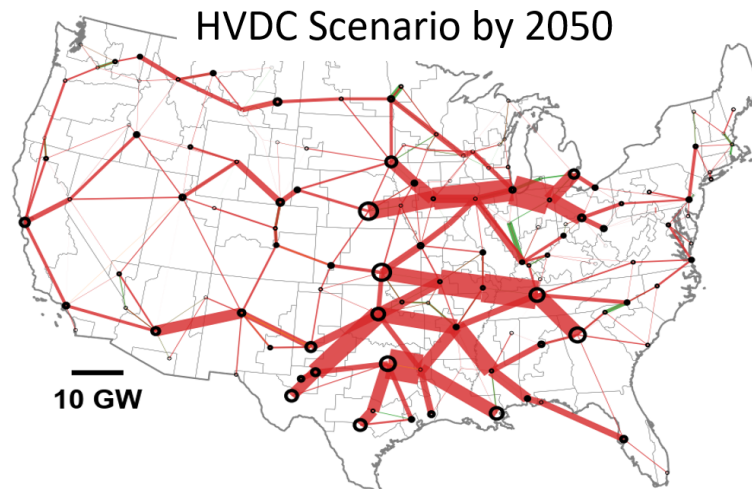
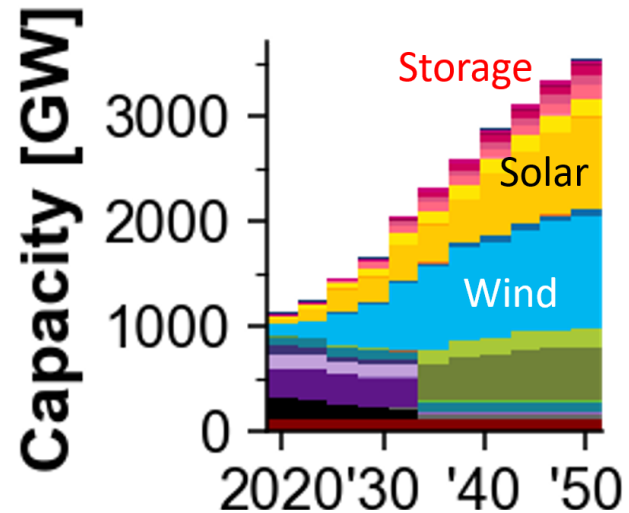
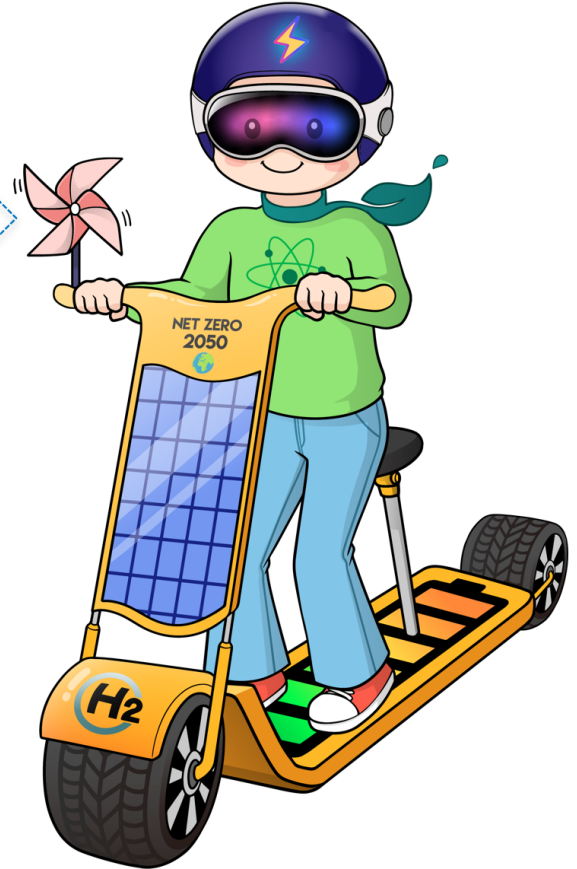
SONAR  
(System Operator Network Analysis for Renewables)



# Current Energy Transition Challenges in the Control Room

Operation & Planning	Unpredictable load and generation, load growth by electrification, new way of assessing resource adequacy
Data & Architecture	Complex, fast, and high-volume data, many communication protocols and standards
✓ Advanced Technologies	Digital transformation, AI/ML, new tools & visualization, the clouds
Natural Disaster & Pandemic	Increasing trend of high-impact low-frequency (HILF) events
✓ Cyber & Physical Threats	Bypassing the current mitigation by leveraging new technologies and slow regulatory adoption
Supply Chain Risk	Vendor S/W, original equipment manufacturer, H/W risk, logistics
Regulatory Impact	FERC 2222, NERC CIPS, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
Workforce Shortage	Fewer engineers and less attractive field

# Future Clean Energy Transition

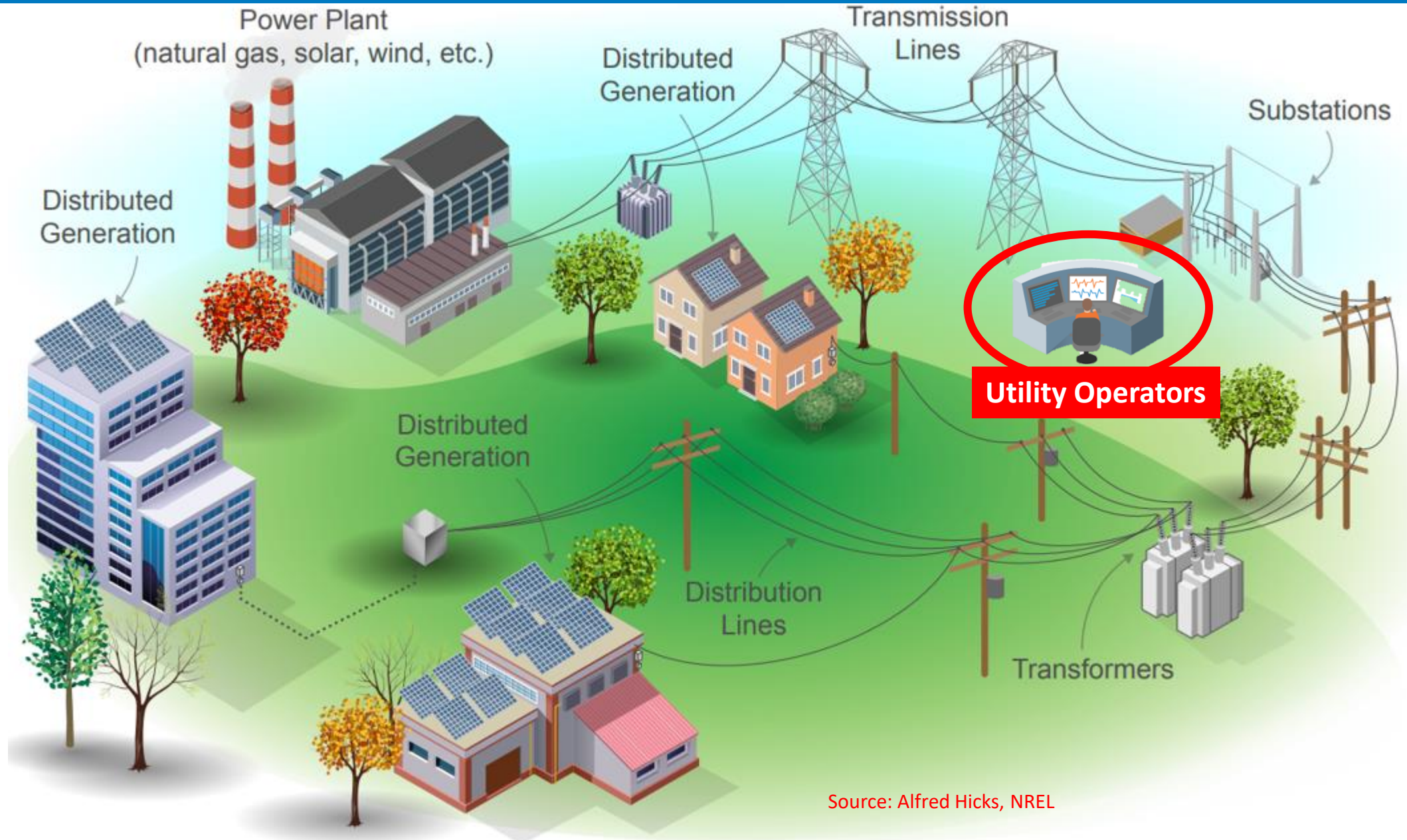


Source: NREL & PNNL National Transmission Planning Study

Illustration by SY Choi



# Operator: Brain of the Grid



Source: Alfred Hicks, NREL

# Why System Operators Are Key to the Clean Energy Transition?

System operators are one of the parties responsible for **implementing the power system transformation**

Policymakers and other stakeholders listen to system operators, which can **help increase confidence and ambition**

System operators must **transform procedures and grids to integrate high levels of clean energy**

System operators best **learn from and are inspired by their peers**, including those at the forefront of integrating renewable energy

System operators have an **emerging role in cross-sector electrification and end-use efficiency efforts**



The Global Power System Transformation Consortium (G-PST)



# Global Power System Transformation (G-PST) Consortium

## What?

A global **consortium** focused on support to **power system operators** with **advanced, low-emission solutions**

## Who?

*Founding System Operators (FSOs)*



*Core Team Technical Institutes*

*Developing Country System Operators*

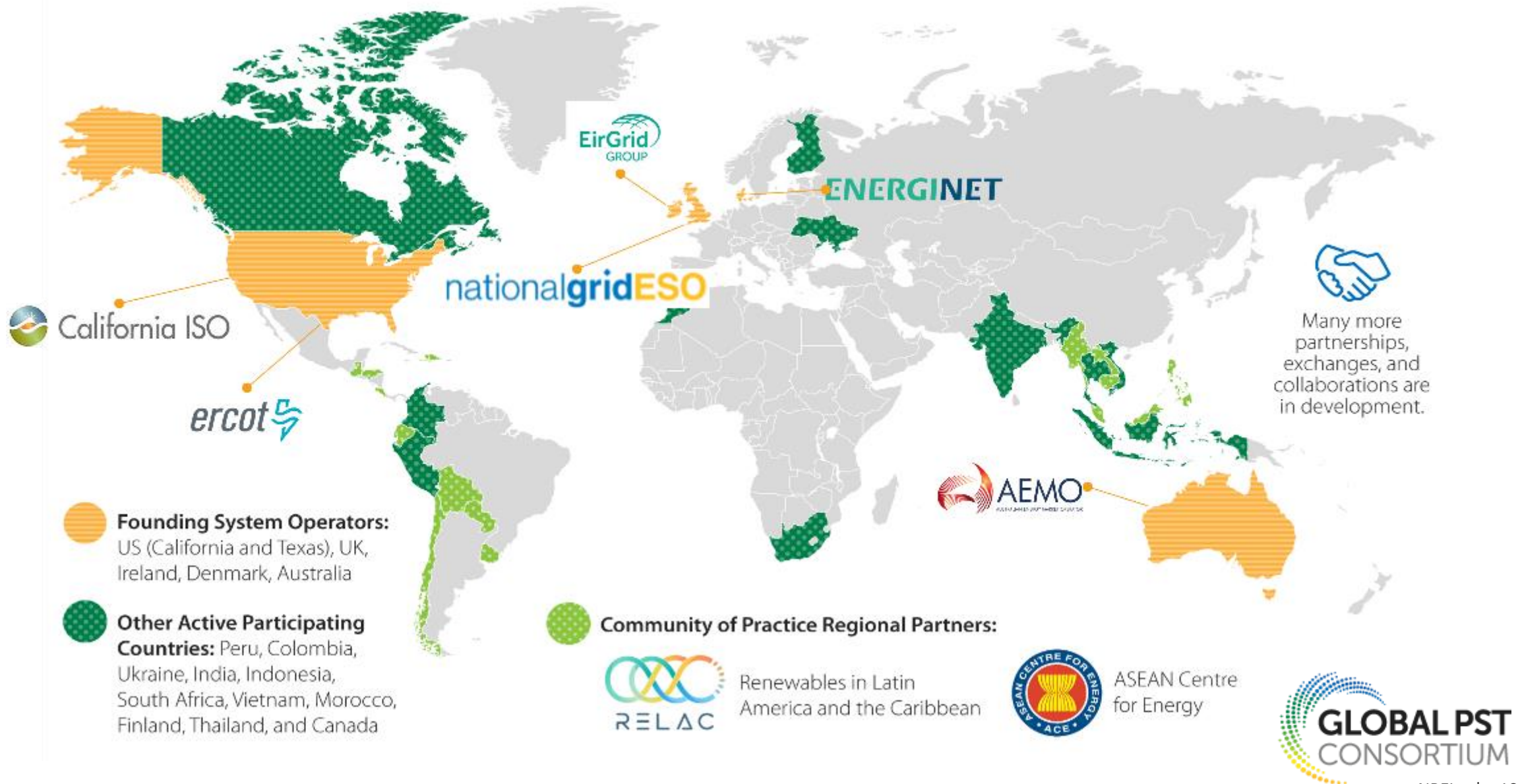
*Indonesia, Ukraine, Vietnam, India, South Africa, Tanzania, Morocco, Peru, Colombia, WAPP and others*

## Why?

To drive the development and transfer of the **technical and engineering knowledge** necessary for power system operators at the **speed and scale required** to support the global energy transition



# Who are G-PST Control Room Operators?

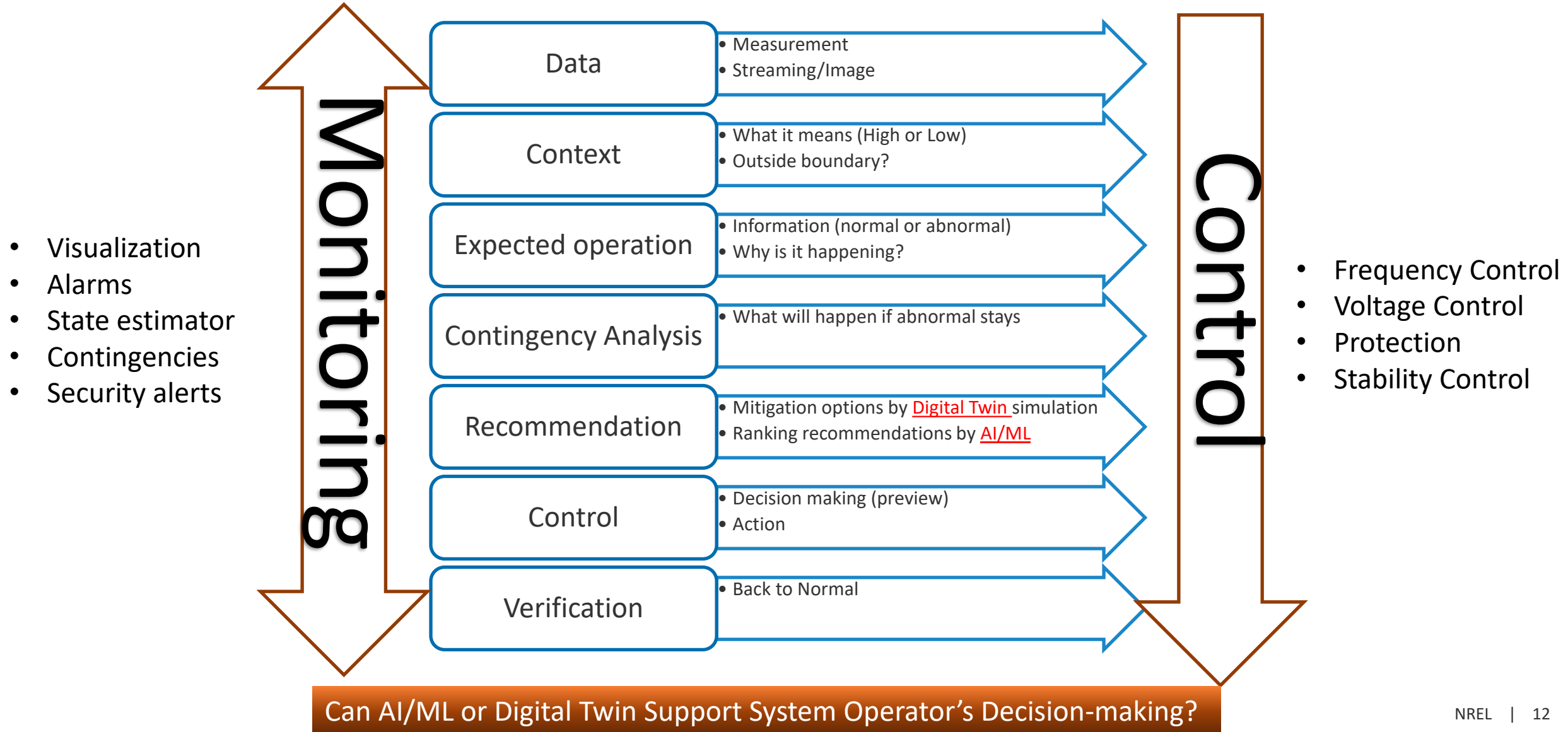


# From G-PST Control Room Operator's Interview on CROF Challenge





# Control Room Decision-Making Flow



# NREL Control Room of the Future

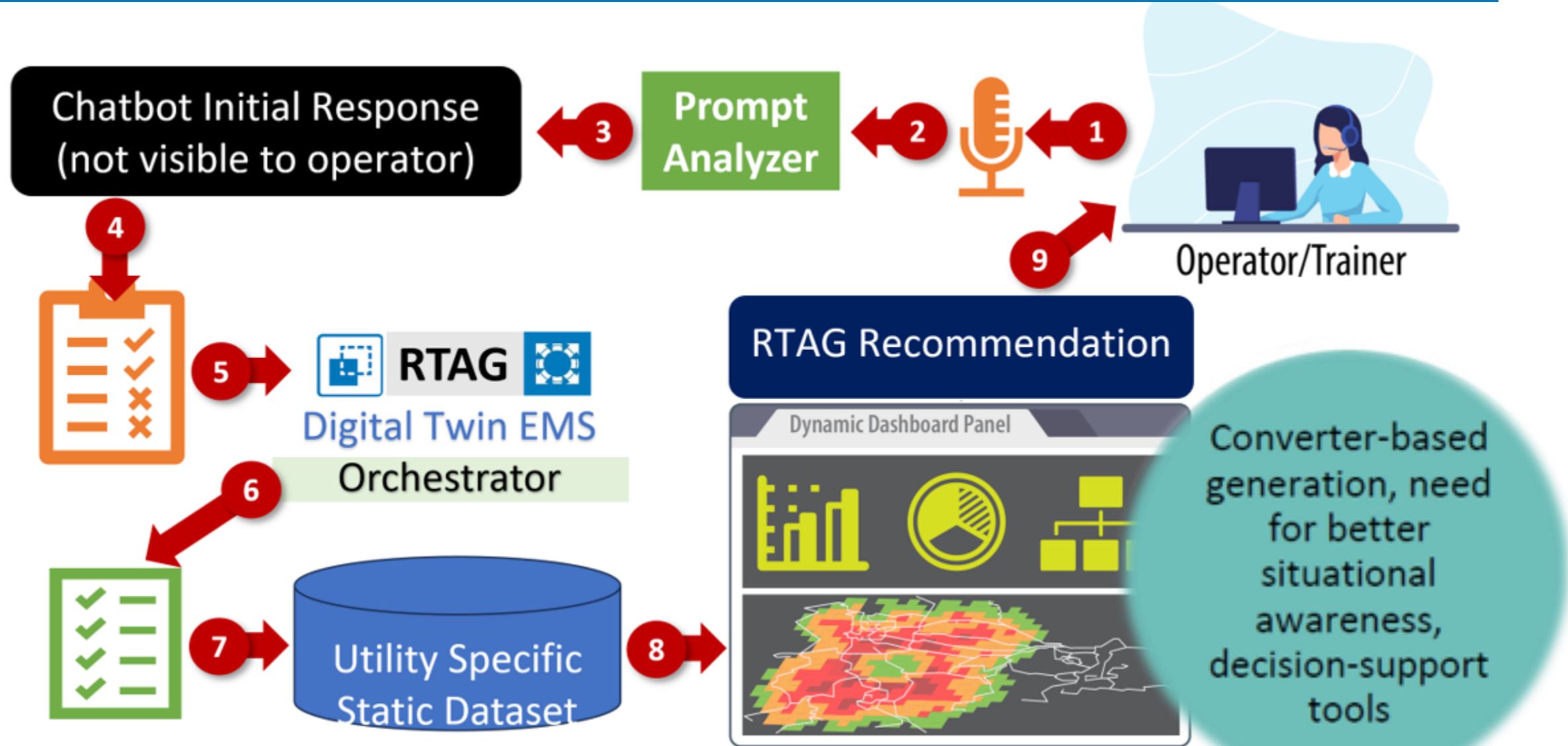


## R&D Topics

- System Operator Decision-Making Platform
- Automated Digital Twin Simulation
- Dynamic Dashboard
- Tertiary Virtual Resilient Center
- OT Cybersecurity

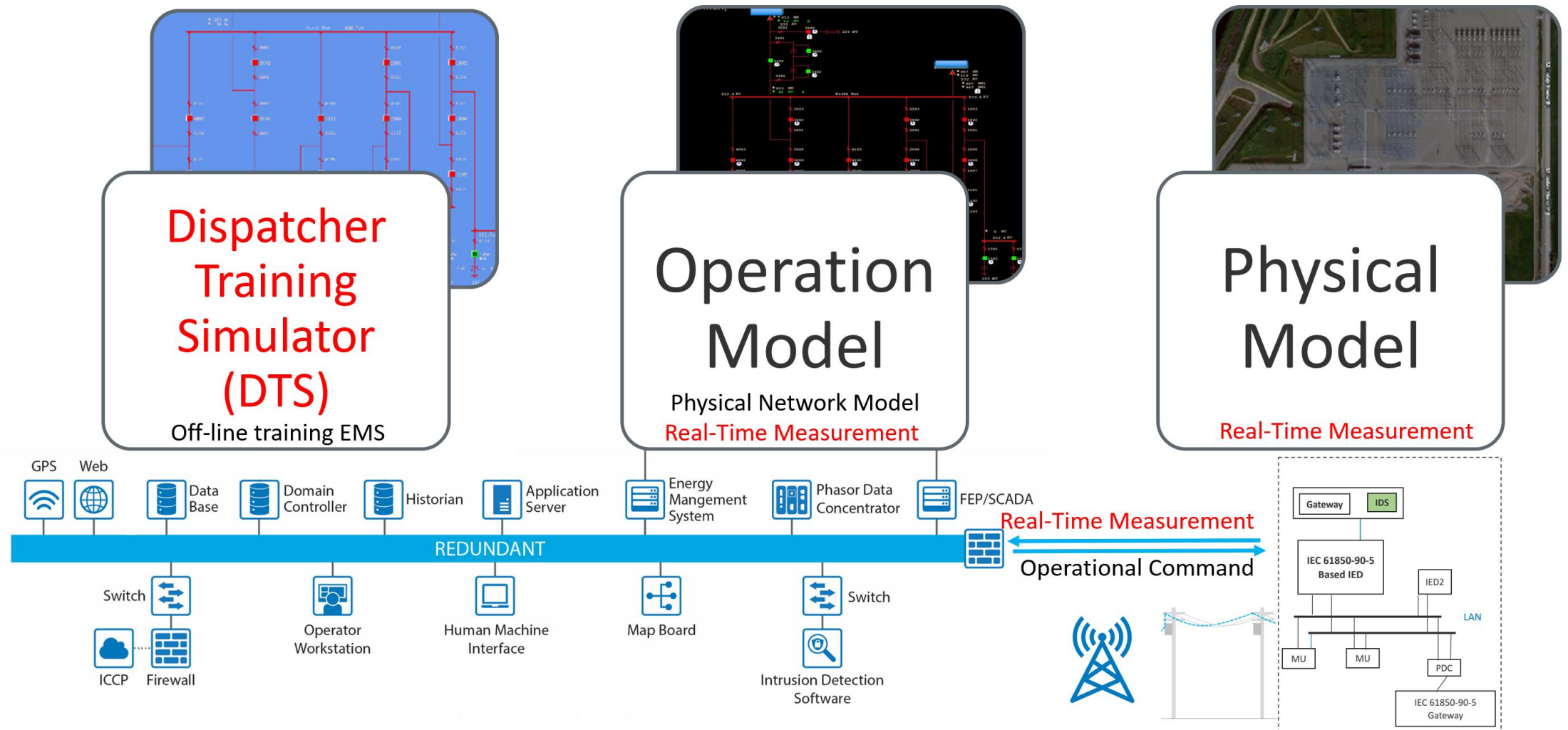
# NREL RTAG

## Decision-Making Platform(On-Premise)

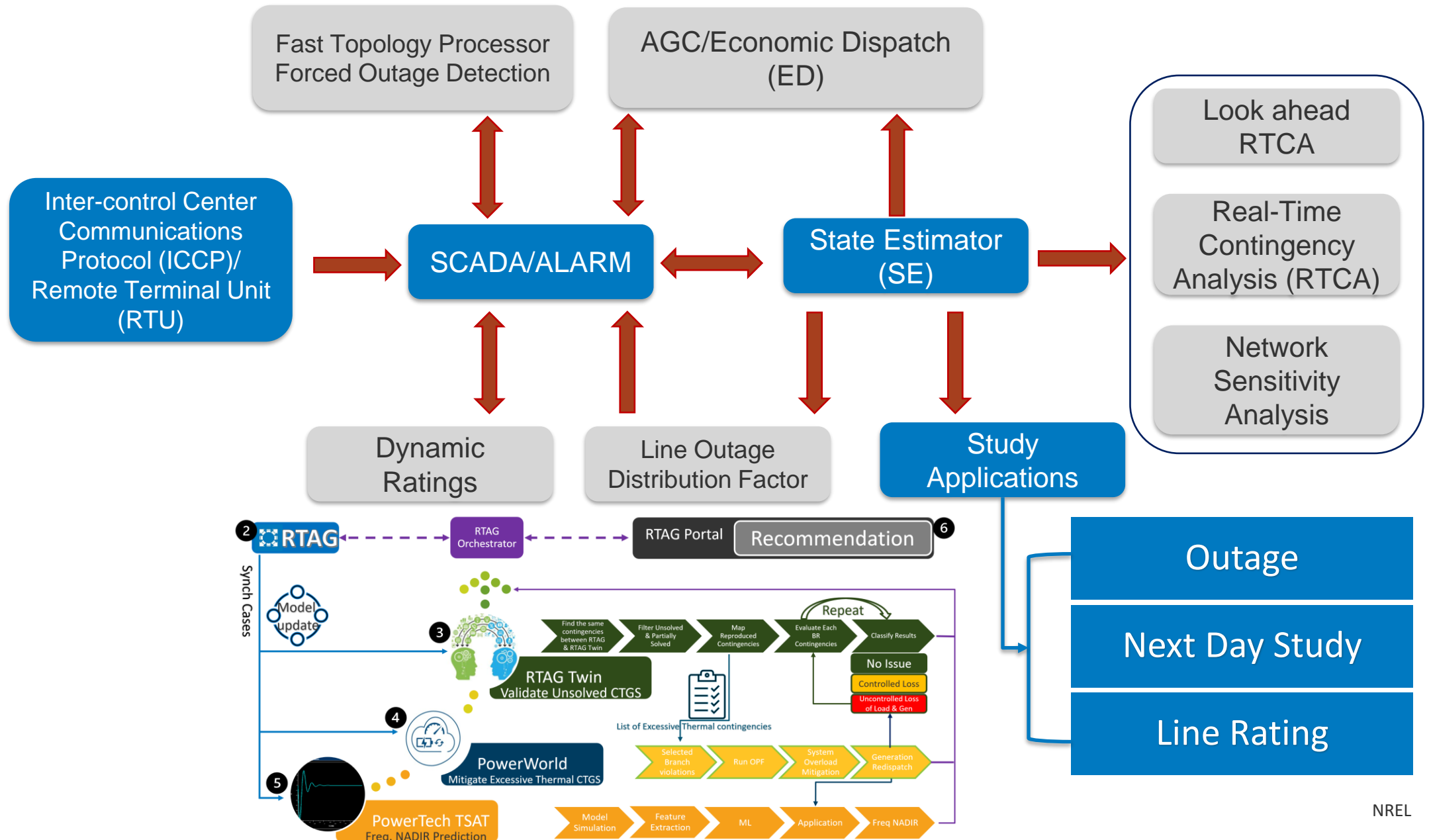


# Digital Twin: Is This New? **Not Really**

For decades, EMS and DTS have been integrated into sizable control rooms, serving as both real-time operational tools and offline training aids

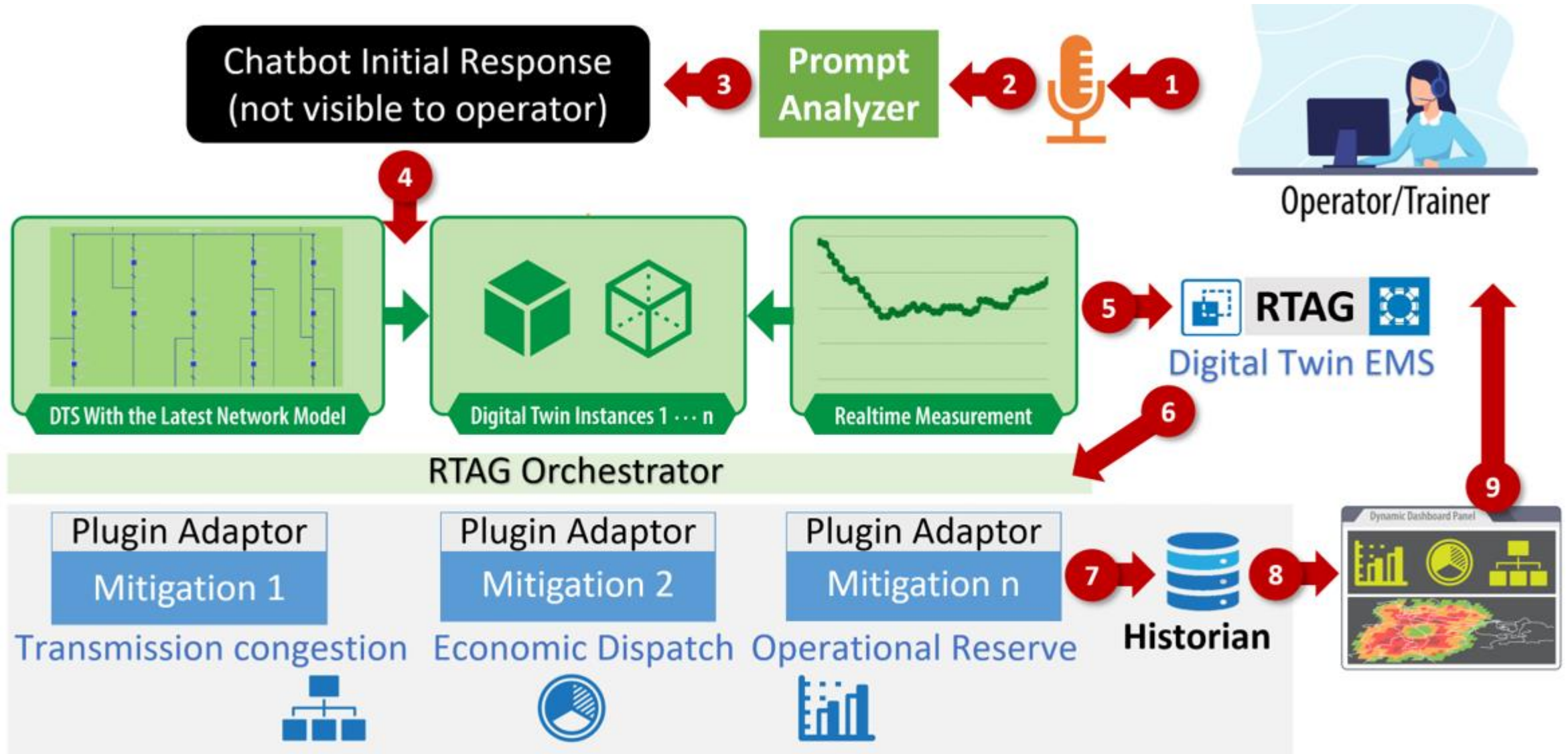


# Control Room Digital Twin

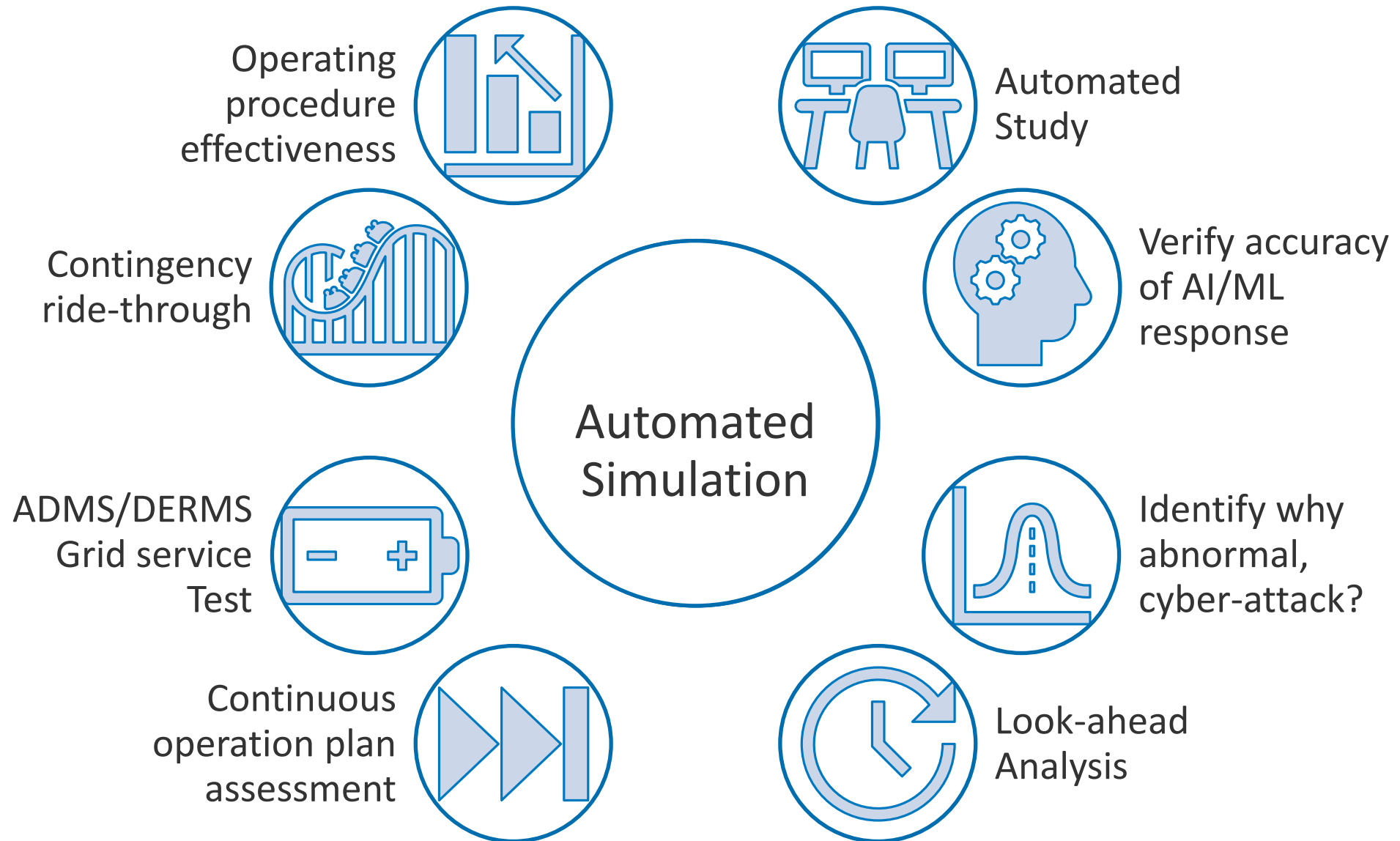




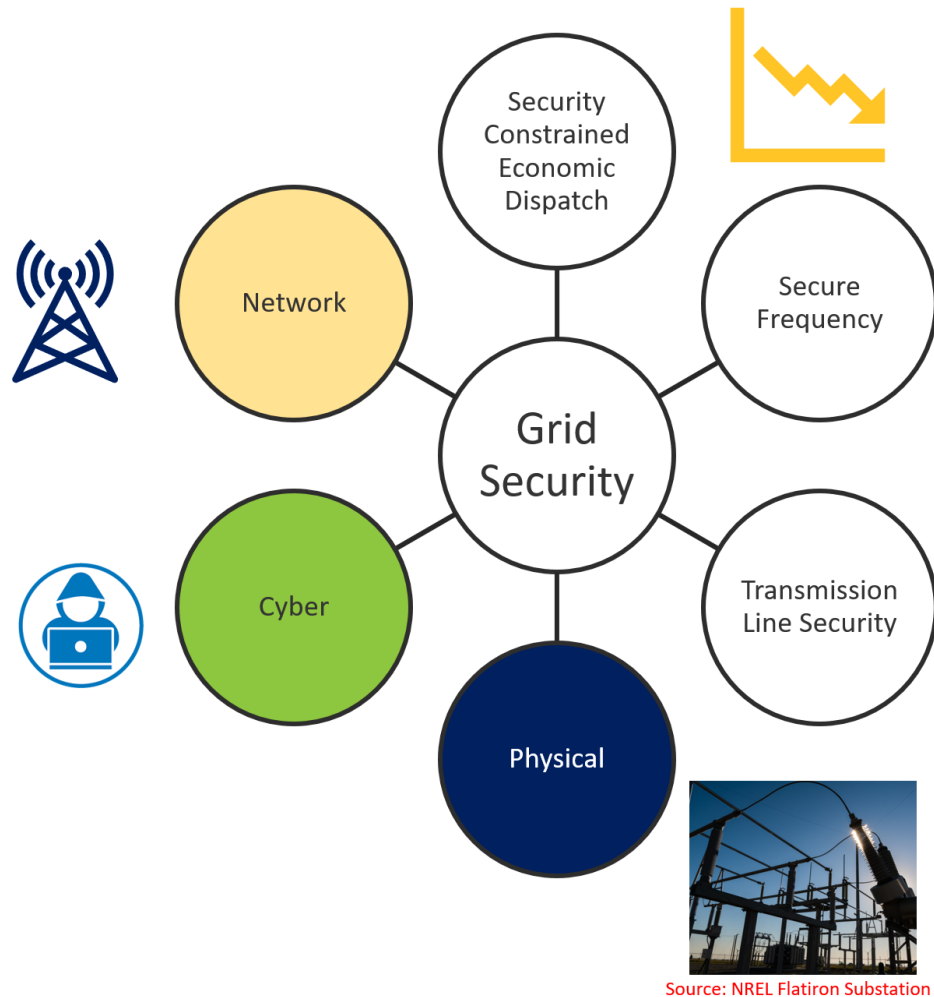
# Digital Twin: How to Assist Operators?



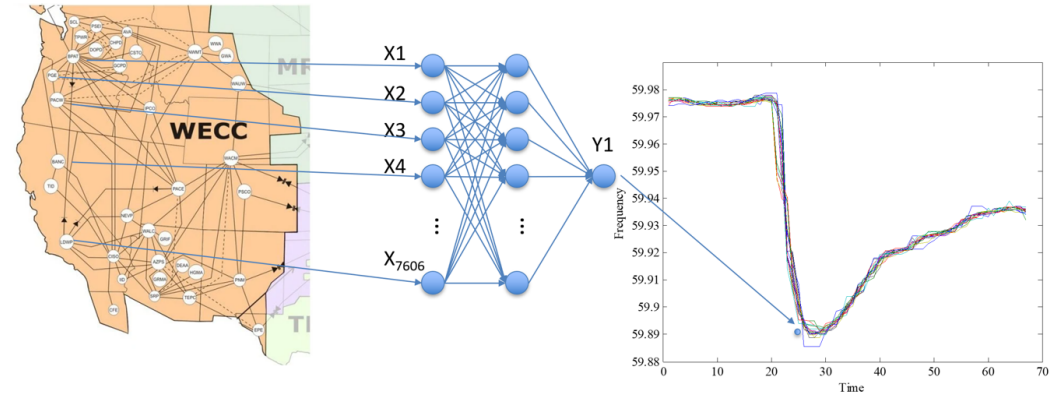
# What Do We Do With Digital Twin?



# What Does 'Security' Mean in the Electric Grid?



Source: NREL Flatiron Substation



In the electric industry, 'grid security' relates to:

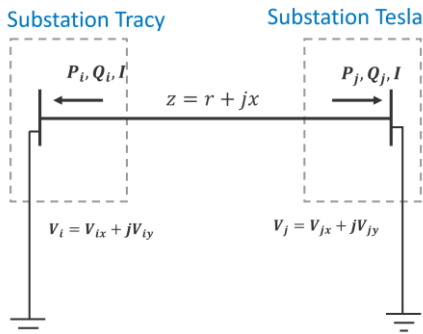
- **Grid operating conditions**: balancing generation and load
- **Cyber**: data
- **Network**: data relay
- Physical: equipment to support power delivery, including protection

# OT Measurement + OT Cyber Check

- Local, regional & system Level

- State Estimator + Real-Time Contingency Analysis
- Integrate historical event PMU data for cybersecurity threats detection into the VT algorithm
- State Prediction with future-hour forecasted data (Load, Generation, Interchange Schedule, and Outage)

Channel	Residual Pattern	Risk Level Suggestion		
1		0	1	2
2		0	1	2
3		0	1	2
4		0	1	2

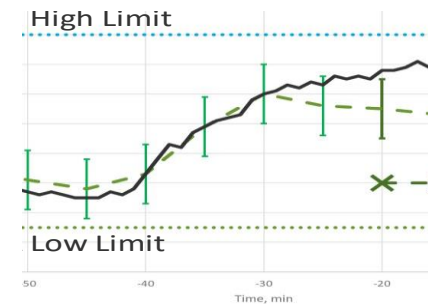


AI/ML  
Powerflow  
Trend Prediction  
in multi-time &  
space

Operationally  
Predicted Future  
Powerflow at a  
system level

Physics of Law  
at a regional  
level by  
sampling  
neighboring  
substations

Physics of Law  
at a local  
substation



Circuit Law	OADS RULES
KCL	$ \sum I_{exit} - \sum I_{enter}  \leq k_{cer1} i_i  + k_{cern} i_n $
KVL	$ v_1 + \dots + v_n  \leq k_{ver1} v_i  + k_{vern} v_n $
Ohm's Law	$ v_j - v_k - i_{jk}Z_{line}  \leq \text{MAX}\{k_{verj} v_j , k_{verk} v_k , k_{cerjk} i_{jk}Z_{line} \}$



## OT Cyber Defense

Asset Inventory and Device Authorization

Protocol Anomaly Detection

OT Network Monitoring and Anomaly  
Detection

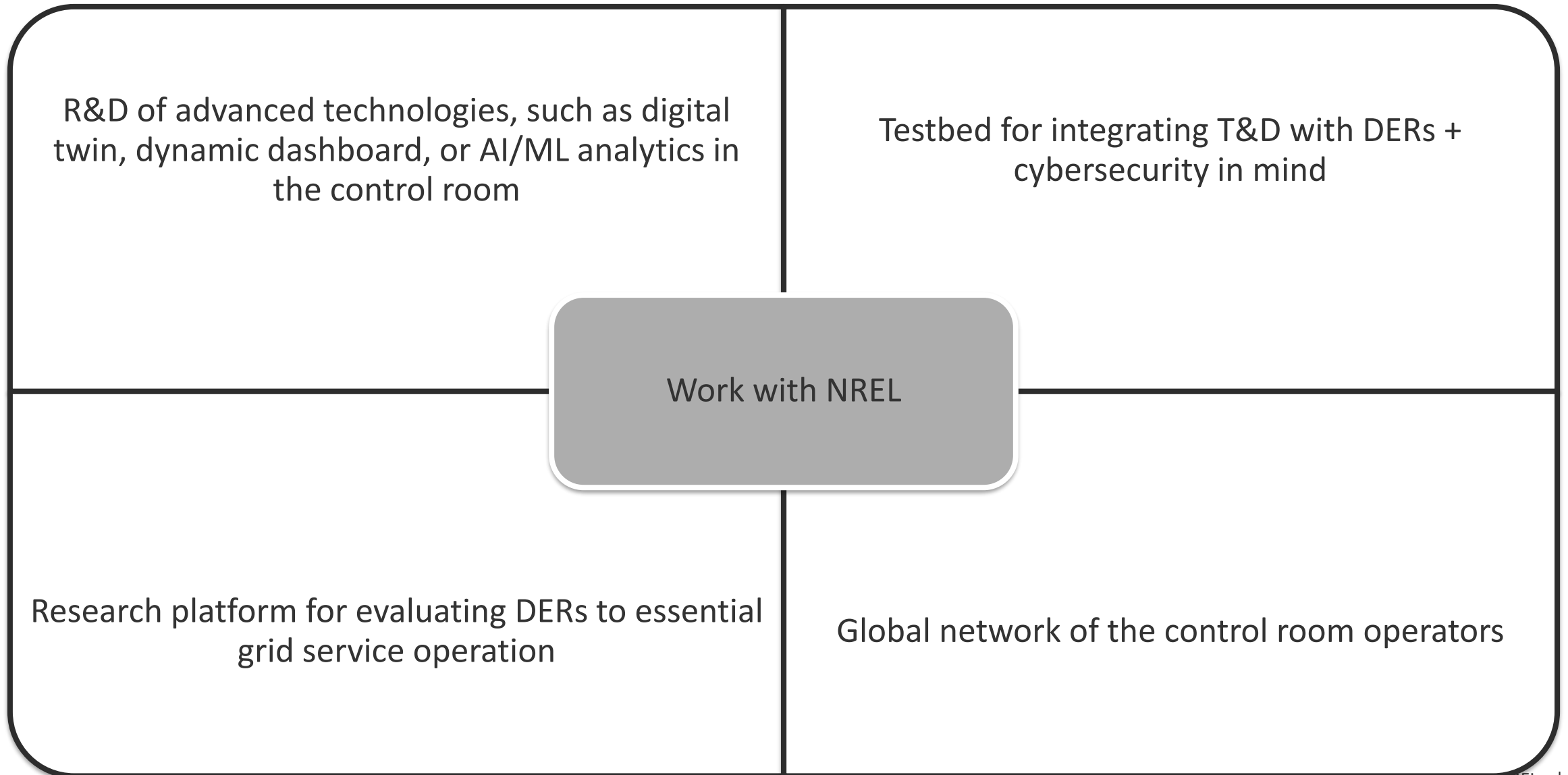
Protocol Threshold Check

OT Measurement Signature-Based AI/ML  
Anomaly Detection

⋮

- DNP3 Protocol Packet Analysis
- Kirchhoff's and Ohm's Laws

# Takeaway





# Thank You.

---

**[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)**

NREL/PR-5B00-86101

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**ResilientGrid**

Go Beyond the One Line™

***Latest Developments on Situational  
Awareness***

Mike Legatt, Ph.D.

NERC Monitoring and Situation Awareness Conference

October 3, 2023

## Core Philosophies:

“All organizations are perfectly aligned to get the results they get.”

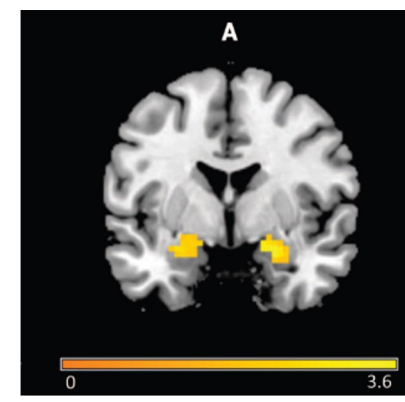
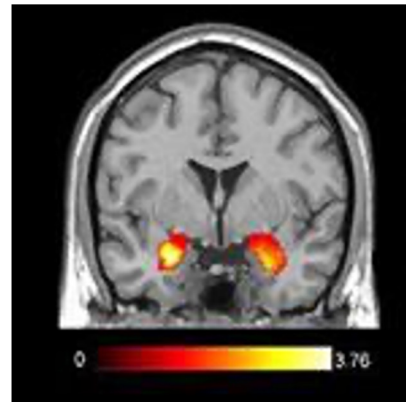
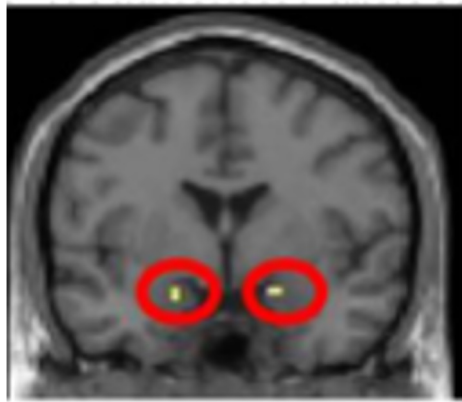
Arthur W. Jones

“For every complex human problem, there is a solution that is neat, simple, and wrong.”

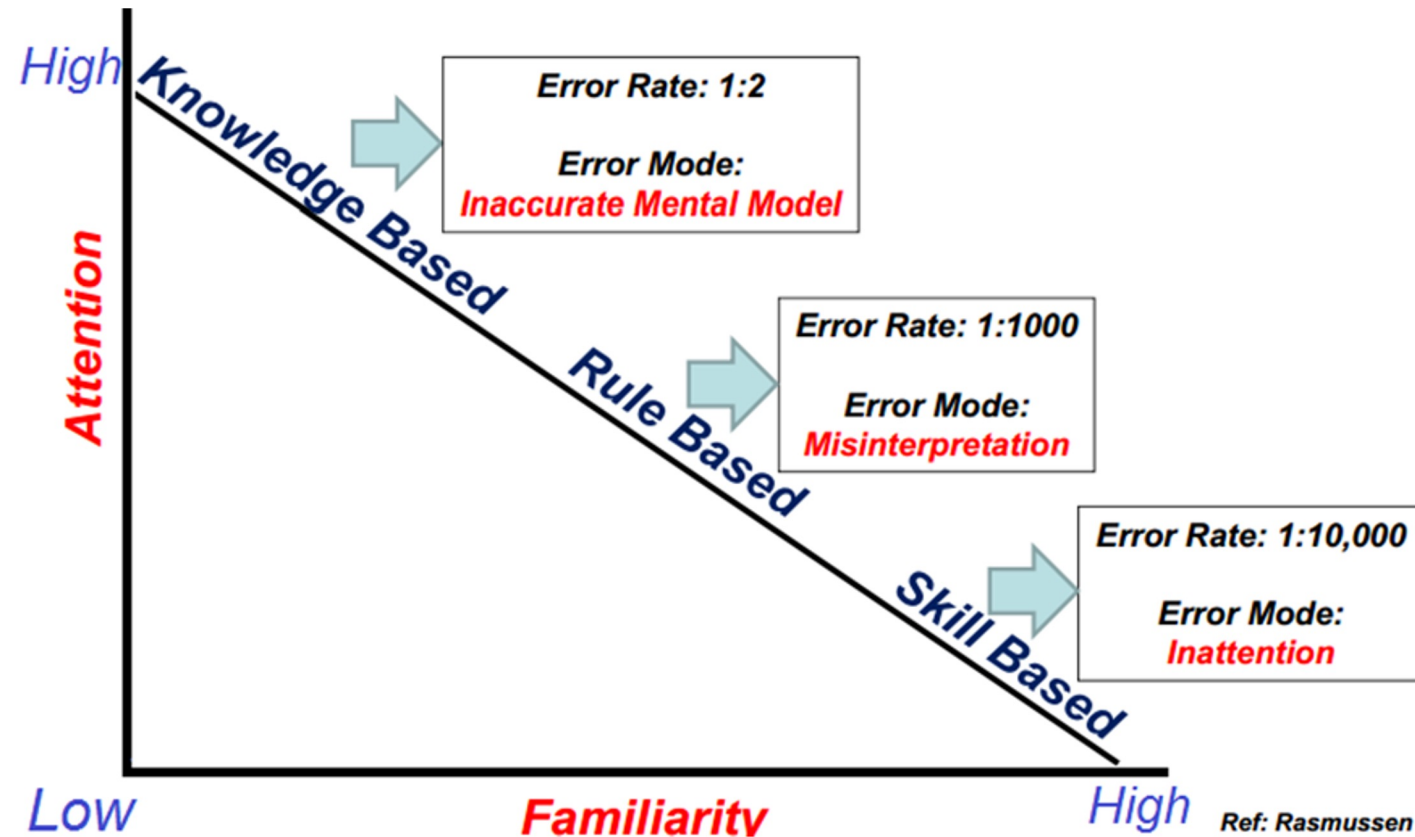
H.L. Mencken

# Adaptive Capacity Decreasing

- “Hours of boredom to moments of terror”
  - Humans make 3–7 mistakes per hour awake, 11–17 under extreme stress (Muschara, 2014)
  - Working memory decreases under stress (from  $7 \pm 2$  chunks to 3–5 or lower, with long term damage from prolonged stress)



# Human Performance Under Stress





# Complexity and Complicatedness

- **Complex:** Many interdependent components
  - Hard to get order, control, or predictably. “Emergent system”
- **Complicated:** Many independent components
  - Once you can separate components, you can deal with each of them systematically
- **Chaotic**
- **Clear**

# Learning Environments

- **Kind:**

- Rapid and accurate feedback of whether a decision is correct or not
- Limited number of variables and choices
- Information easily available
- Tight feedback loops
- Simple games (tic-tac-toe) to harder games (chess)
- People (and computers) that can handle the appropriate number of variables can learn
  - Pattern recognition and reinforcement / reinforcement learning

Hogarth, Lejarraga & Soyer, 2015

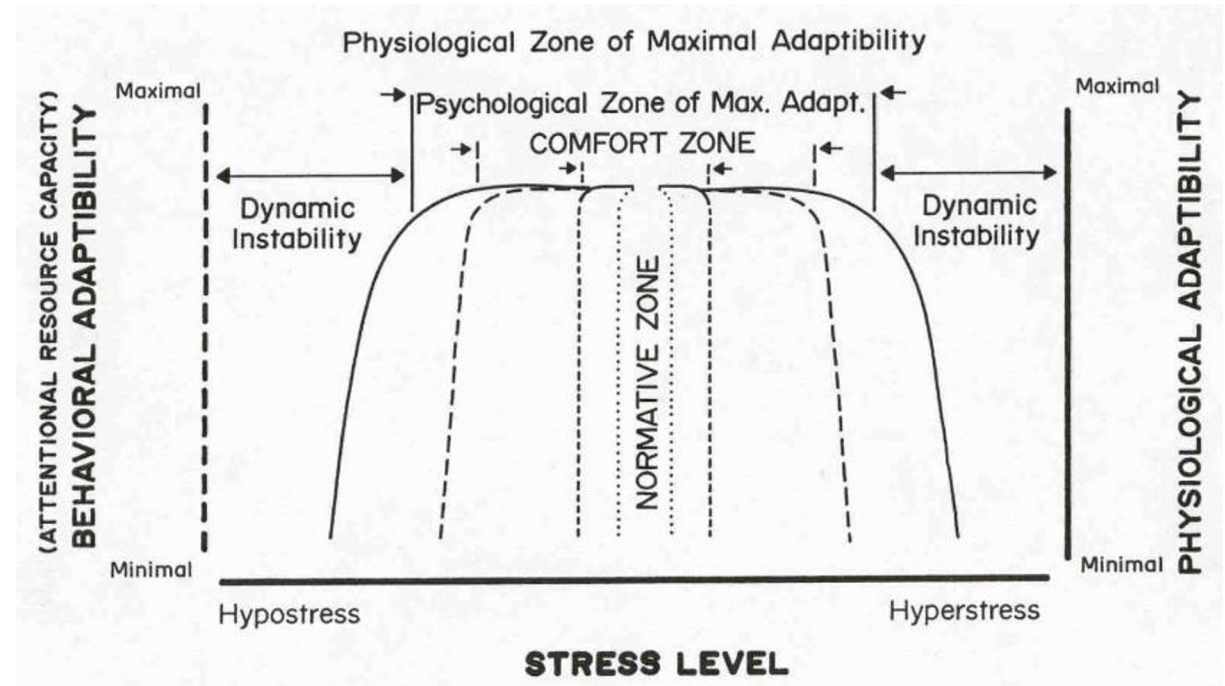
# Learning Environments

- **Wicked:**
  - Feedback inconsistent
  - Feedback not always accurate
  - Feedback delayed in time and/or space
  - Feedback not always given
  - Other variables are hidden
  - Tremendous amount of variables
- **Fiendish**
  - Not even sure what success looks like

Hogarth, Lejarraga & Soyer, 2015

# Interconnected Critical Systems

- Modes of operation:
  - Compliance
  - Reliability
  - Resilience
  - Robustness
- Stress?
  - Distress
  - Eustress
- Cascades in human error



A Dynamic Model of Stress and Attention, from [Hancock & Warm \(1989\)](#)

# Complex Sociotechnical Systems

- Fishbowl industry
- Depends heavily on public trust and participation
- Exceptionally dangerous for workers and consumers
- Increasing in both complexity and complicatedness
- Growth of Joint Cognitive Systems: People and technology working and communicating together
  - Agreement to work together
  - Predictable in behavior
  - Can receive and respond to instructions
  - Maintain shared mental models



# Complex Sociotechnical Systems

- Fishbowl industry
- Depends heavily on technology
- Exceptionally dangerous
- Increasing in both complexity and scale
- Growth of Joint Capabilities
- Communicating to
- Agreement to
- Predictable in
- Can receive and
- Maintain shared

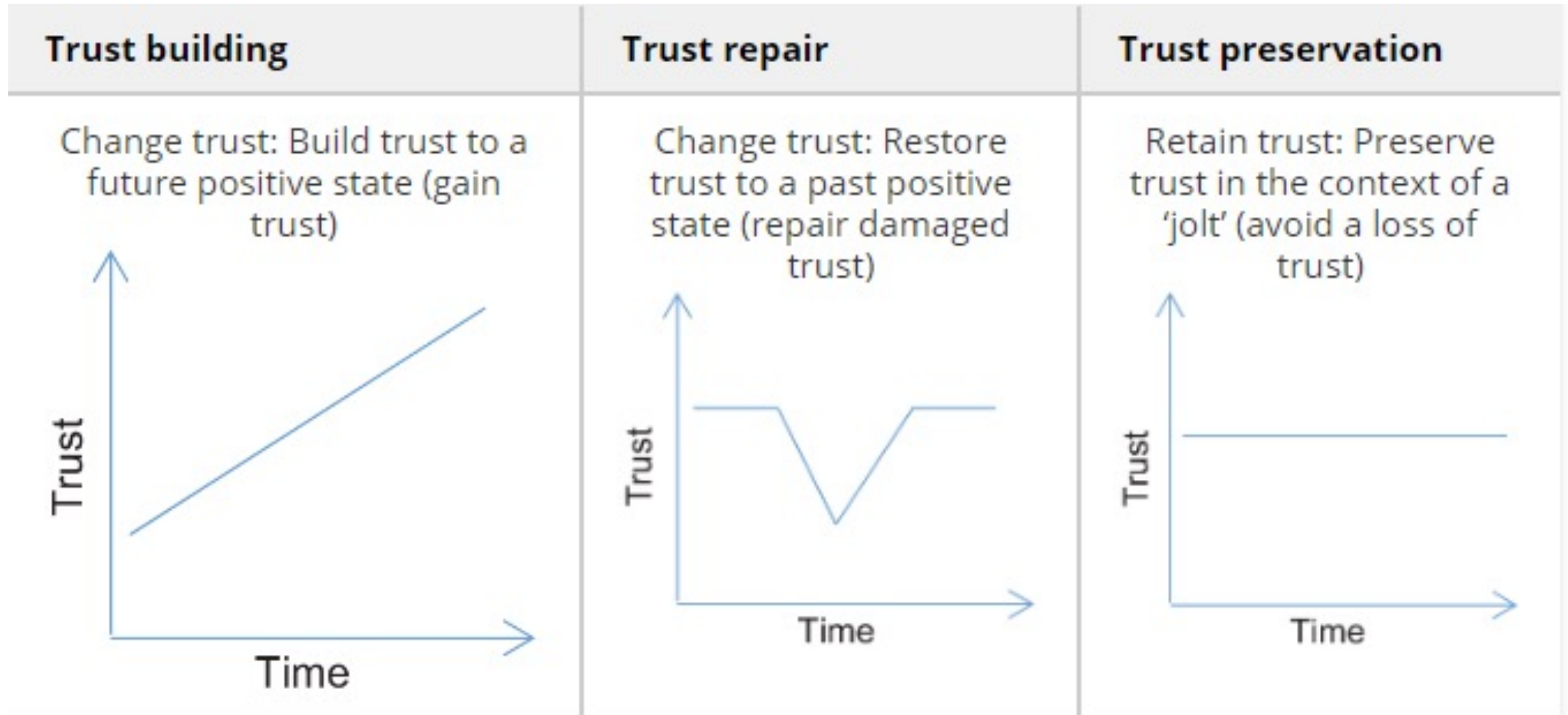
“We've learned that automation does not eliminate errors. Rather, it changes the nature of the errors that are made, and it makes possible new kinds of errors. The bottom line is this: Systems that integrate the best of human abilities and technology are the safest for all concerned.”

Captain Sully Sullenberger, LinkedIn.com,  
“Technology Cannot Replace Pilots”



ology working and

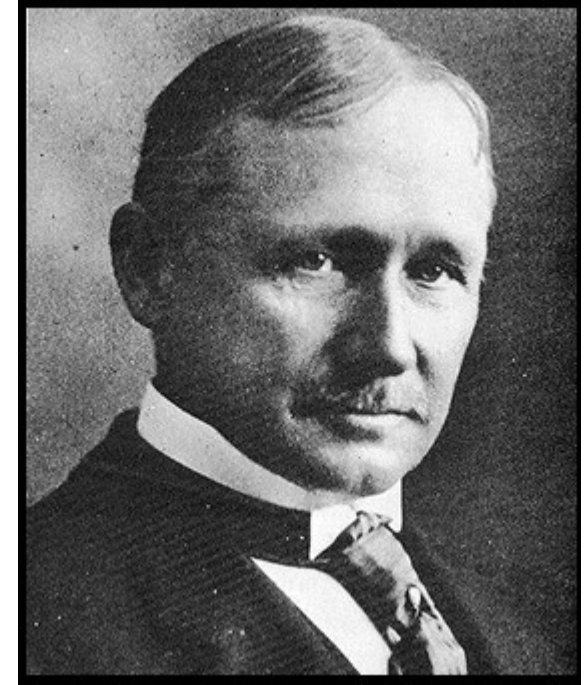
# Trust in Organizations



Gustafsson, S., Gillespie, N., Searle, R., Hope Hailey, V., & Dietz, G. (2021)

# How We Work

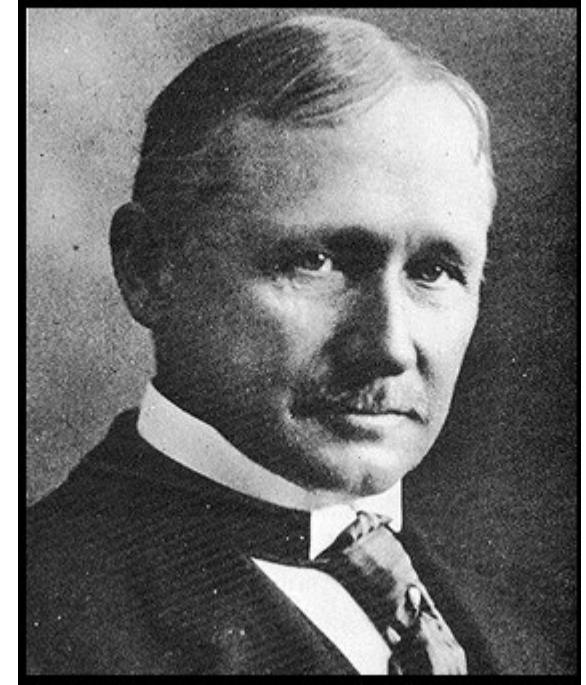
- F.W. Taylor – The Principles of Scientific Management
  - Moved from skilled individuals doing many things to less skilled individuals following procedures over and over
  - Motivating them simple: financial awards can make them work faster



McChrystal, S. (2015). Team of Teams.  
Duhigg, C. (2016). Smarter, Faster, Better.

# How We Work

- F.W. Taylor – The Principles of Scientific Management
  - Much of what we do is now on **thought** not repetitive, automatic actions.
  - Financial bonuses now **decrease** performance and **increase** error rates.
  - Many employees now searching for more **meaning** in their work; cultural and short term KPI misalignments.



McChrystal, S. (2015). Team of Teams.  
Duhigg, C. (2016). Smarter, Faster, Better.

# Back to culture

- User-centered design
- Design for performance under stress
- Expansive collaborative simulations
- Holistic view of the system operator
- Fitness for Duty
- New approach to leadership
  - High Reliability Organizational culture
  - Just culture
  - Lessons learned from projects such as Google Oxygen



# What exactly is Culture?

- Industrial-Organizational Psychology
  - “Organizational culture refers to a system of shared assumptions, values, and beliefs that show people what is appropriate and inappropriate behavior. These values have a strong influence on employee behavior as well as organizational performance.” (Powers, 2019)

# What exactly is Culture?

- The brain, as a pattern-recognition machine, is primarily making predictions (e.g., Hawkins, 2004)
  - So, culture can be seen as the patterns that we expect, in terms of how we should act, and how others will react.
  - A person will predict what happens if they make a mistake
    - Will I be fired if my leaders find out I made a mistake? If so, should I hide it?
  - Or another example is a person predicting what is most important to an organization/leader, based on things they've observed
    - Which is more important, quick or correct?

# What Makes a Good Leader? (Google Oxygen)

- Most positive (in order)
  - Being a good coach
  - Empowering / not micromanaging
  - Being interested in direct reports, success & well-being
  - Being productive and results-oriented
  - Being a good communicator and listener
  - Helping employees with career development
  - Having a clear vision and strategy for the team
  - Having technical skills that could help advise the team

# What Makes a Poor Leader? (Google Oxygen)

- Most negative (in order)
  - Having trouble making a transition to management/leadership
  - Lacking a consistent approach to performance management
  - Spending too little time managing (servant leadership) and communicating.

# What Makes a Good Team? (Google Aristotle)

- No significant relationships between team members' distribution of IQ, friendship, diversity alone.
- Significant relationship: Group norms
  - Most important: habits of how team members treat each other
  - Not important: dynamics of one/few leaders vs. distributed leadership (as long as everyone agrees)



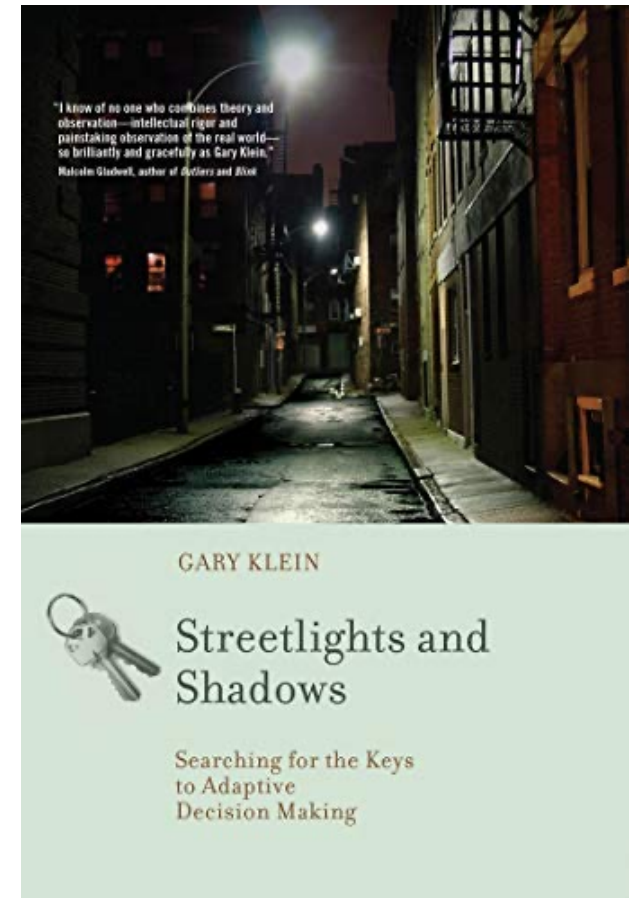
# Naturalistic Decision Making

# What is decision making in the wild?

How do we make decisions?

- Original research was done in research labs, under controlled conditions
- Klein et al worked with experts in real-world situations, with tremendous amounts of complexity, to determine how people actually made decisions in those real-world scenarios.

Ey, 2022



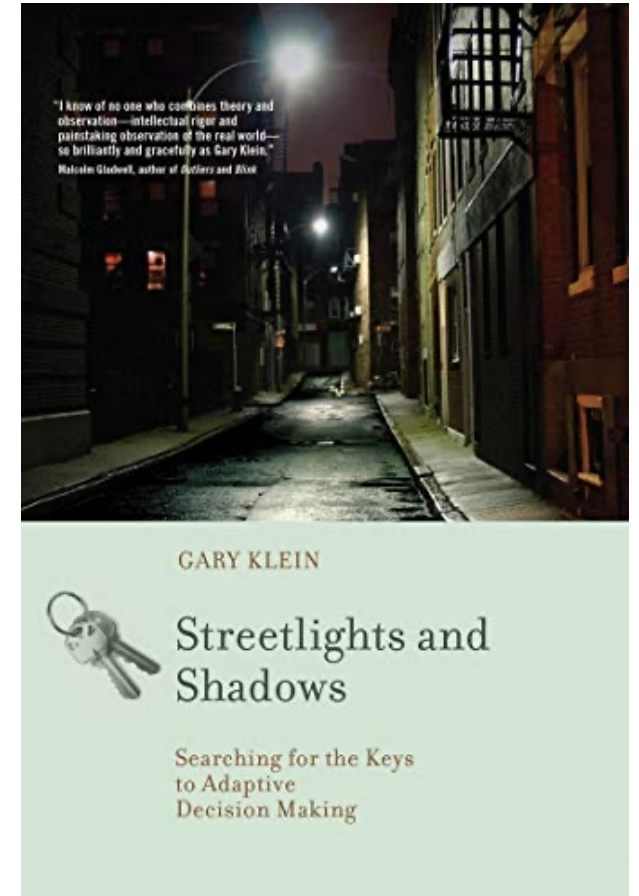
# What is decision making in the wild?

Translating experience into action focused on

- Decision making
- Sensemaking
- Adapting

It's about how experts make decisions in the real world under conditions of stress, time pressure, dynamic conditions, ambiguous information, vague goals.

Ey, 2022

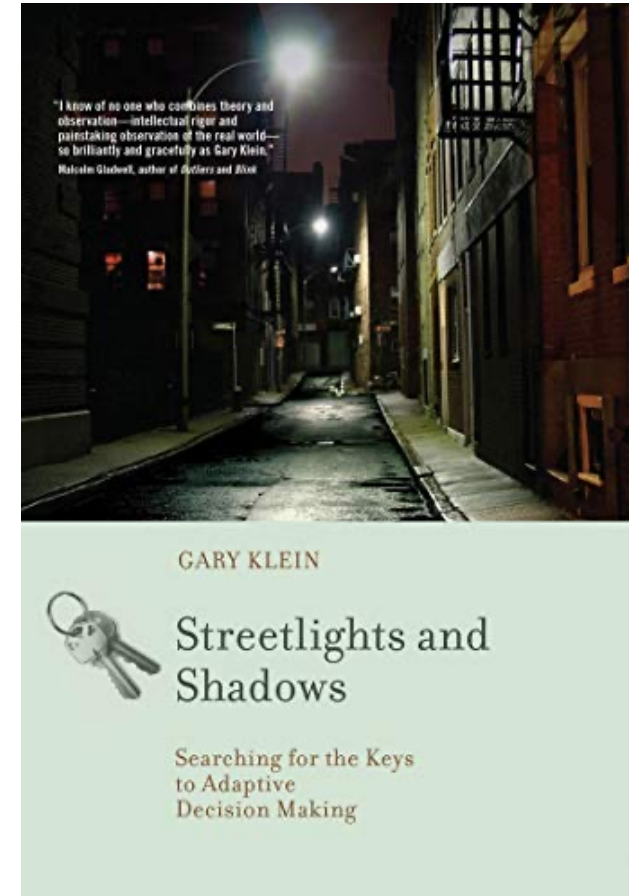


# What is decision making in the wild?

Different kinds of decisions:

- **Maximizing:** Finding the best possible outcome
- **Satisficing:** Choosing the first acceptable/workable solution
- **Optimizing:** Achieving the best possible balance among goals/choices

Ey, 2022



# What is decision making in the wild?

Common beliefs, but not so fast, it depends	This instead
We can reduce uncertainty by gathering more information. Too much information can get in our way.	<p>In complex situations, what we need isn't the right information but the right way to understand the information we have.</p> <p>We don't need to connect all the dots but figure out what counts as a dot in the first place.</p>
To make sense of a situation, we draw inferences from the data.	We make sense of data by fitting them into stories and other frames, but the reverse also happens: our frames determine what counts as data.
Leaders can create common ground by assigning roles and setting ground rules in advance.	All team members are responsible for continually monitoring common ground for breakdowns and repairing the breakdown when necessary.

Ey, 2022



# Naturalistic Decision Making Approaches

- Premortem – Starting with why
  - Find weakness in plan before it's implemented.
  - Reduce overconfidence.
  - Builds a culture of being open and candid. Encourages authentic dissenters. Respects people for their creative contributions.

Ey, 2023

# Making Effective Premortems

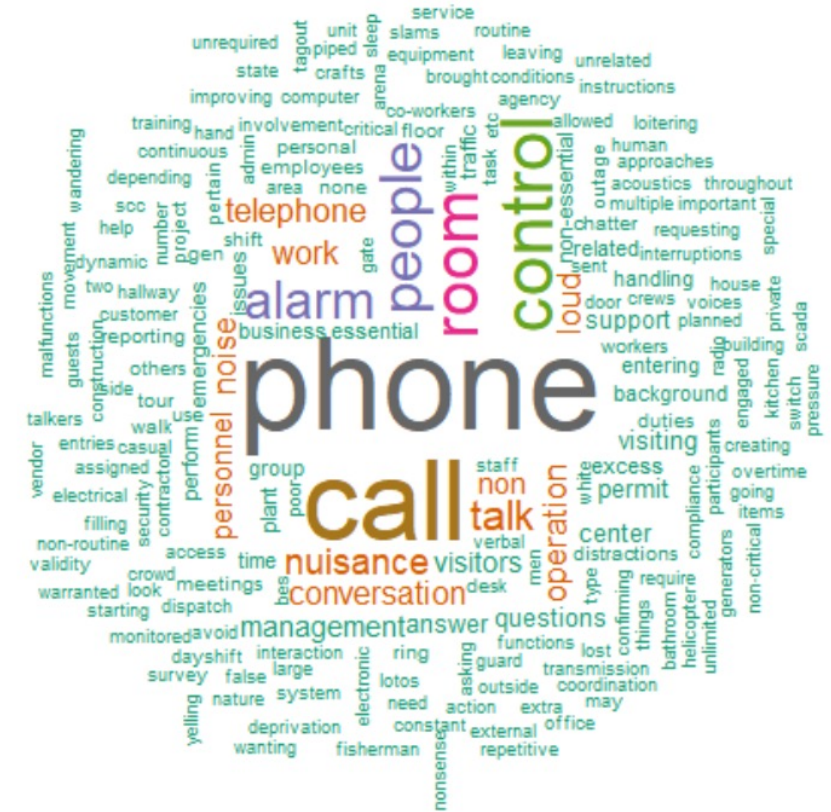
- **Problem reframing** – Don't ask the group what could go wrong. it's easier to find reasons why something has happened than develop scenarios for things that might happen (Michell, Russo, & Pennington, 1989). Requires more engagement.
- **Cognitively diverse group** – individuals with similar backgrounds produce similar ideas ((Nijstad, Diehl, & Stroebe, 2010).
- **Psychological safety** – the environment needed to unfreeze thinking and reduce the social pressure to go along (Johnson, Johnson, & Smith, 2000). Leader goes first. Walk the talk.
- **Group equality** – everybody plays, and everybody's input treated as equal (Nijstad, Stroebe, & Lodewijkx, 2003). Don't ask for volunteers; one idea per person per round. Nobody dominates.
- **Go fast** – just get the ideas out there; no rambling; no editing and second guessing

Ey, 2023

# Resilience Engineering

# Adaptive Capacity

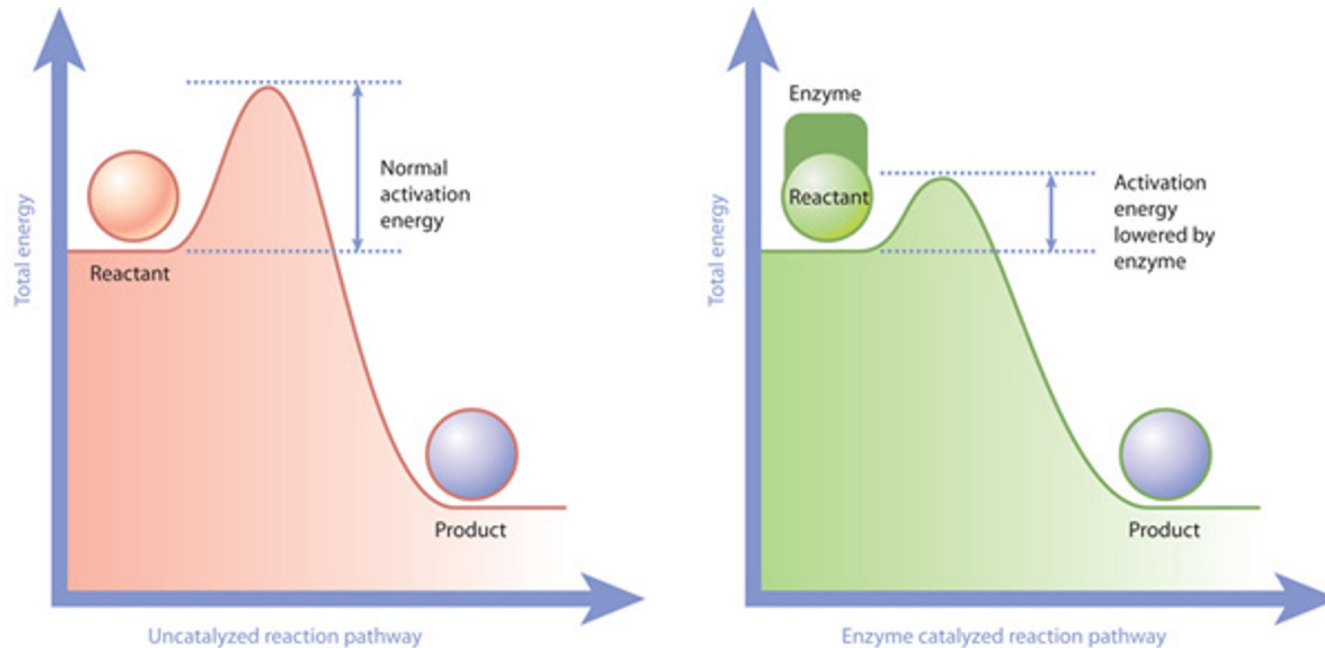
- “Resilience to Perturbation” decreasing
  - Focus on maximizing efficiency at the expense of Adaptive Capacity
  - Busy people pulled into tactical or task-based thinking
  - Minimal time to reflect, integrate and consolidate information
  - Add limitations to trainability, and knowledge acquisition is reduced
  - Further ongoing distractions make higher-order thinking more challenging



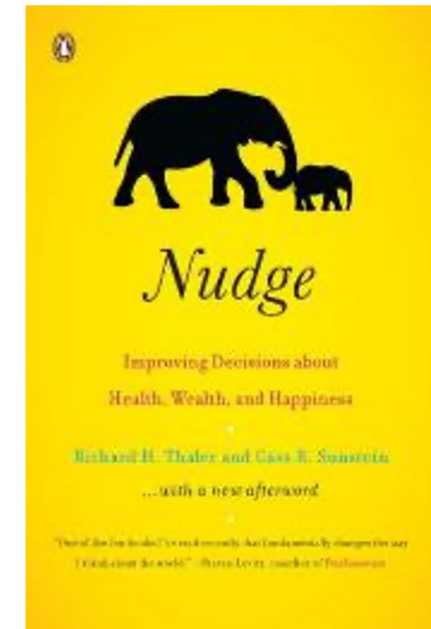
Halverson & Iversen (2018)

# Activation Energy in Decisions

- In Chemistry, activation energy is what's needed to make a reaction happen; without it, the reaction won't occur.
- In Psychology, it's the motivation needed to start a task.



From <http://www.nature.com/scitable/content/enzymes-and-activation-energy-14711476>





# Cyber/Physical and other Nexus Events

# Research on IT/OT Nexus

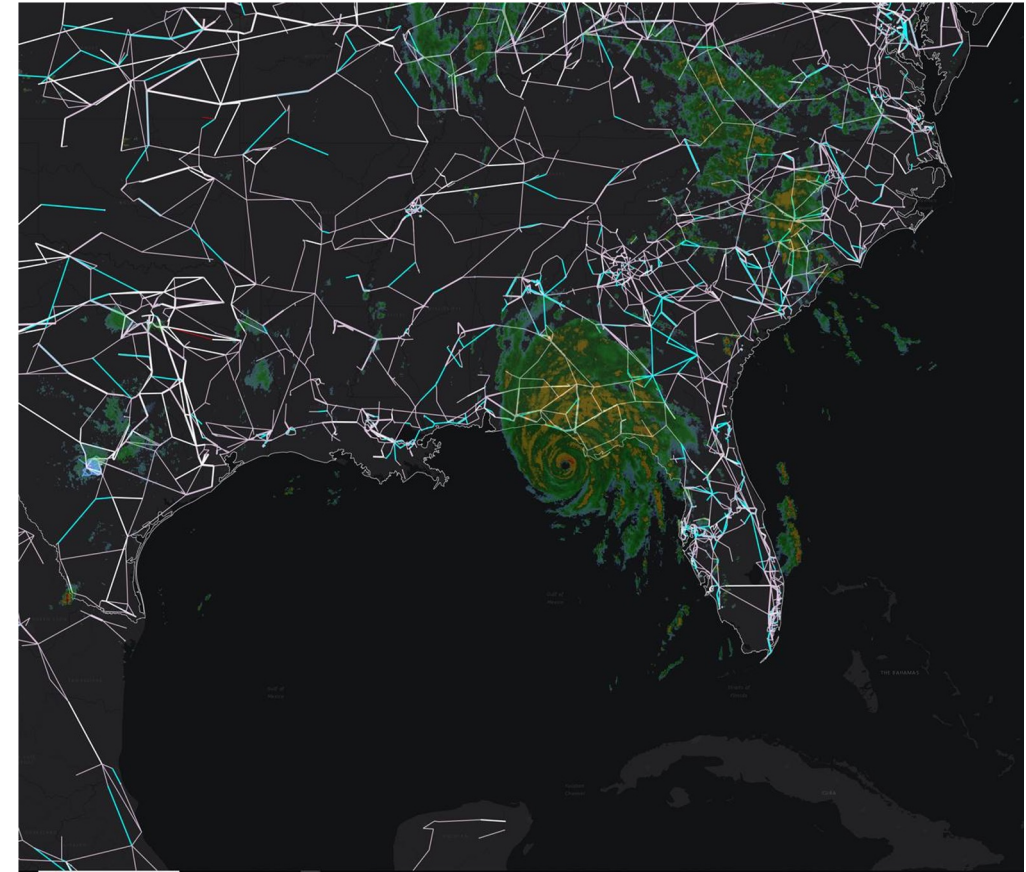
- DOE-Funded research: “Geospatial Visualization to Enable Holistic Response and Situational Awareness (GeoViz)”
- ResilientGrid and Pacific Northwest National Labs
- Workers from nine utilities, across
  - IT
    - Cybersecurity Analysts
    - Cybersecurity supervisors, managers, and leadership
  - OT
    - EMS Support Personnel
    - Control Room operators
    - Control room supervisors, managers, and leadership
  - Trainers

# Research on IT/OT Nexus

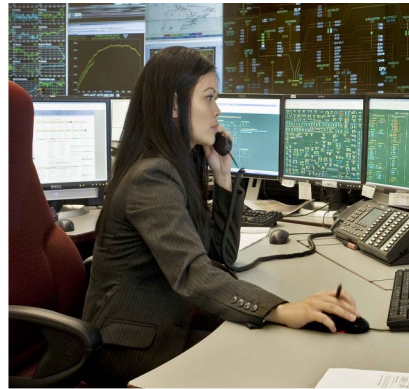
- Goals:
  - Enhancing an integrated situational awareness tool
  - Providing a Common Relevant Operational Picture (CROP) for collaborative work between IT and OT workers around “bang”
  - Research across several utilities to understand how they would respond to a blended IT/OT event

# Research on IT/OT Nexus

- Resiliency Management System (RMS)
  - ResilientGrid product for integrated situational awareness (SA)
  - Originally designed for control room SA in real-time operations
  - In use in transmission operations, at the country-wide level (Situational Awareness for FERC, NERC, and the Regions; SAFNR)
- Enhancement of RMS to provide a common view for system operators, EMS support personnel, and Cybersecurity analysts around a “bang”



# Bifurcation of Controls

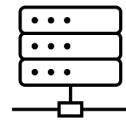


Power System  
Operator

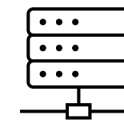
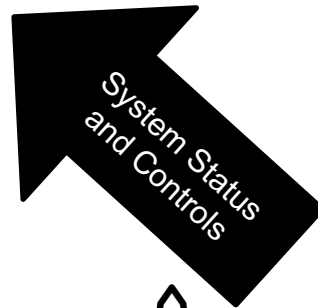
Resiliency  
Management  
System® (RMS)



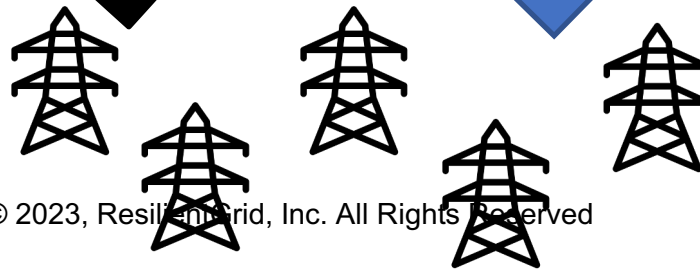
Cyber Analyst



Energy  
Management  
System  
(EMS)



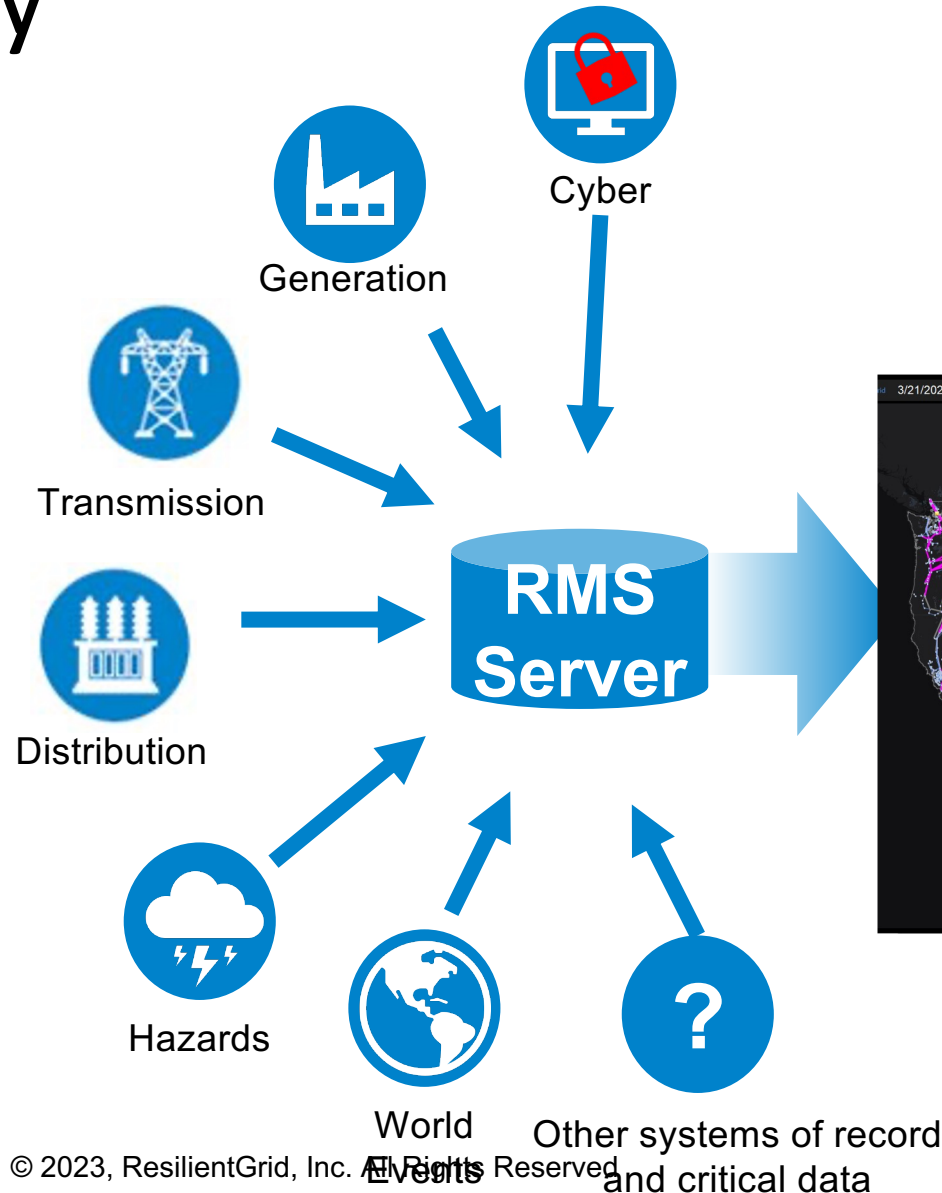
Security  
Information  
Event  
Manager  
(SIEM)





# GeoViz Summary

- Problem:
  - Power system operations is dependent on cyber
  - Power system operators have limited insight into cyber
  - Cyber analysts have limited insight of power system operations
- GeoViz is a geo-spatial visualization to understand the cyberthreats and ongoing impacts to the operation of the electric grid.



IT and OT  
Analysts,  
Operators,  
SMEs

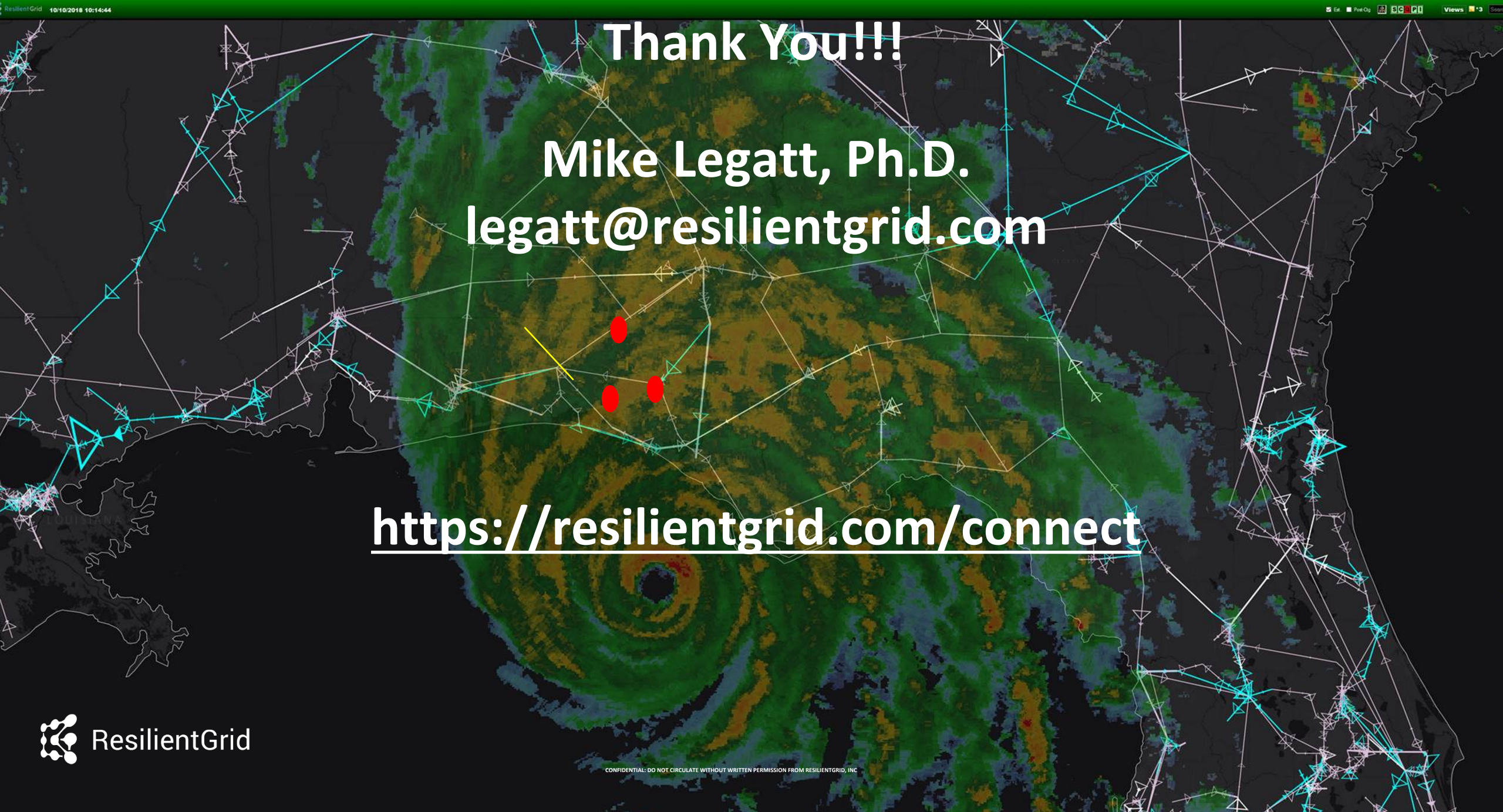
# Question

- What must people do well in order to maintain reliability through a blended IT/OT thread?

# Lessons Learned

- Live-fire red-team/blue-team cyber/physical exercise
- For more information, please visit <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/liberty-eclipse>
- GeoVis Integrated Cyber/Physical Mapboard
  - Building a Real-Time Common Relevant Operational Picture (CROP)





Thank You!!!

Mike Legatt, Ph.D.  
legatt@resilientgrid.com

<https://resilientgrid.com/connect>

# ABNORMAL AREA CONTROL ERROR DUE TO A MODEL TRANSLATION ERROR LESSON LEARNED

Dwayne Fewless, Principal Analyst

SA & Monitoring Workshop





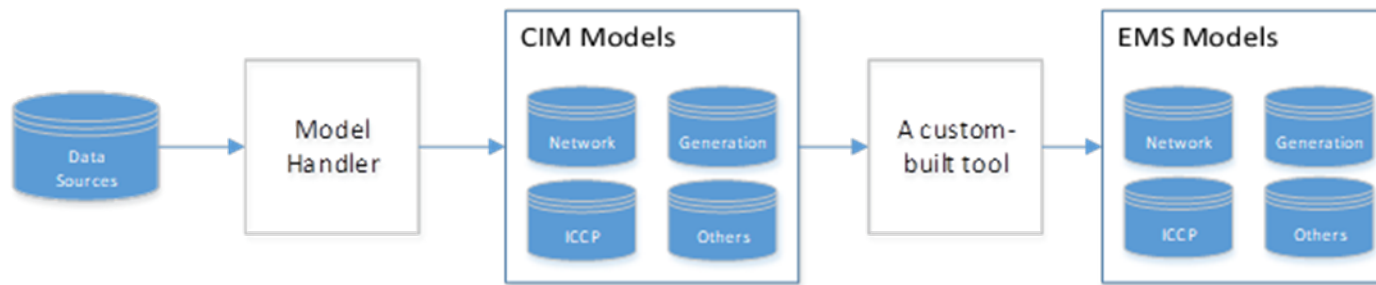
# AGENDA

---

- DETAILS
- WHAT HAPPENED
- CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
- LESSONS LEARNED

# DETAILS

- EMS upgraded to new EMS version
  - did not use the model handler and the custom-built tool to generate new EMS models during upgrade
  - directly converted the previous quarterly EMS models to the new EMS version with EMS vendor assistance



- Model Handler: Generating CIM models
- Custom-Built Tool: Translating CIM models to EMS models

# DETAILS CONT'D

- Quarterly model updates occur on regular basis
- Two new fields introduced in the new EMS version
- When generating the new quarterly models
- Teams involved with model validation and cutover activities did not recognize the impact that the new fields would have on the model build process
- Data quality checks were done on AGC and generation monitoring

# CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Reverted to its previous model to manage system conditions while continuing to investigate
- Updated their neighbors about the situation and took manual actions to resolve the issue
- After identifying the modeling error, the entity developed
  - instructions to address the zero MW setpoint issue and to
  - apply a fix to AGC with the new model

# LESSONS LEARNED

- The challenges that entities usually face during an EMS upgrade are primarily due to the confluence of change from the EMS upgrade and the model tool/application implementation. Entities should ensure the following actions concerning EMS upgrades:
  - Develop a more holistic approach to aligning the models with EMS revisions
  - Strengthen communications with vendors and increase knowledge transfer from vendors
  - The vendors document all new data fields in their release package, the entity understands their impacts, and modifies or creates in-house tools accordingly



# LESSONS LEARNED CONT'D

- For a major model release, entities should perform front-end and back-end data validations and field-by-field comparisons of all databases that are not limited to fields or areas with previously identified issues.
- Entities should run regression testing with new models in a comprehensive test environment and ensure the applications can consume the new models and yield similar or improved results.

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





California ISO

# Loss of Monitoring due to a Half Failed High Availability Switch Pair

Robert Melis

Dir. Information Security & Network Operations

California Independent System Operator

# Agenda

## Introduction California ISO

- History
- Mission
- NERC Registration Functions

## Network Overview

- CAISO Network Design
- Hardware and Software Descriptions

## Event Overview

- Sequence of Events
- Description of Impacts and Duration
- Resolution and Lessons Learned



California ISO

## California ISO: Introduction



# California ISO: Introduction

## History

- California Assembly Bill 1890 (1996)
- CA Electric Sector Restructuring (deregulation)
- CAISO assumed responsibility for 80% of the CA BES on April 1 1998

## Mission

- Only independent grid operator in the western interconnect
- 26,000 miles of transmission; over 260 million megawatt-hours of electricity annually
- Facilitator of wholesale energy market for CA
- CAISO WEIM used for over 2/3 of load in western interconnect
  - \$3.82 Billion in cumulative benefits through March 2023

## NERC Registrations

- Balancing Area Authority (BA)
- Transmission Operator (TOP)
- Transmission Service Provider (TSP)
- Reliability Coordinator (RC)
- Planning Authority / Planning Coordinator (PA/PC)



# Network Overview

## Network Overview

### Physically and Logically Segmented based on system functions

- Corporate/Enterprise Systems
- Market Systems
- Real Time Systems
- IT Monitoring Systems
- Test/Development Systems

### Connections to each network segment/enclave are protected via Firewalls (HA pairs)

- Connections to external networks (Internet, virtual private wide area networks) secured by Firewalls (HA pairs)

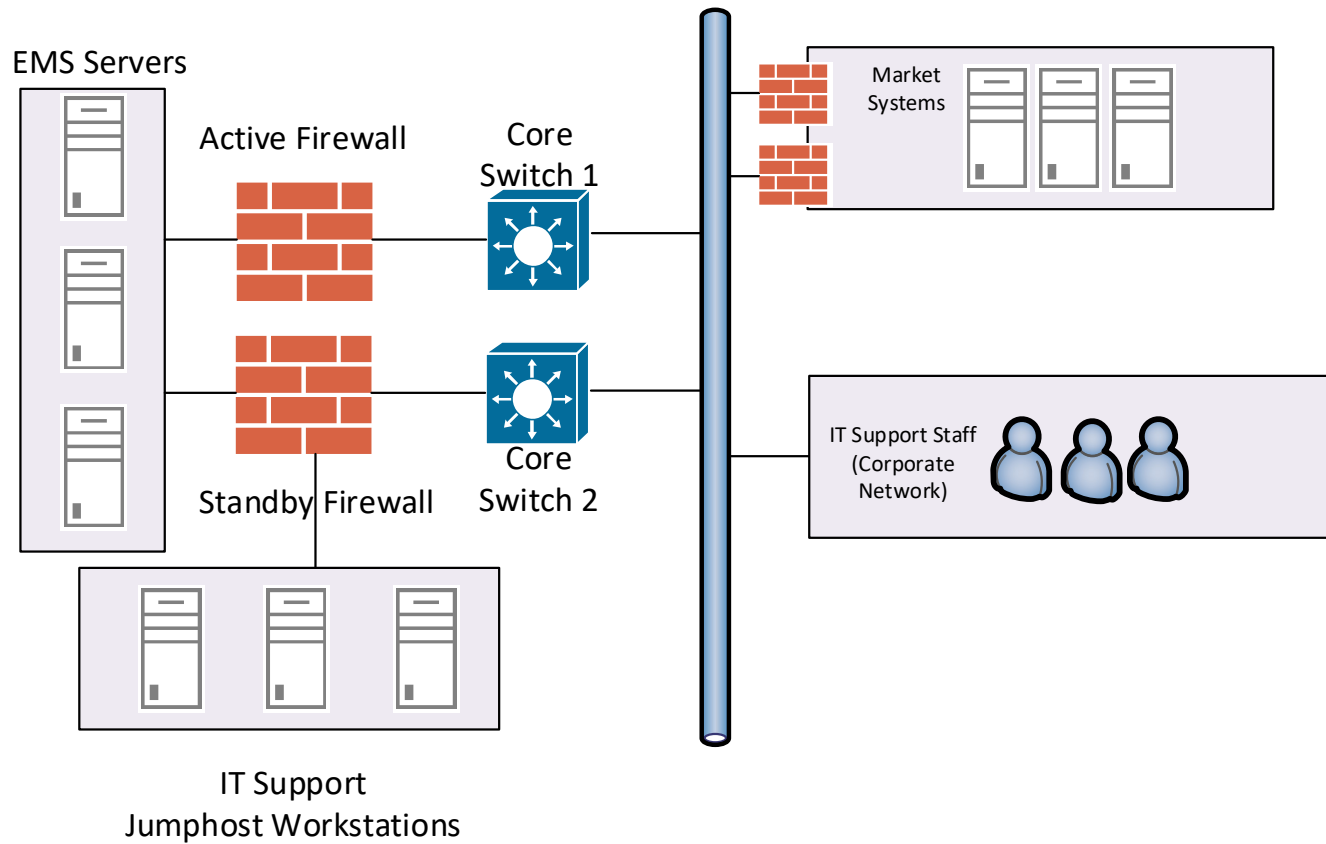
### Design is same in both Primary and Alternate Data Centers

- Multiple Internet Service Providers
- Multiple metro area service providers (bandwidth between data centers)



California ISO

## Event Overview





# Lessons Learned



## Lessons Learned

### History of hardware issues

- Previous issues with spontaneous restarts
- Challenging software upgrades
- Age of equipment (purchased in 2013); already planned for 2023 replacement

### Firewall Failover Mechanics

- Firewalls were configured to failover based on firewall status
- Active firewall was still functional and communicating with standby (via 'inside' network)
- Therefore the firewalls did NOT failover automatically
- Failover configurations were updated to network track interface status (up/down)
- Also changed firewall failover configurations so an automatic failover will NOT reverse automatically when an interface comes back up

### Active-Standby versus Active-Active

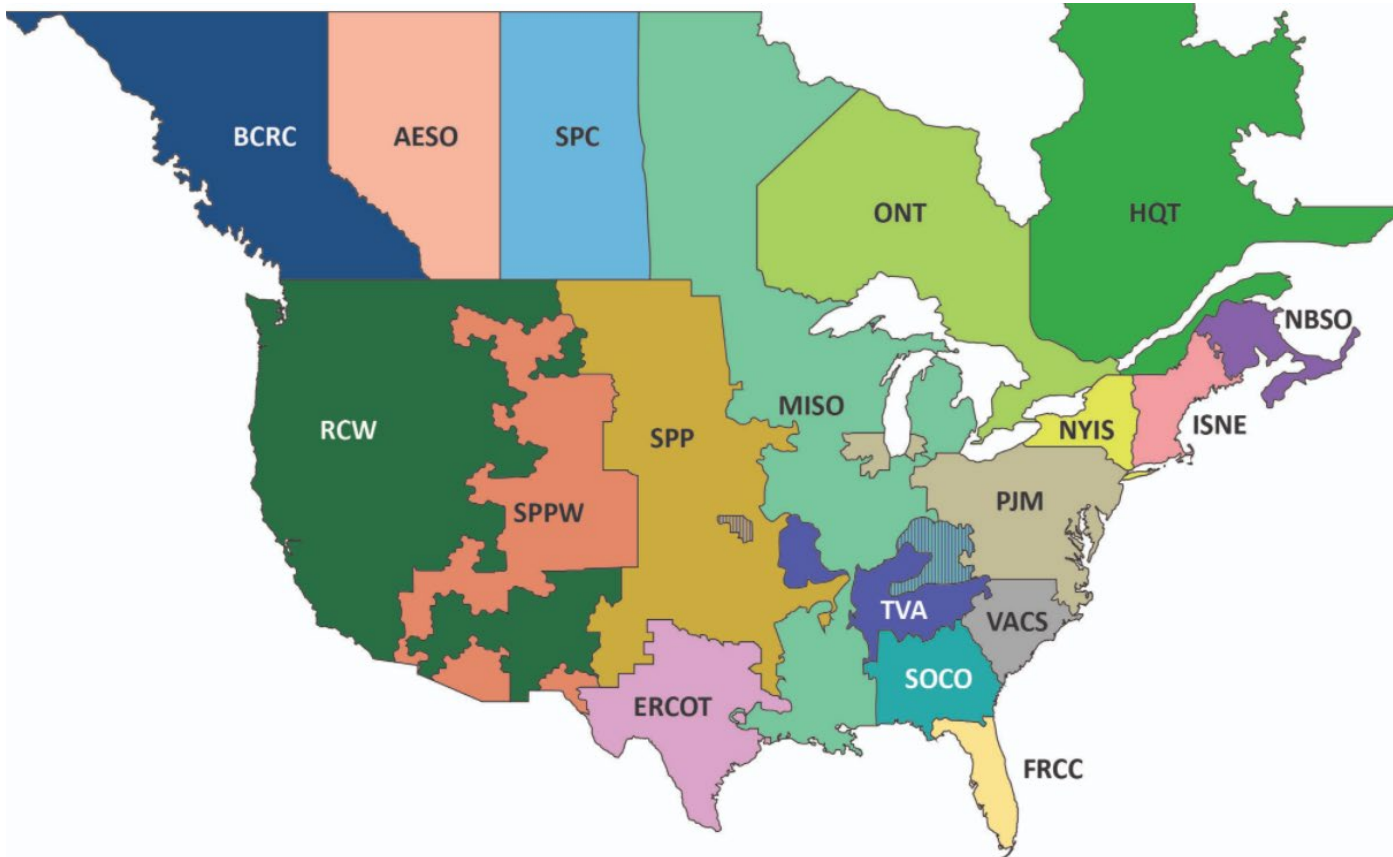
- Would an active-active firewall configuration made the event less impactful?
- Active/active mode requires advanced design concepts that can result in more complex networks
- Active-Active splits traffic based on a source IP, dest IP and dest port hash value
  - NOT 'load balancing' on a per packet basis
- Active/passive mode has simplicity of design; it is significantly easier to troubleshoot routing and traffic flow issues in active/passive mode
  - Seamless failover has been demonstrated countless times during both planned and unplanned events

Questions?

---

# TVA System Operations Center Loss of Power Event

# TVA Reliability Coordinator



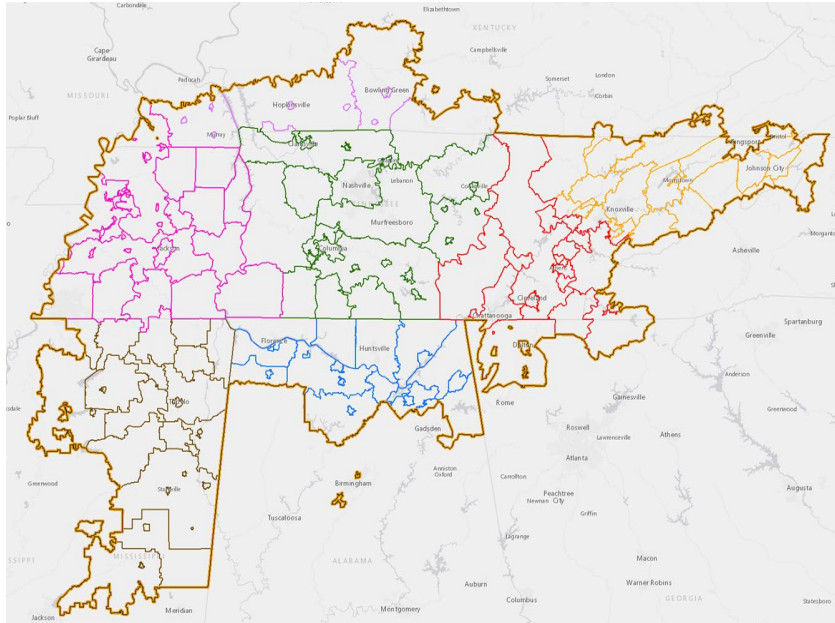
# TVA RC Area

- Serving six members including AECI, LGE-KU, MLGW, OMU, SMT, & TVA
- 3 BAAs: AECI, LGE-KU, TVA
- ~ 45,000 MW Load / ~ 52,000 MW Generation
- 12 million customers spanning 11 states
- 199,000 square mile area
- 34,280 miles of transmission



# Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) at a Glance

- A federally-owned, self-financed corporation created in 1933 by the TVA Act
- Provides power to 153 local power companies, and 65 directly served industries plus federal facilities
- **Mission of Service – Serve the people of the Valley to make life better through the 3 E's Energy, Environment, and Economic Development**



**80,000**  
**SQUARE MILE**  
SERVICE REGION

**10** MILLION  
RESIDENTS

**ROBUST**  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**  
**CONNECTIVITY**

INCLUDING  
**LONG-HAUL FIBER OPTIC**

**LOCATED IN**  
**7 STATES**

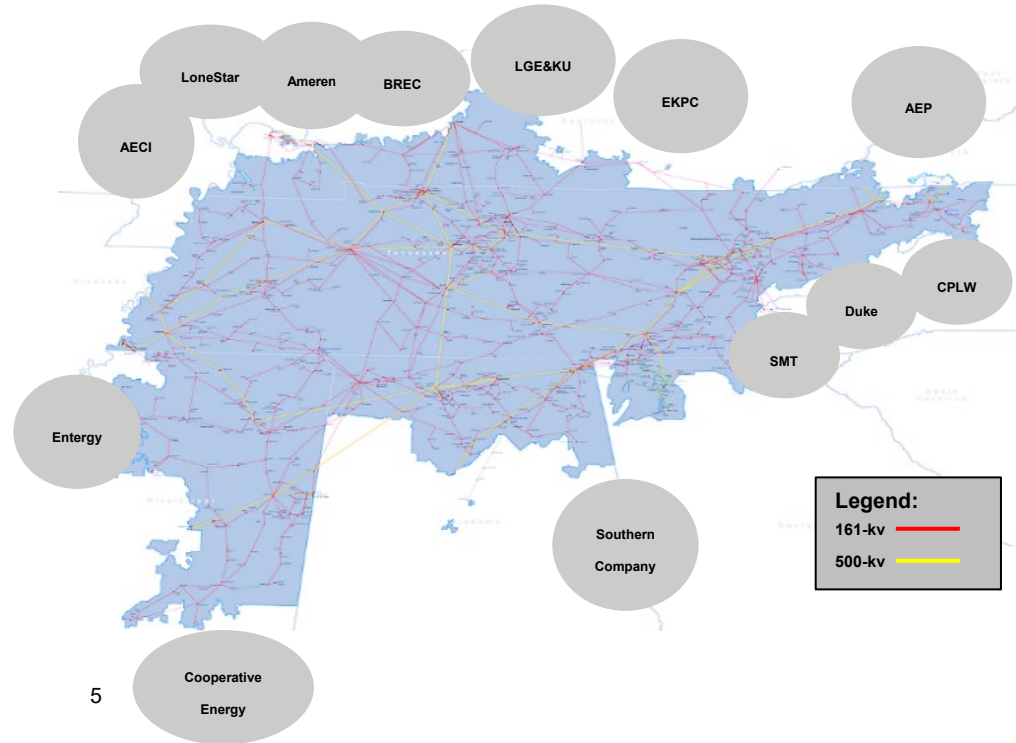
**LOW**  
**BUSINESS &**  
**PERSONAL TAXATION RATES**

**DIVERSE**  
**GENERATION MIX**



# TVA Transmission Overview

16,265 Circuit Miles | 104,865 Structures | 522 Substations | 1,325 Customer Connection Points | 239,439 Acres ROW  
4,300+ miles Backbone Telecom Fiber | 69 interconnections to 13 neighboring systems | 25K Maintenance and Emergency Switching orders each year



# The TVA Power System

## FY22 Energy

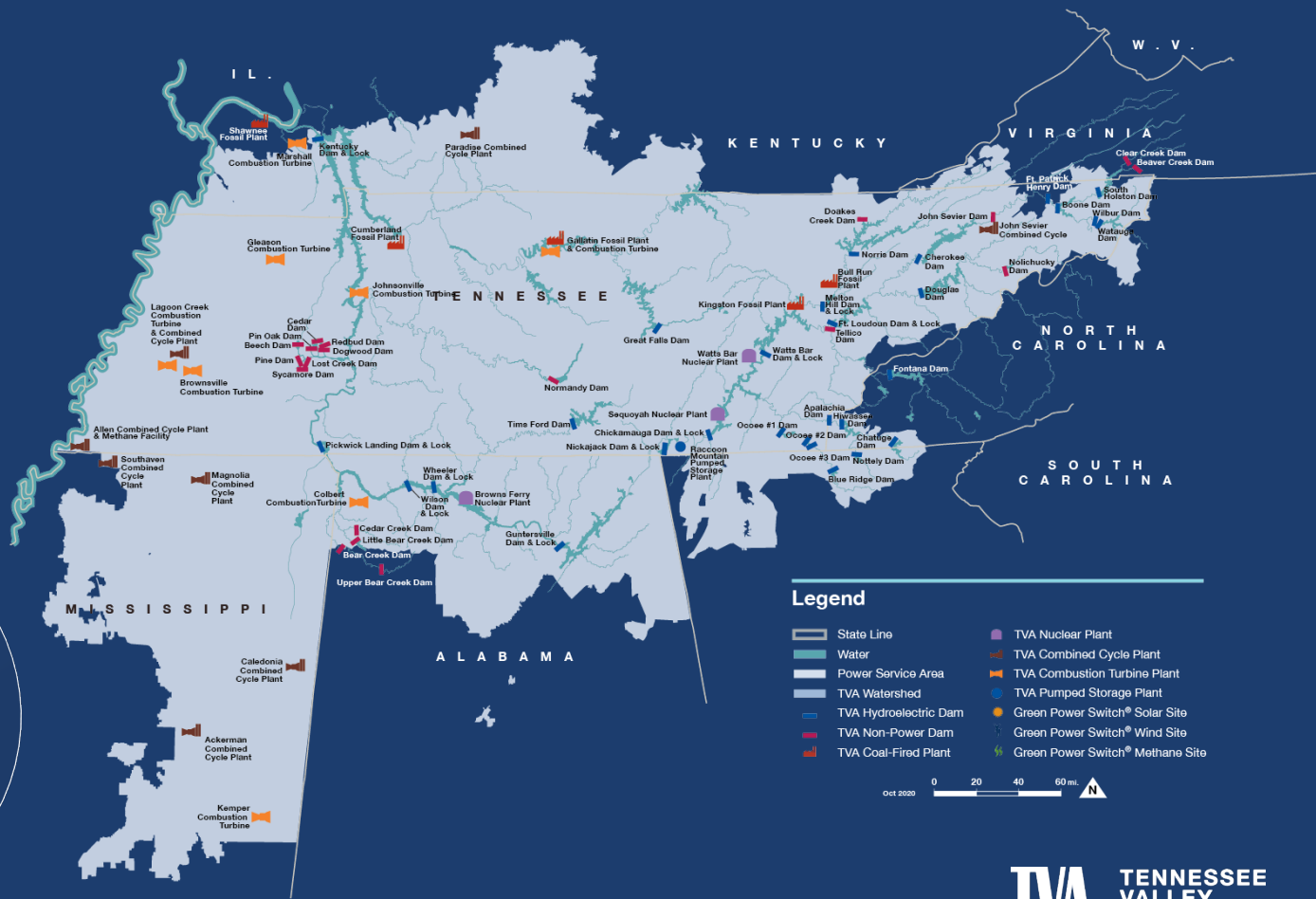
Wind & Solar  
4%

Hydro  
10%

Nuclear  
39%

Gas  
33%

Coal  
14%



# Control Centers

- Two fully-operational control centers
  - System Operations Center (SOC)
  - Regional Operations Center (ROC)
- Hydro Dispatch Control Center (HDCC)
- Staffed 24x7
- Data is mirrored at both in real-time
- RC and NOC use ROC as PRI
- TOp, BA, and HDCC use SOC as PRI





# Loss of Power “Button Day”

Friday April 21, 2023





# EPO (Emergency Power Off) Switch



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# What's an EPO switch and why is it needed?

- **Code Requirements for EPOs**

- The 2020 edition of NFPA 70, also known as the National Electric Code (NEC), states in section 645.10 that “an approved means shall be provided to disconnect power to all electronic equipment in ITE rooms, or designated zones within the room”.

- **Extent of Condition**

- 2 EPO switches with security monitoring – SOC server and telecom rooms
- 1 EPO switch with security monitoring – ROC new server room
- Other TVA data centers with EPO switches and no security monitoring

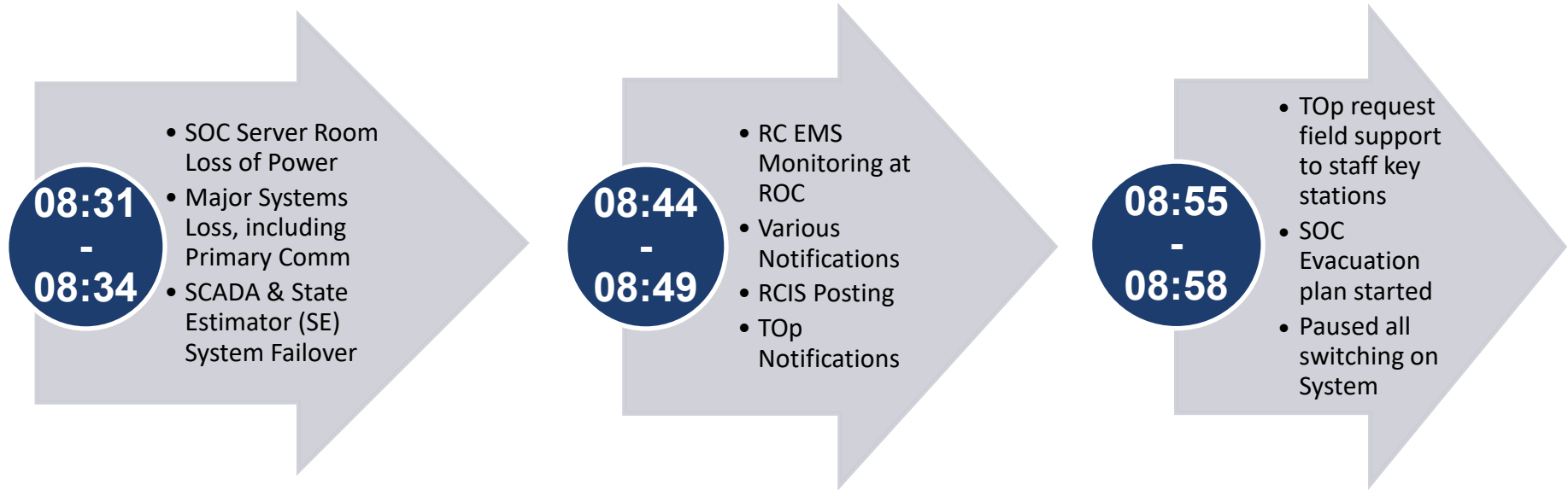


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# Sequence of Events

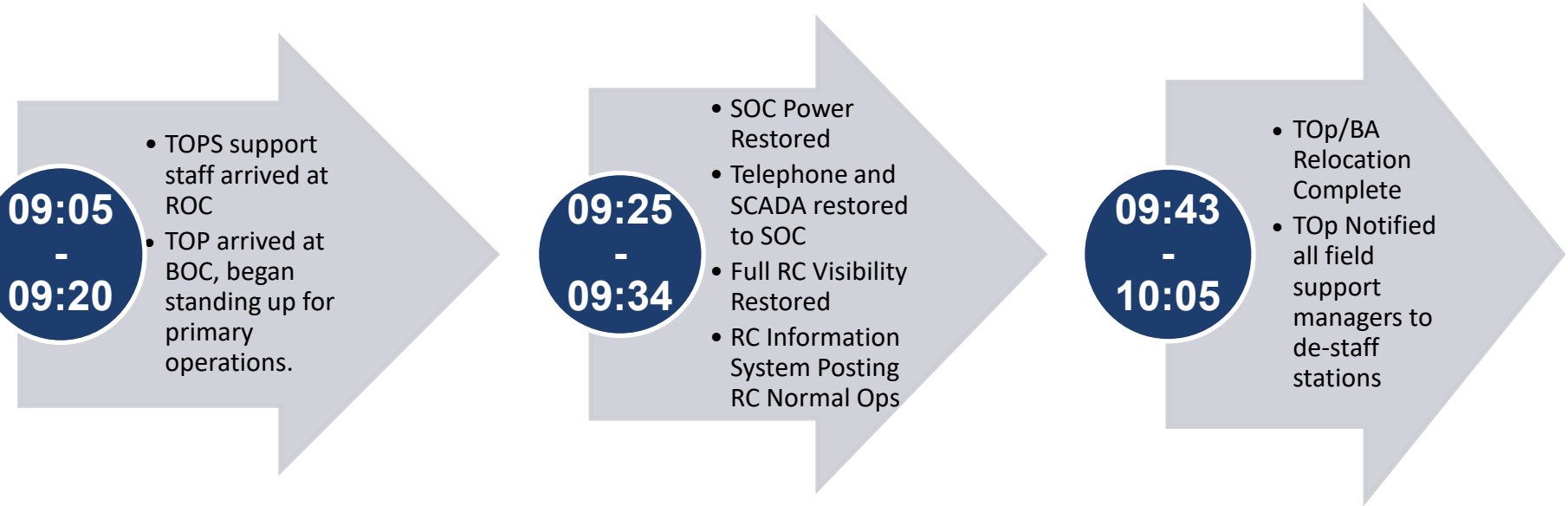
- **Friday** morning, 4/21/23 - During a routine battery replacement on the alarm function of the Server Room Emergency Power Off (EPO) device, the EPO device was inadvertently activated resulting in a complete loss of power to the Server Room and prevented the start of active backup electrical supply.

# Sequence of Events



All times CPT

# Sequence of Events



All times CPT

# Sequence of Events

**10:05**

**10:10**

- SOC Servers restored
- SOC made hot stand-by
- Noticed major lag in ROC side SCADA, and some control abilities lost.

**10:15**

**10:25**

- All Operators Report Laggy SCADA systems and locked screens
- Alarms Slowly Updating
- SOC EMS Servers taken back offline

**11:00**

**11:30**

- Various SCADA Actions
- Siemens Support contacted
- Investigated and proposed SCADA Cold Start to operations

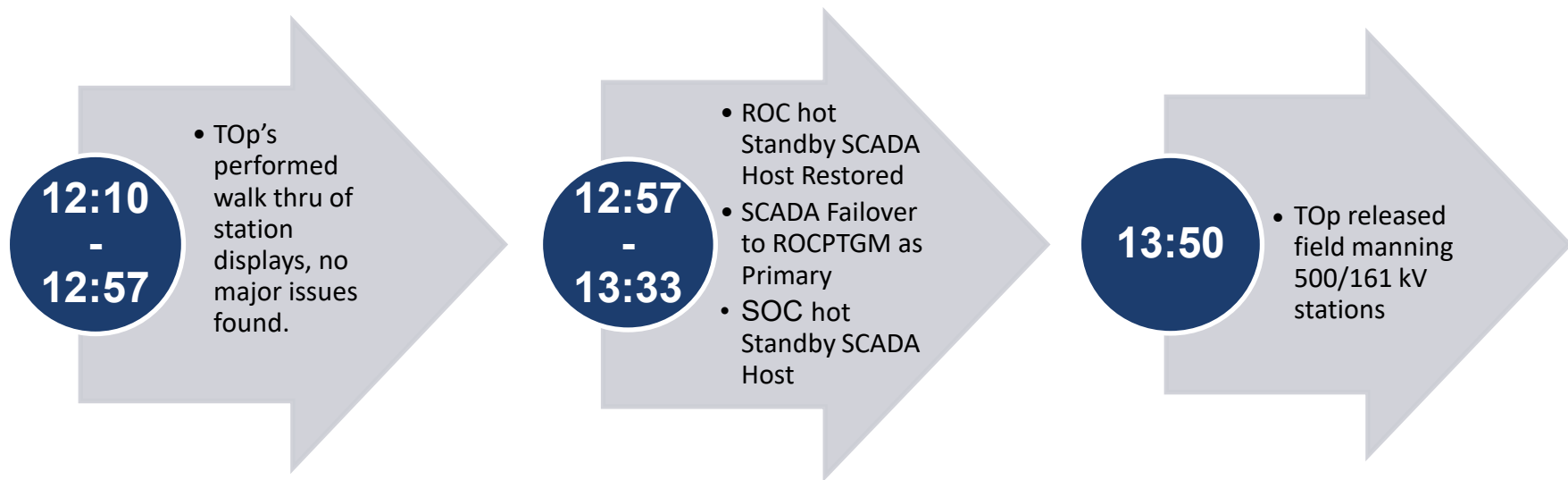
All times CPT

# Sequence of Events



All times CPT

# Sequence of Events



All times CPT



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# Questions and Considerations

- Is EPO switch cover alarming necessary, since it is not a requirement?
- Is the risk to operations fully understood by maintenance personnel when performing EPO switch maintenance?
- Do you have a solid Communication process in place for major events?
- Password Management, Hard copy locked box?
- Critical station list for manning and onsite monitoring?
- Emergency notification, stand down on all work.
- Black Start procedure for server and network infrastructure?

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## Questions and Considerations (Cont.)

- Any work being done in the Server room should be coordinated with supporting groups for awareness of possible risk
- Support staff should have a plan for which site to go to (especially if remote workforce)
- Consider staffing both the location with the problem and location that operators are relocating to
- Create culture of honesty and ownership
- Technician that accidentally hit button was quick to identify the cause of power outage, which saved critical time to root cause event and focus on restoration
- Learning Experience



TENNESSEE  
VALLEY  
AUTHORITY

# NERC

NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC  
RELIABILITY CORPORATION

# Vendor Discussion Panel

Dwayne Fewless, ReliabilityFirst  
11<sup>th</sup> Monitoring and Situational Awareness Technical Conference  
October 4, 2023

**RELIABILITY | RESILIENCE | SECURITY**



- Moderator
  - Dwayne Fewless, *ReliabilityFirst*
- Panelist:
  - Manu Parashar, *GE*
  - AJ Singh, *Hitachi Energy*
  - Xin Jiang, *OSI*
  - Jason Lindquist, *Siemens*

- What recommendations do you have for customers to build EMS Health Assessment?
  - Network connectivity
  - Data quality
  - Solution quality



- Insight on reducing the need for significant software changes, version adjustments, in line with the life cycle of their applications and the supporting third-party tools their applications rely upon.
- Any plan or road map to make upgrading in place easier?

- Transfer Capability Study is important to support energy transformation, grid reliability, and resilience. What recommendations do you have for customers to do transfer capability study?
  - Static
  - Dynamic
  - Performance

- With the increasing permeability of new energy and the rising demand response load, the uncertainty on the production and load sides are both increased, bringing new challenges to the forecasting work and putting forward higher requirements to the forecasting accuracy.
  - What advances are you doing in solar, wind, and load forecasting?
  - What recommendations do you have for customers to do such forecasting?

- Can you share the roadmap to support the cloud computing?
- With cloud computing, what are some of the cyber challenges discovered and how have they been addressed?
- What measures are taken to handle Cyber Security risks.

- How do you envision using AI in the contingency analysis and other advanced applications?
- What are the new developments considered for the next 5 years.



**Thank You and See you Next Year !**