system design & management

# Establishing a Systems Engineering Organization

MITsdm

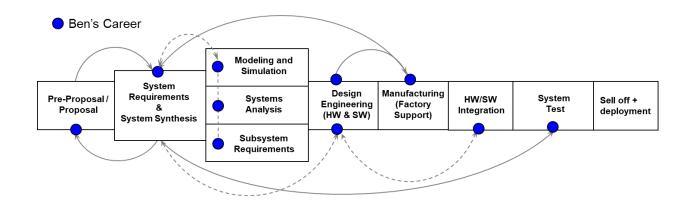
Ben Levitt
Technology Strategy Partners

# My background

# Raytheon







Medical Devices

Oil & Gas

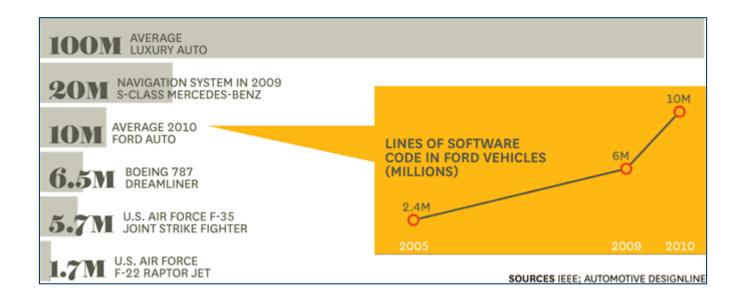
Capital Equipment

Aerospace



# The Challenge

New technologies, big data, and the demand for customization have made system integration increasingly difficult.





Source: https://www.techrepublic.com/article/self-driving-cars-won-the-week-at-ces-2016-with-ai-and-big-data-the-unsung-heroes/

### 1<sup>st</sup> iTunes Phone - Motorola ROKR (2005)





### **Amazing Idea, right?**

Steve Jobs calls Ed Zander to congratulate him on his new position as Motorola CEO – a jointventure is born.

Hold ups at Apple... ROKR launch rumored for January 2005. February, March, April... Apple hedges with the release of the iPod Nano, a super slim new iPod with more capacity.

Hybrid device combining two of the market's coolest products: Apple iPod and Motorola RAZR

ROKR is finally launched in September with Cingular, the biggest US Carrier.



January 2004 iPod and RAZR



Cingular launches the ROKR



September 2005 Apple iPod Nano

Source: Wired: Battle for the Soul of the MP3 Phone



### Misunderstood systems can lead to disaster

# Could not download songs using a cellular connection

- Apple enforced computer only syncing feared cannibalizing the iPod and a loss of digital music rights
- Decision created a strategy conflict with carriers whom benefit from high data traffic

### Painfully slow at loading songs from iTunes

Motorola-iTunes data interface management issue

### O: Slow Upload with rokr

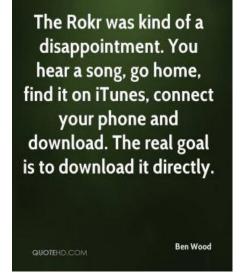
Has anyone experienced a slow update of songs onto your rokr?? This only started recently when I downloaded itunes 7. It is a bit better this morning with the 701 patch that apple released. However, it's still not a quick upload.

Before the patch, it took an hour to upload 5 songs. Also, it deleted all the songs on my phone. To make it worse, I finally got around to loading 60 songs on my phone coz I left it connected to itunes overnight for two nights in a row and then it started re-update again when I needed to leave the house leaving me with no other choice than to eject and now I have only 20 songs again.

Anyone else experiencing this??

Windows XP

Posted on Sep 28, 2006 6:45 AM









# Systems engineering organization must begin with a clear motivation and rationale

### Rationales for SE Investment

### Past failed projects

Automotive accidents, aerospace disasters, and exploding mobile devices

### Integration of new tech

Rolling out new sensors, drilling tech faster, and adopting software platforms

### **Risk mitigation**

Means to uncover costly defects earlier in project

### Manage more configurations

Increased complexity of delivering more, customized product configurations

#### **SE Investment Areas**

Corporate strategy

Architectures that meet corporate goals

Roles and organization that sets up a creative tension

**Empowered SE leadership** 

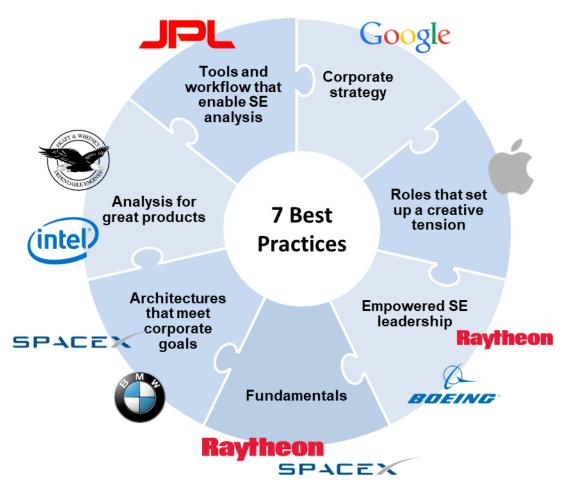
**Fundamentals** 

**Analysis for great products** 

Tools and workflow that enable strong SE analysis



# **Systems Engineering Benchmarks**





Google Corporate Vision: https://www.google.com/about/our-company/ SpaceX: John Muratore - System Engineering: A Traditional Discipline in a Non-traditional

BMW: Eric Rebentisch - Integrating Program Management and Systems Engineering Apple: Jony Ive: The Genius Behind Apple's Greatest Products JPL: Model-based Systems Engineering – JPL MBSE 101

Intel, P&W - Eppinger - Design Structure Matrix Methods and Applications



### Capabilities and behaviors of great SE firms

#### **Empowered SE Leadership**

- · Technology planning with other functions
- · SE integrated with project management
- · Interfaces to other corporate functions
- · Stage gate leadership

#### **Fundamentals**

- · Comprehensive needs analysis
- Requirement, validation and verification processes
- · Focus on emergent properties
- Configuration management

### Architectures that meet corporate goals

- · Architectural decisions clearly articulated
- · Deliverables of the architect
- Product updates on consistent architecture
- · Prioritize functional analysis

### Roles and organization that sets up a creative tension

- The right SE roles
- Org structure and balance of power
- · Building an SE talent base
- Intervention process and talent

#### Results:

More upside
New products & features

Reduced downside

Fewer defects & test failures

#### **Analysis for Great Products**

- Concepting and innovation is a source of competitive advantage
- · Identification and management of trades
- · Methods and systems modeling

#### Corporate strategy

- SE enables corporate strategy objectives
- Financial decisions supported by SE
- Competitive benchmarking

#### **Systems Behaviors**

- Ability to see the big picture and enable system-wide connections
- Comfort with uncertainty and unknowns
- Management buy-in and "walk the talk"

### Tools and Workflow that enable strong SE analysis

- · SE development through data and analysis
- · Model based system engineering (MBSE)
- · Prototyping and modeling culture









# Architectures that meet corporate goals



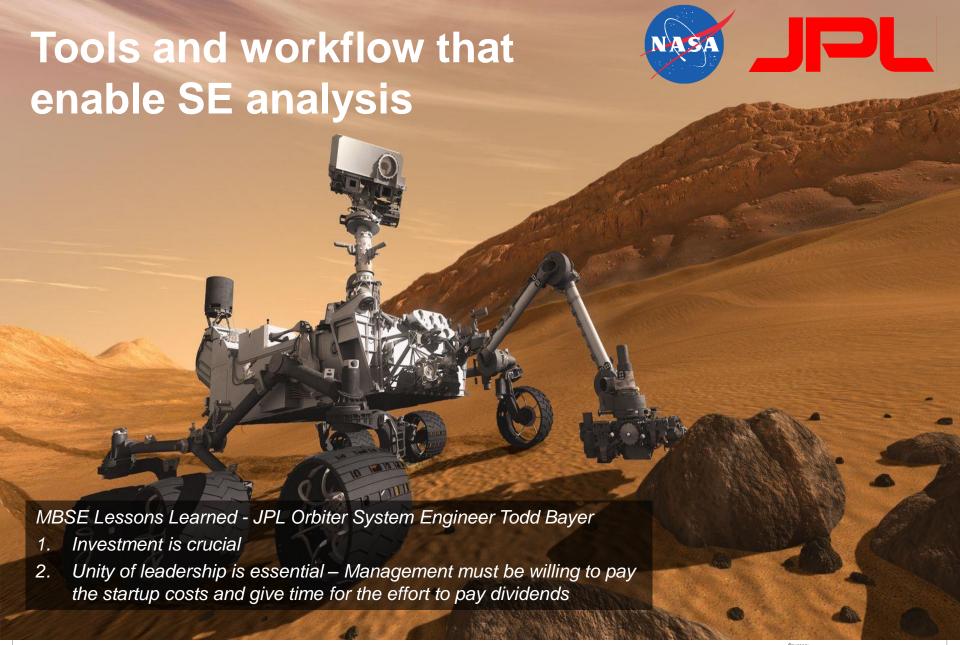
Following

It's starting to feel kinda normal to reuse rockets. Good. That's how it is for cars & airplanes and how it should be for rockets.

9:49 PM - 3 Jun 2017



John Muratore - System Engineering: A Traditional Discipline in a Non-traditional Organ "Elon Musk — Senate Testimony". SpaceX. May 5, 2004.





Model-based Systems Engineering – JPL MBSE 101
Modeling Practices at Raytheon, 2013 INCOSE MBSE Workshop

# Delivering systems engineering balances control and organization structure

High Systems Engineering Control



# Systems Project Managers

Leaders work like project managers to convey system methodologies.



#### **Command and Control**

Systems engineering leads are empowered with resources and control



### **Service Organization**

Innovation labs exist outside of business units - often termed 'skunkworks'



### **Systems Expert Group**

Centralized team of subject matter experts that are loaned out to programs

**Decentralized** 

**Centralized** 



Low

**Systems** 

Control

**Engineering** 

Sources:
Shell: Boston Globe – Shell Hits Pay Dirt Cambridge, 2014/06/15
Apple: jobs.apple.com - System Engineering Project Manager
Raytheon: Technology Today, Career Growth Through the Engineering "V", Tgavalekos, 2017
GE: http://parmore.com/general-electric-ge-organizational-structure-diversification-analysis

## An organization's structure and culture should guide its systems engineering actions

Key Capabilities	Delivery Method	Organization Action
Fundamentals Empowered SE leadership	Command and Control	Create a directorate and a power structure that empowers SE leadership
Analysis for great products Roles that set up a creative tension	Systems Project Managers	Convey systems methodologies via project managers
Architectures that meet corporate goals	Systems Expert Group	Form an organization of experienced system architects who are available to assist the profit and loss programs
Tools and workflow that enable SE analysis	Service Organization	Build an innovation lab outside of business units or Buy a 'skunkworks'
Systems organization that fuels corporate strategic objectives	Essential for all delivery methods	Ensure leadership drives systems to impact strategic objectives



## Next steps: Expanding systems engineering to new industries





















# Reading material and areas of further study

