



# System-of-Systems, a new way to see systems

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IRT SystemX - SoS seminar, 12 January 2016  
Technical Directorate, System Domain

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# Who am I?

## 30+ years of experience:

- 5 years in the "NTIC" : Networks, telecoms, compilers and language theory, simulation.

## 20 years in development of systems:

- Radar : signal processing, data processing and hardware architecture
- Integrated Modular Avionics (ARINC, ASAAC)
- Electronic Warfare: architecture and Domain Design Authority
- Systems of Systems, Net-Centric Operation and Network-Centric Warfare: Architecture and Principles

## Current position:

- Responsible for Systems Engineering and Architecture in the Thales Corporate Technical Directorate.
- Coauthor of the Thales Systems Engineering Methodology (Sys-EM)
- AFIS Technical Director and INCOSE CAB representative
- Convener on standardization works: ISO, AFNOR, EDA, NATO
- Coach and Trainer for Architecture and Operational Concepts (Thales and externally)

# Thales Global Presence

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Employees

**61,000**



Global presence

**56** countries



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# Thales Businesses



AEROSPACE



SPACE



GROUND  
TRANSPORTATION



DEFENCE



SECURITY

**EACH OF THE MARKETS  
THALES SERVES  
PLAYS A VITAL ROLE  
IN SOCIETY.**



**13** billion euros



**Self-funded R&D**

**675** million euros

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## Aims of the presentation

- **Why to care about Systems of Systems (SoS), even if working on “simple” products or systems.**
- **The added value of the SoS approach**
- **The SoS pain points and challenges (opportunities for research!)**

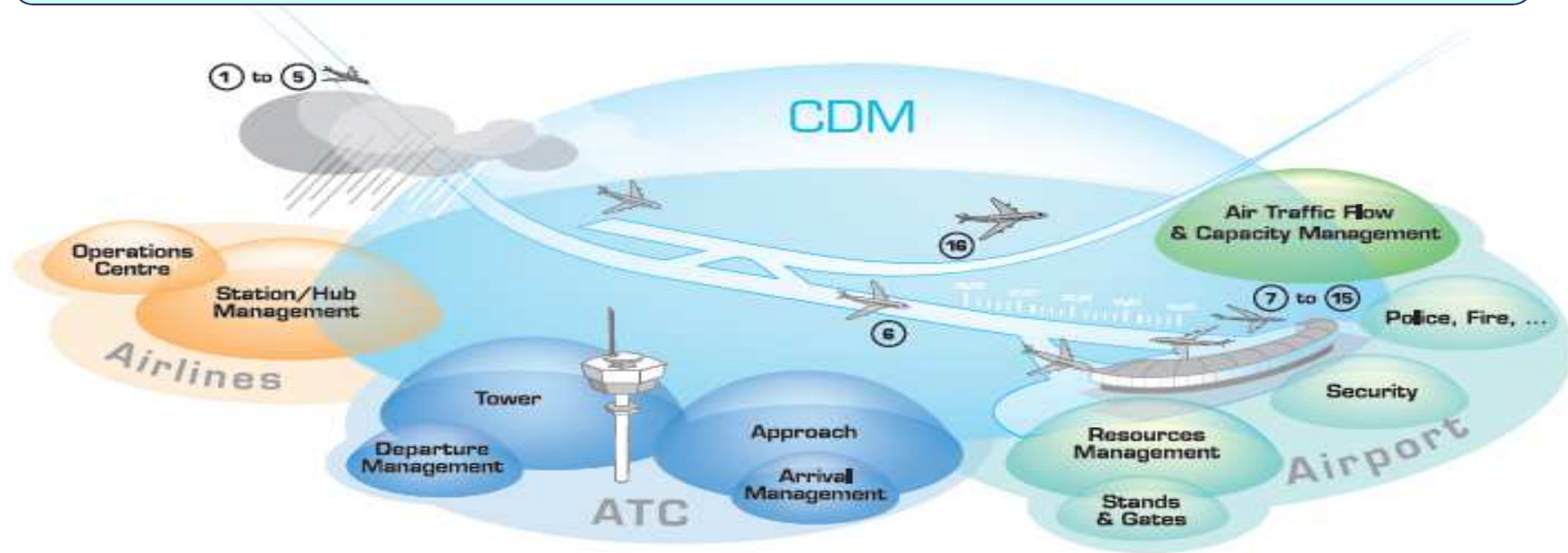
## Agenda (45')

- “Well-known” examples of large Systems of Systems
- Definitions: Product, System, System of Systems, Solution
- Characteristics and classifications of SoS
- Systems Engineering principles for SoS
- Focus of modelling and Architecture Frameworks
- SoS approach for products and systems
- Pain points and challenges regarding SoS
- Conclusion



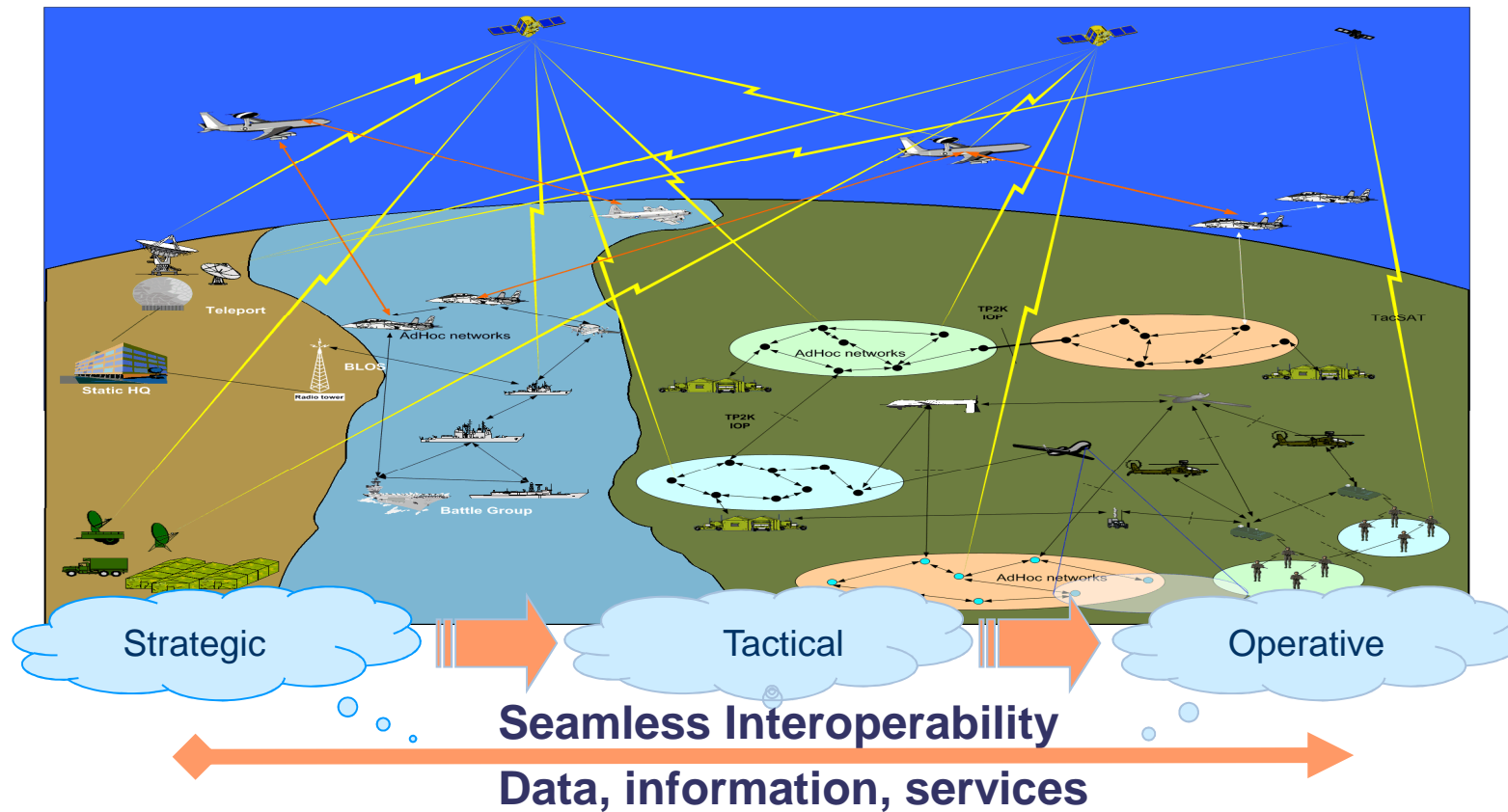
## An example with Air Operations (Source: SESAR)

Make several systems working together and get synergy towards common objectives: end-to-end services, traffic, energy, time, etc.



**Implementation of SoS is already started [more or less known as such]**

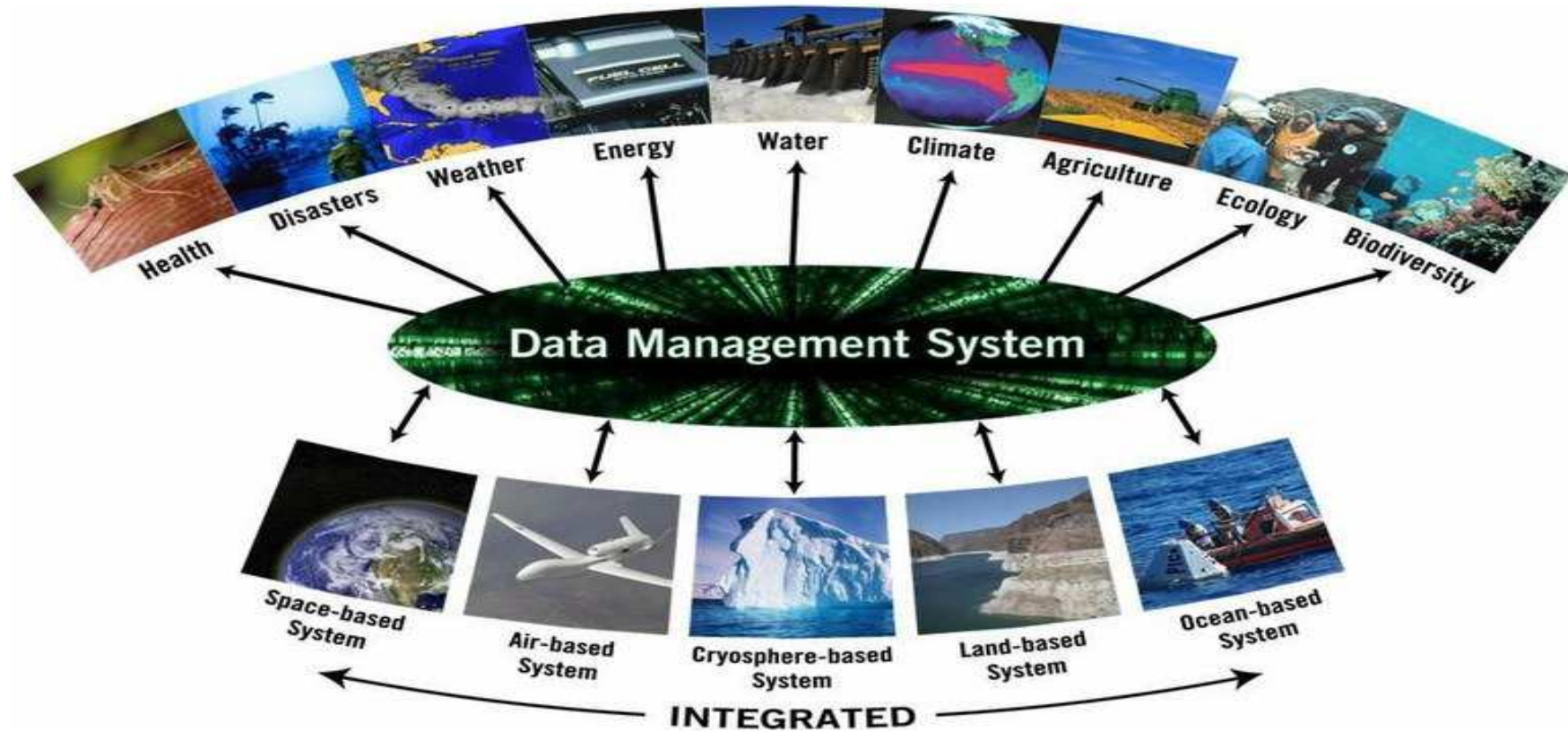
## Military operation (Source: US-DoD)



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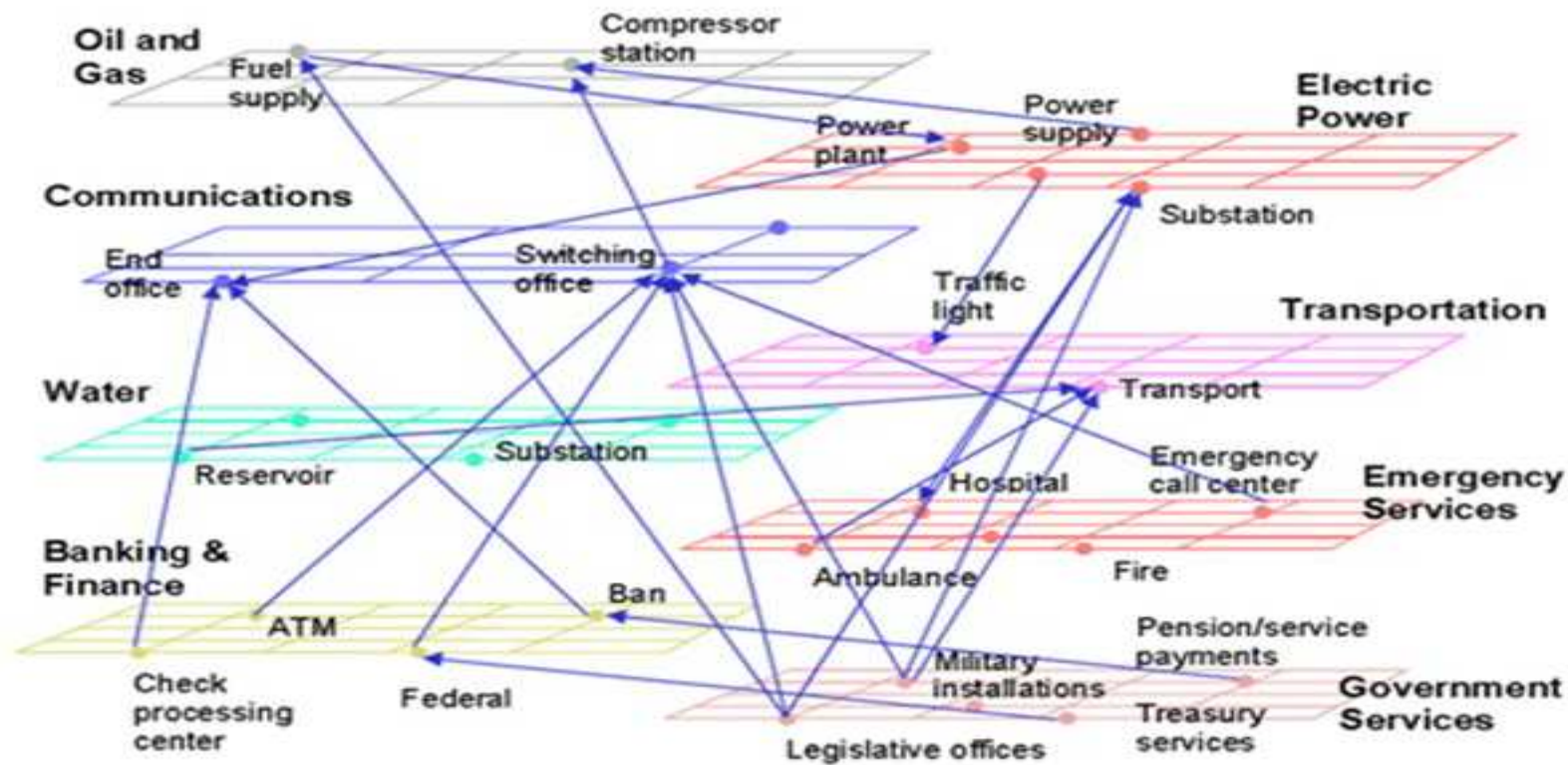


## Global Earth Observation (Source: ESA)



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# Interdependence between Domains in Societal SoS (Source: T-AREA-SoS)



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# Definitions

## Product:

- Result of a process. [Source: ISO/IEC 15939:2007]
- A Product is intended to be **sold**, directly or indirectly (internal product) to customers for satisfying their expectations and meeting their operational requirements. A Product can be a hardware or software equipment or a service or a system or a generic solution. [Source: Thales]

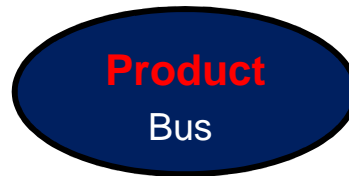
## System:

- Combination of interacting elements organized to achieve one or more stated purposes.  
An integrated set of elements, subsystems, or assemblies that accomplish a defined objective. These elements include products (hardware, software, firmware), processes, **people**, information, techniques, facilities, services, and other support elements. [Source: INCOSE ]

## Solution scope:

- The solution covers not only the development of the operational system but also **the enabling products**: system for designing, producing, installing the operational system (e.g., test resources), support system (system supporting the operational system, e.g., training, distribution and repair network). [Source: Thales]

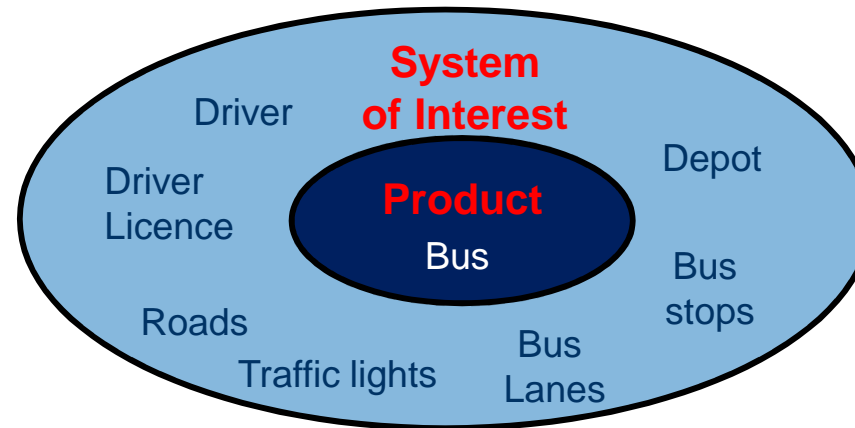
# Solutions-Systems-Products



In this example, we develop and sell buses.

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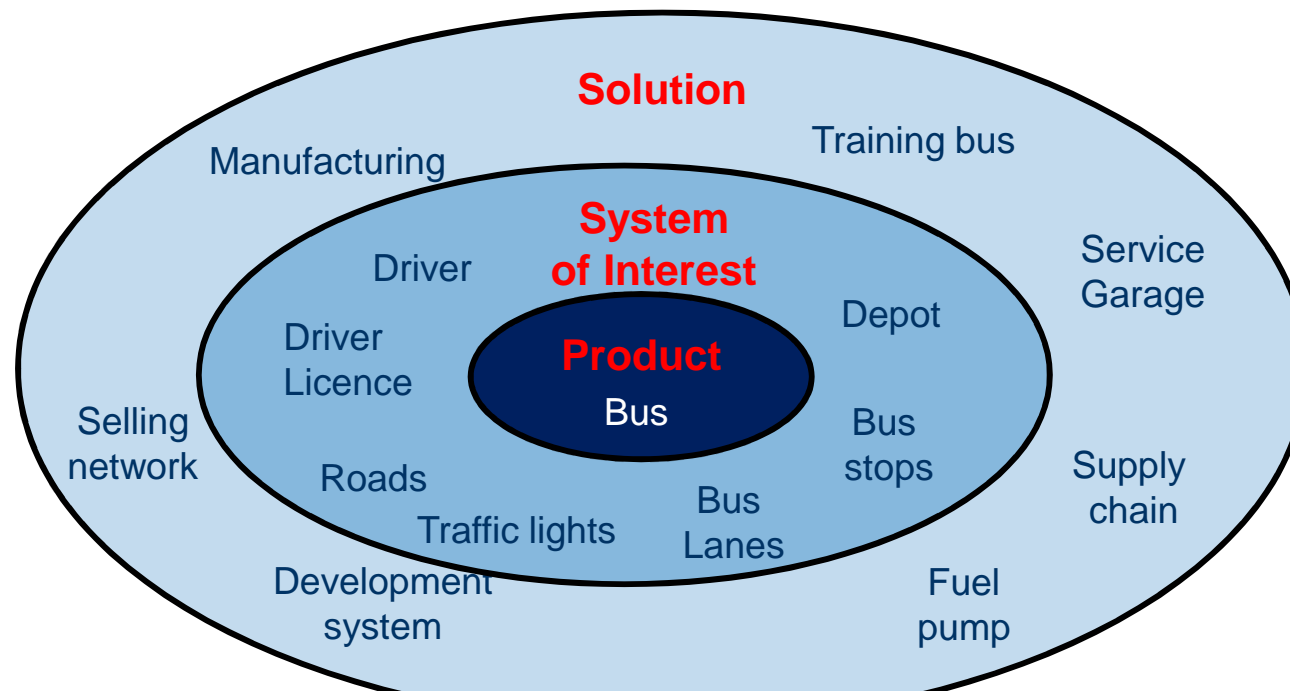
# Solutions-Systems-Products



Any element necessary to understand the product in its environment, over its life cycle (Systemic Approach).

Note: The Operators (Driver(s)) are part of the system

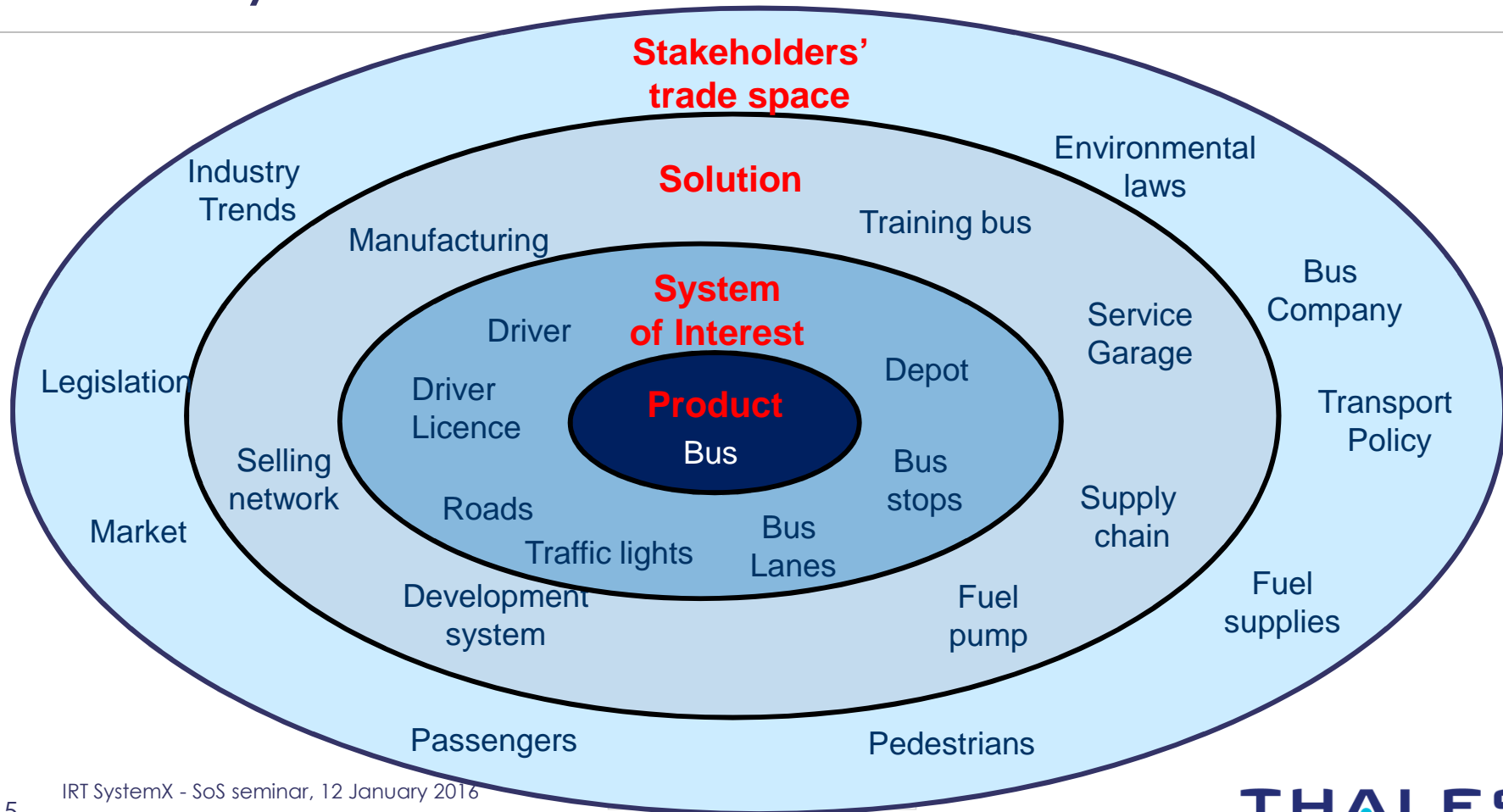
# Solutions-Systems-Products



Any enabling system sustaining the system of interest over its life cycle: development system, delivery system, maintenance system, etc.

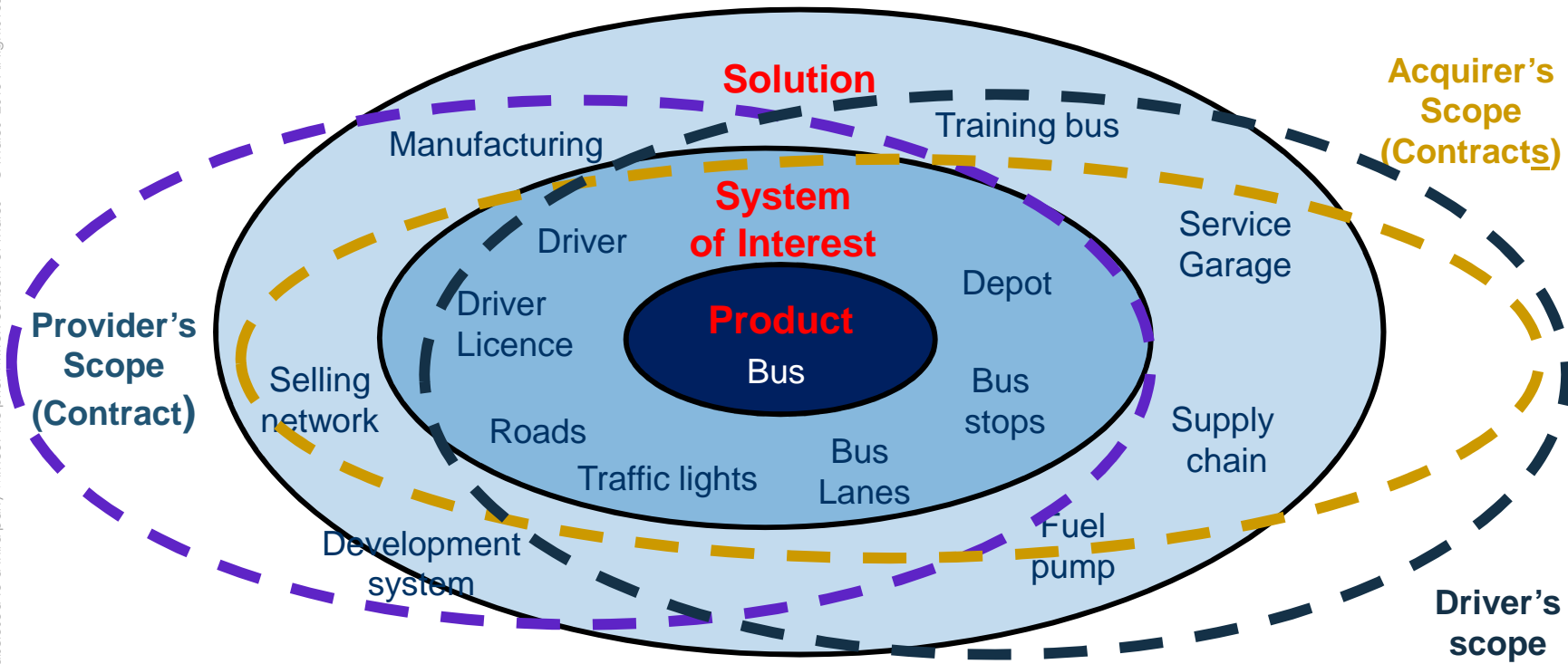


# Solutions-Systems-Products



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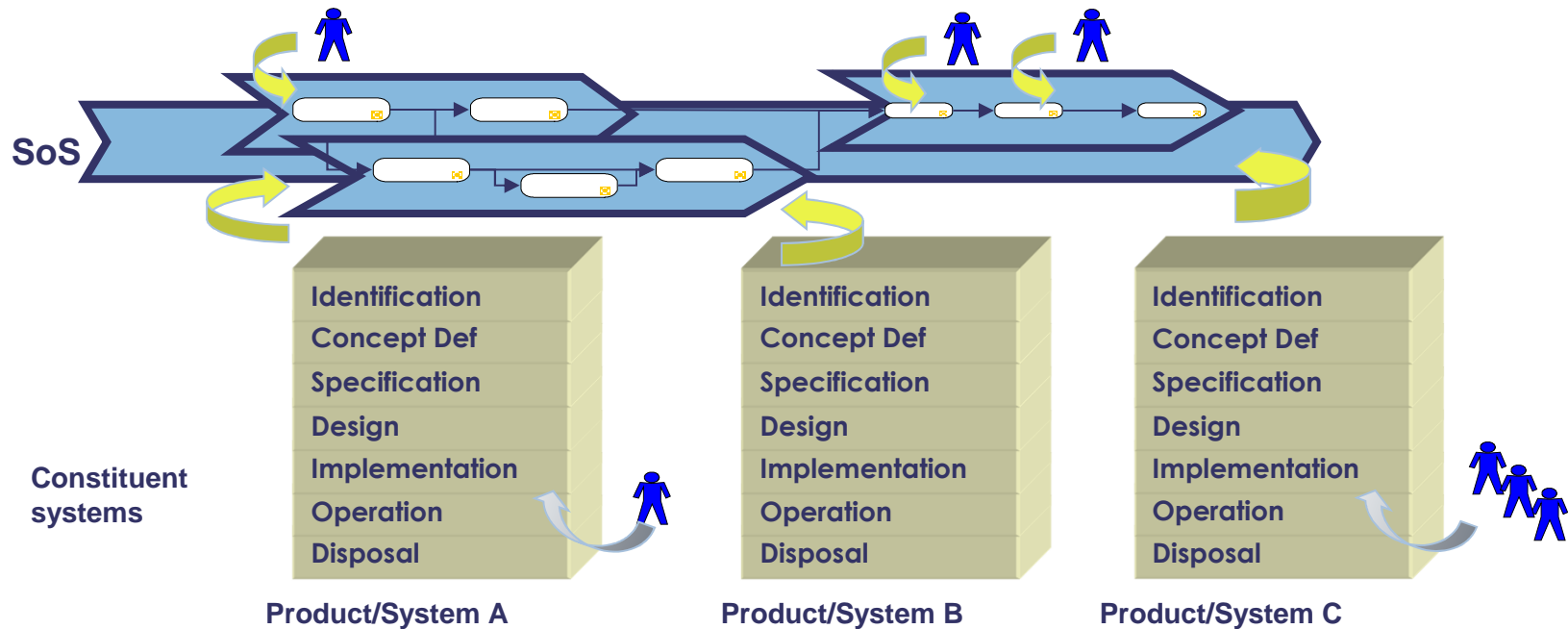
## Be careful about the different scopes of solution



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# What is a System of Systems?

- SoS is defined as an arrangement of systems that results when independent and useful systems are integrated into a larger system that delivers unique capabilities (Defense Acquisition Guide).



Note: Any of the constituent systems could be an SoS

## Some agreed bases... but far from being formal

Need for research!

### MAIER's criteria

- Operational independence of the component systems
- Managerial independence of the component systems
- Evolutionary development
- Emergent behavior
- Geographic distribution (*no shared resource*)

### Considering criteria dependencies

- Evolutionary development is a consequence of integration of independent component systems
- Emergent behavior is a consequence of operation of independent component systems
- Resource segregation is required for independent systems

### Pain points are:

- Operational independence → interoperability
- Managerial independence → Project management and Systems Engineering

## Some agreed bases... but far from being formal

Need for research!

### ➤ MAIER's criteria

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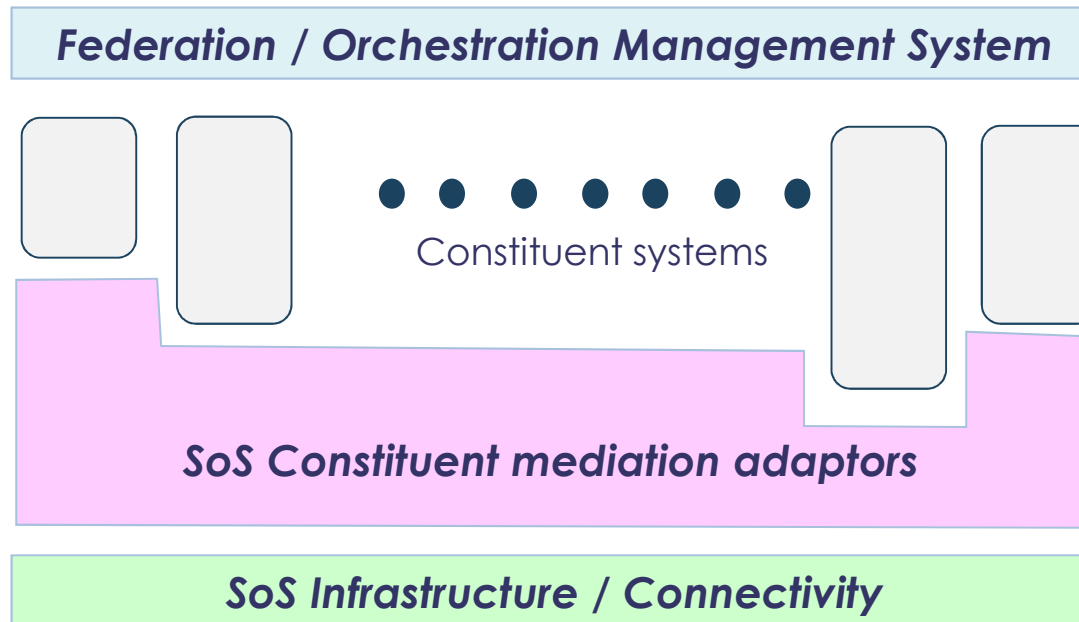
### In reality: never totally satisfied

### ➤ John Boardman & Brian Sauser “System of Systems – *the meaning of*”

- |                             |    |                  |
|-----------------------------|----|------------------|
| ❖ Autonomy (independence)   | vs | Belonging to SoS |
| ❖ Geographical distribution | VS | Connectivity     |
| ❖ Diversity & Emergence     | VS | SoS objectives   |

### Compromise have to be got

# SoS-Specific developments



E.g. See NATO NC3 taxonomy and NISP (unclassified) and NCOIC

## Major problems

- **Doctrines**

- **Semantic**

- **Protocols**

- **Interfaces**

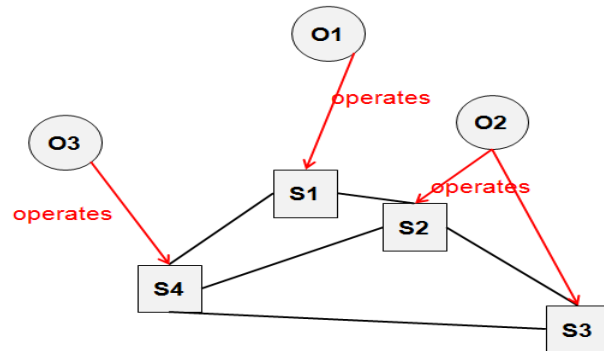
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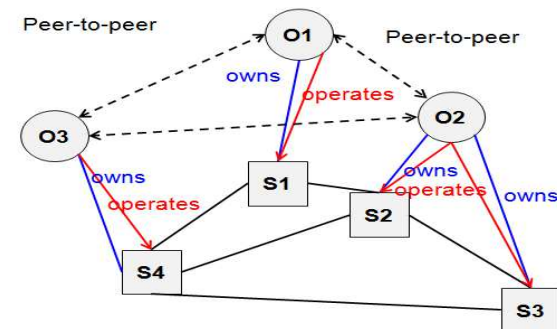
# One of the proposed classifications

Based on Dahmann & Baldwin, 2008

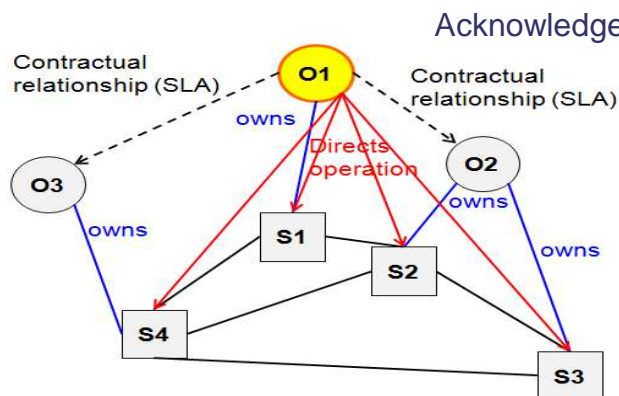
**T-AREA-SoS**



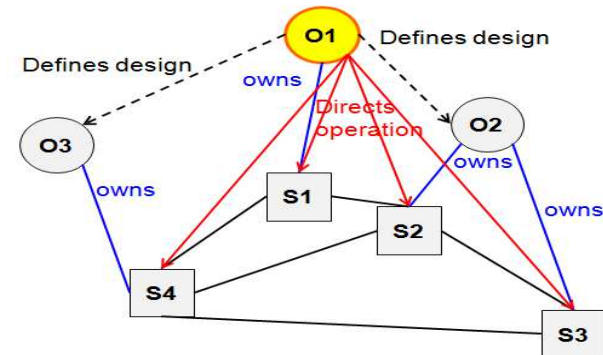
Virtual SoS



Collaborative SoS

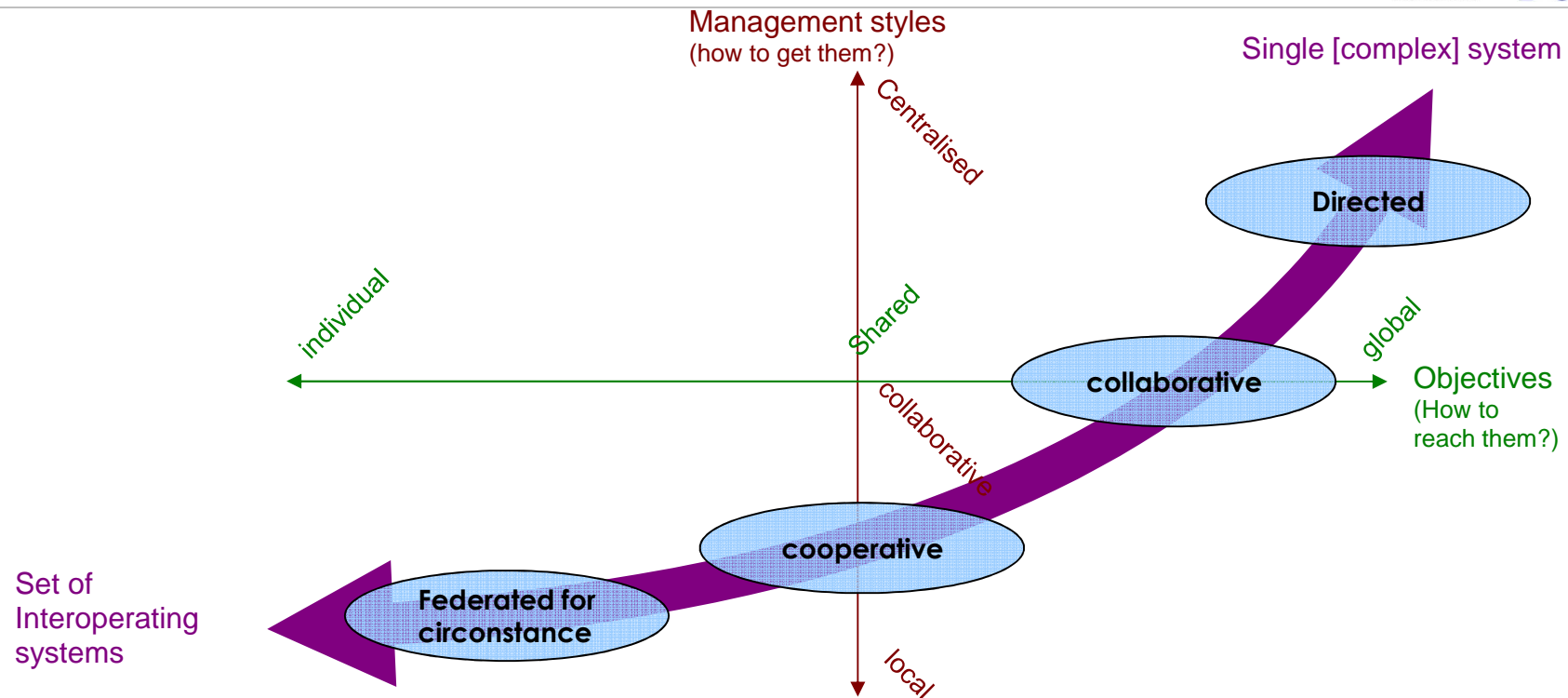


Acknowledged SoS



Directed SoS

# Another Classification from the French MOD



Various types of SoS have to be considered

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# SoS Engineering Key Concepts

	Traditional Systems Engineering	System-of-Systems Engineering
<b>Purpose</b>	Development of single system to meet stakeholder requirements and <b>defined performance</b>	Evolving new system-of-systems <b>capability</b> by leveraging synergies of legacy systems
<b>System Architecture</b>	System architecture established early in lifecycle and remains relatively <b>stable</b>	Dynamic reconfiguration of architecture as needs change; use of <b>service</b> oriented architecture approach as enabler
<b>System Interoperability</b>	Defines and implements <b>specific interface requirements</b> to integrate components in system	Component systems can operate independently of SoS in a useful manner. <b>Protocols and Standards</b> essential to enable interoperable systems
<b>System "ilities"</b>	Reliability, Maintainability, Availability are typical ilities	Added "ilities" such as <b>Flexibility, Adaptability, Composability</b>
<b>Acquisition and Management</b>	Centralized acquisition and management of the system	Component systems separately acquired and continue to be managed as <b>independent systems</b>
<b>Anticipation of Needs</b>	Concept phase activity to determine system needs.	Intense concept phase analysis followed by <b>continuous anticipation</b> , aided by ongoing experimentation

Saunders, T. *et al*, "United States Air Force Scientific Advisory Board Report on System-of-Systems Engineering for Air Force Capability Development," SAB-TR-05-04, July 2005

With "Agile" approach, Systems Engineering will move towards SoS Engineering!

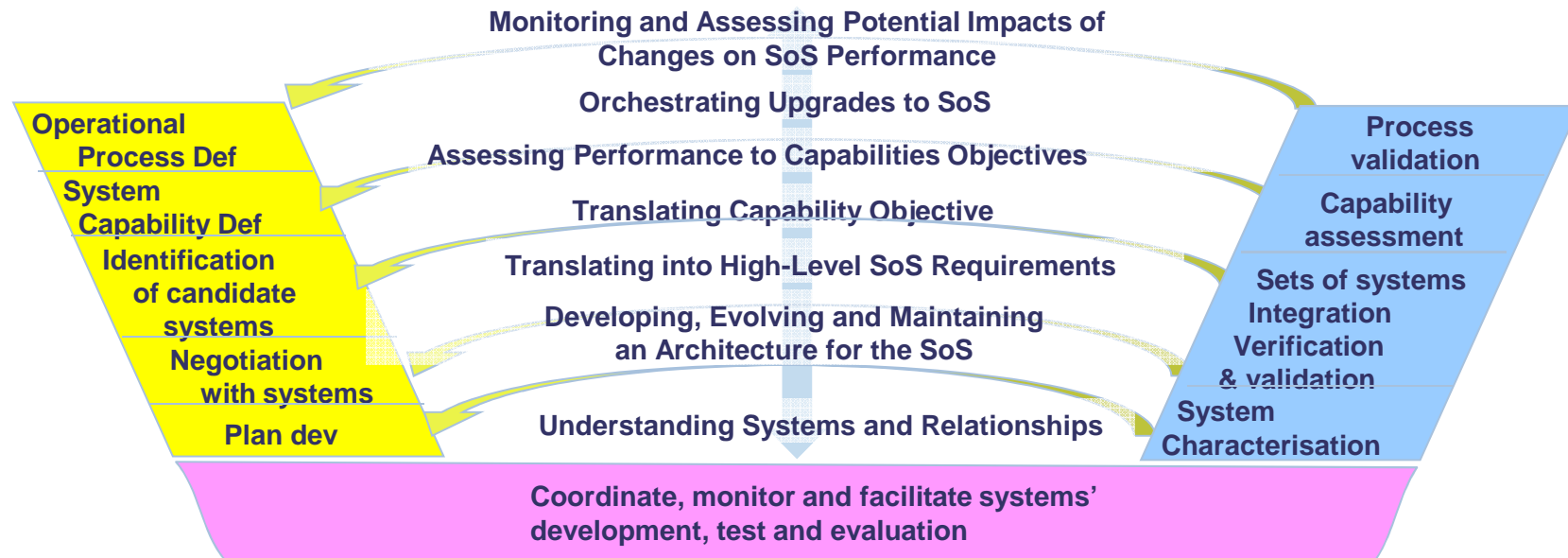
# SoS System Engineering Steps and cycles

Systems Engineering Guide for Systems of Systems, Version 1.0, August 2008



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# Strong need for evolution of the S.E. standards to deal with SoS



## Main Systems Engineering reference documents:

- ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 Systems and software engineering — System life cycle processes
- ISO/IEC/IEEE 15289 Systems and software engineering — Content of life-cycle information products
- ISO/IEC 24748 Systems and software engineering — Life cycle management
- INCOSE Systems Engineering Handbook

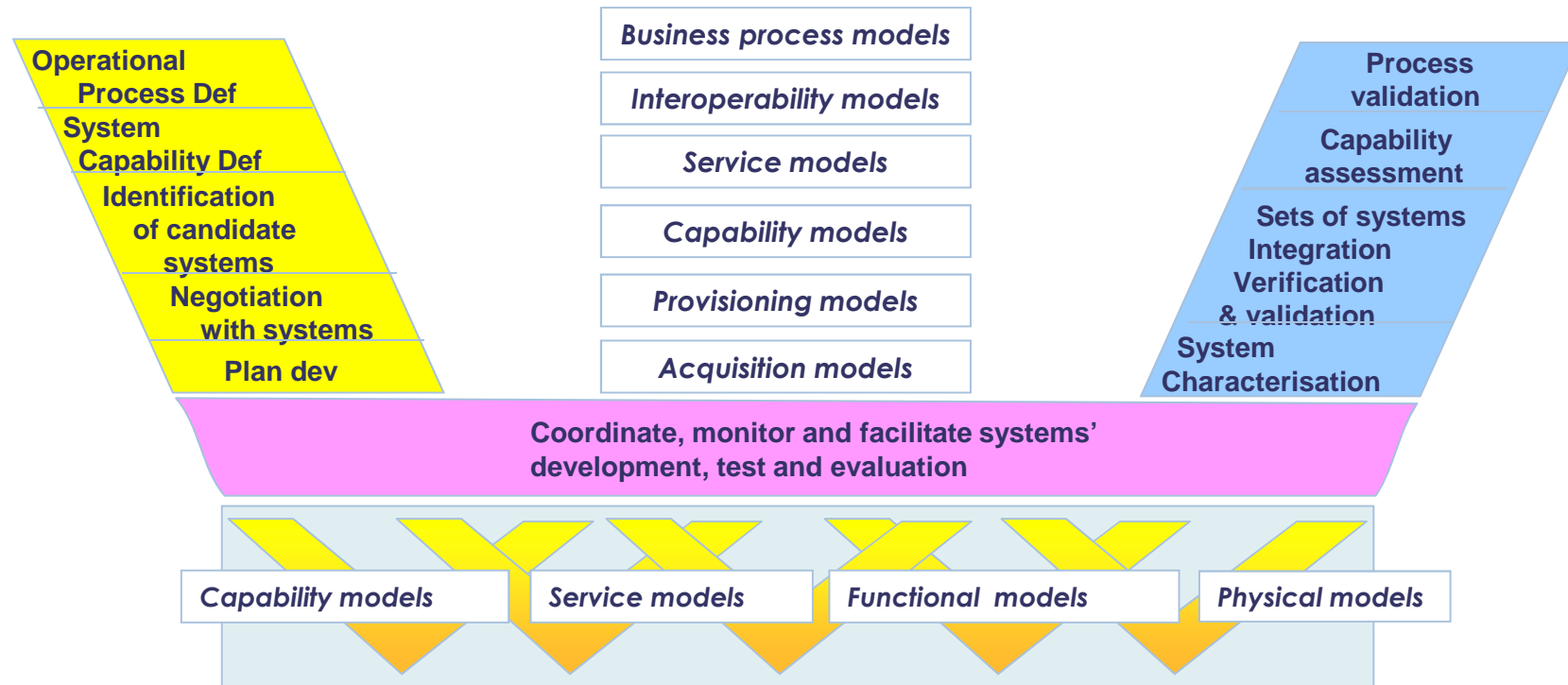
A handbook is available in the Thales Reference System to provide guidance on SoS

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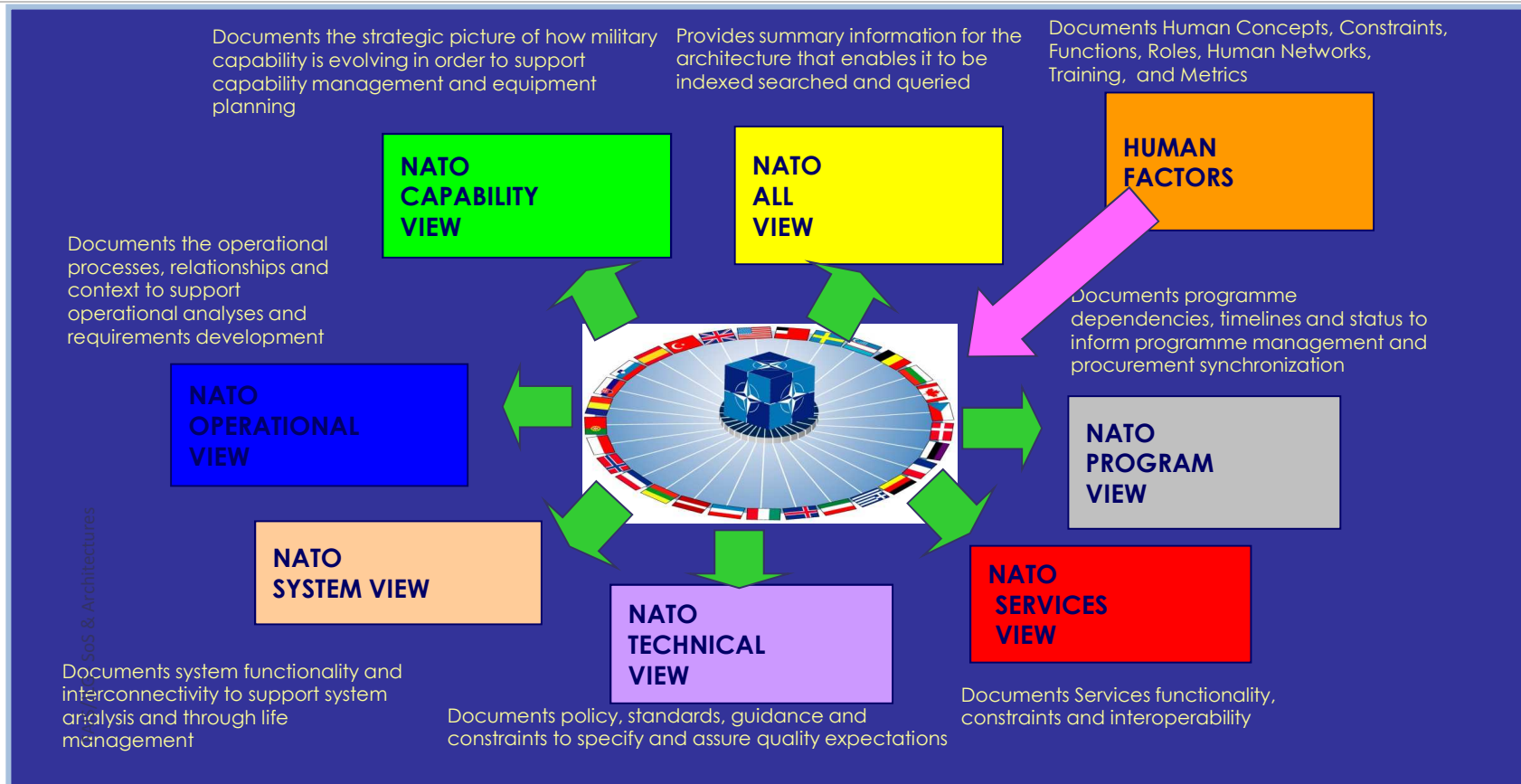
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# Main models to be considered for SoS



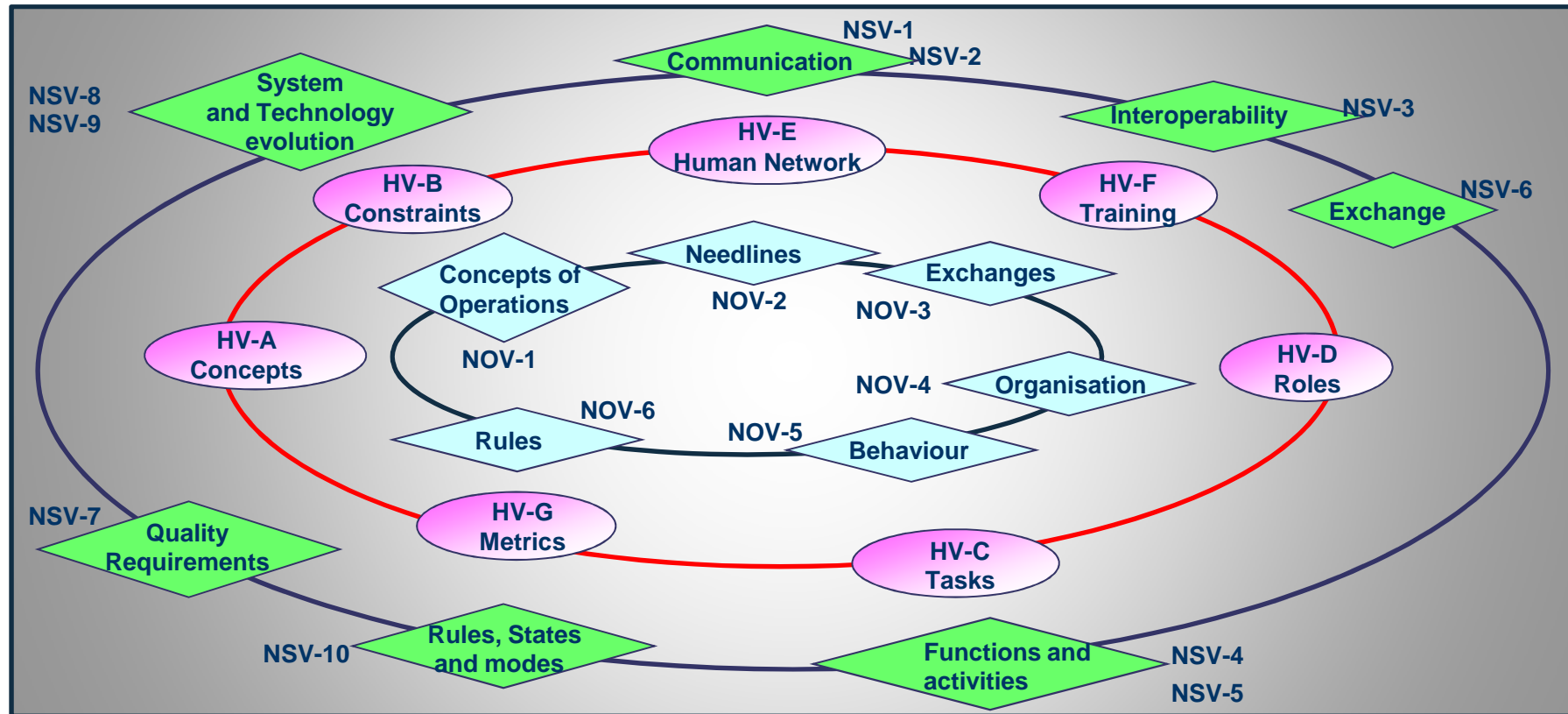


# Architecture Frameworks: NATO example



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# Human views: Adaptation of UK-MOD and NATO works



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## Back to systems and products

Let's consider this



And also this



Or this

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# SoS criteria apply to products (systems)



## Do you think the provider master the life cycle of the components?

- Operating systems Windows, Linux, Android, etc)
- Devices (disk drive, hardware pug-ins, etc).

Call this “managerial independence”

## Do you think we master the life cycle of the applicative components?

- Office tools
- On-board and off-boards apps.

Call this “Operational independence”

## SoS approach is a way to better understand problems in products and systems:

- Emergent behavior
- Evolutionary development
- Dependability (segregation resources and functions)

**Maier's criteria also work for products!**

## SoS approach is a way to better understand multi-systemic composition



Each of the major product parts can be studied with a systemic approach.

I.e Combination of interacting elements organized to achieve one or more stated purposes. An integrated set of elements, subsystems, or assemblies that accomplish a defined objective. These elements include products (hardware, software, firmware), processes, people, information, techniques, facilities, services, and other support elements [see INCOSE definition]

## SoS approach is a way to better understand multi-systemic composition



### Product parts can be studied with a systemic approach:

- Driving system
- Energy system
- Propulsion system
- Breaking system
- Navigation system
- Multi-media system
- Etc.

### SoS criteria allow refining the operational analysis, WBS, OBS & PBS.



## SoS approach is a way to better understand multi-systemic composition



**Example 1: after Jeep hack, Chrysler recalls 1.4 M vehicles for bug fix.**

**Example 2: In a car, battery is a single point of failure: breakdown consequence? Why not having two?**

### Product parts can be studied with a systemic approach:

- Driving system
- Energy system
- Propulsion system
- Breaking system
- Navigation system
- Multi-media system
- Etc.

### SoS criteria allow refining the operational analysis, WBS, OBS & PBS.

### SoS approach could be a way to secure the development and operations:

I.e. to prevent emerging problem, dependability, etc.

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## SoS approach is a way to better understand the PLM challenges

	System 1	System 2	System 3	System 4	System ..
Product A	Usage / System Life- cycle				
Product B	Period 1		Period 4	Period 4	Period 1
Product C			Usage / component life-cycle	Usage / component life-cycle	
Product D	Period 1	Usage / system life-cycle			
Product E	Period 2				Period 2
Product ..					

**Life-cycles of the systems are transverse to the life-cycles of the reused products.  
N-P complexity problem.**

# Main challenges identifies for SoS development

(Source: Thales)

## Challenges

- 1- Contracting of SoS dynamically defined
- 2- Multi-layer agile Systems Engineering and agile SoS breakdown
- 3- Dynamic loose coupling and (re)configuration of constituent systems
- 4- Flexible paradigms for interaction (mix of services, artefacts, events and streams)
- 5- Behaviour (multi-level consistent scheduling + non-functional properties)
- 6- Multi-level life cycles management
- 7- Engineering process to meet both bottom-up; top-down; dynamic system insertion/removal; legacy alignment
- 8- Run-time Management, Integrated logistic support and training on SoS or system built dynamically
- 9- Modelling and simulation to estimate feasibility, forecast behaviour and provide a reference for management

## 4 main European support actions on SoS

<https://www.tareasos.eu/>

### **T-Area-SoS:**

- Towards a SoS roadmap
- Supply-side driven
- Top-Down approach
- Systems Engineering
- US-EU

<http://www.road2sos-project.eu>

### **Road2SoS:**

- Towards a SoS roadmap
- Sector/demand-side driven
- Bottom-up approach
- Consulting industry experts
- Use cases: Energy, Manufacturing, Crisis Management, Traffic Control

### **Danse:**

- Designing for adaptability and evolution in SoS Engineering
- SoS engineering approaches
- Use cases: Air Traffic Management; Autonomous Ground Transportation; Water Treatment and Supply

### **Compass**

- Comprehensive Modelling for Advanced Systems of Systems
- Model-Based tools
- Use cases: Emergency Response; Audio/Video/Home; Automation Ecosystem; Integrated Modular Avionics.

<http://www.danse-ip.eu/home/>

<http://www.compass-research.eu/>

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# Conclusion

## Systems of Systems

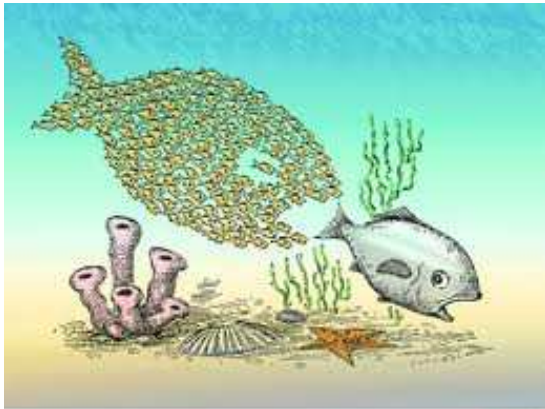
- Literature gives the main principles about Systems Engineering of SoS
- Systems of Systems are now characterised
- Architecture Frameworks strongly help for SoS Systems Engineering
- Major pain points remain about SoS

## SoS approach is also valid for product development

- Systems using products might be engineered with an SoS approach
- Systems Engineering will move towards the SoS approach → Agile SE and SE with multiple Life cycle management.

## Many research opportunities exist...

- But, need focus on the right problems



If you are interested in Systems Engineering of SoS:

- INCOSE SoS Working Group
- ISO JTC1/SC7 SoS Study Group
- AFIS “3S-AI” Technical Committee
- IEEE SoSE 2016 conference, 12-16 June, Kongsberg, Norway (<http://www.sose2016.org/organization.html>)