

Key Technology: Data-Driven Software- Hardware Co-Design

**Beyond the Engine: Unleashing the
Potential of Automotive Software**

Dr. Jost Bernasch, CEO Virtual Vehicle

7. November 2024



Delays in vehicle projects ... a frequent topic

AUTOMOTIVE

General Motors facing delays, software glitches in early days of EV transition

By [Dave Kunz](#)

Home / Today's Market


Rivian Delays Vehicle Deliveries Due to Software Issues

Rivian also has two key events coming up

By [Eddie Pan](#), InvestorPlace Financial News Writer Feb 9, 2024, 11:13 am EDT

- **Rivian (RIVN)** has paused deliveries in Canada, according to *L Canada*.
- The company confirmed that the pause was enacted in order to fix issue.
- RIVN stock is down by over 20% this year.

7 A.I. Stocks With "Millionaire Maker" Potential in 2024



Source: <https://investorplace.com/2024/02/rivian-delays-vehicle-deliveries-due-to-software-issues-rivn-stock/>

Automotive News Europe
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July 20, 2023 03:22 PM

Volvo EX90 launch delayed over software integration

Production of Volvo's flagship electric crossover is pushed 'five or six months.'


By [URVAKSH KARKARIA](#)



Apple's EV project canceled after billions of dollars over a decade

The vehicle effort, internally nicknamed Project Titan, was marred by layoffs, strategic changes, and repeated delays

By [William Gavin](#) Published February 27, 2024



Source: <https://qz.com/apple-ev-electric-car-project-titan-canceled-1851291112>

Transportation

Layoffs at VW's Cariad further delay software launch in Porsche, Audi models

By [Rebecca Bellan](#) / 4:12 PM PDT • October 30, 2023



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February 08, 2024 12:03 AM

Why creating software-defined vehicles is 'costly, painful and intense'

Automakers are struggling to create a 'smartphone on wheels' because it requires a complete rethink of vehicle development, new supplier relationships and an overhaul of corporate culture.

By [NICK GIBBS](#)

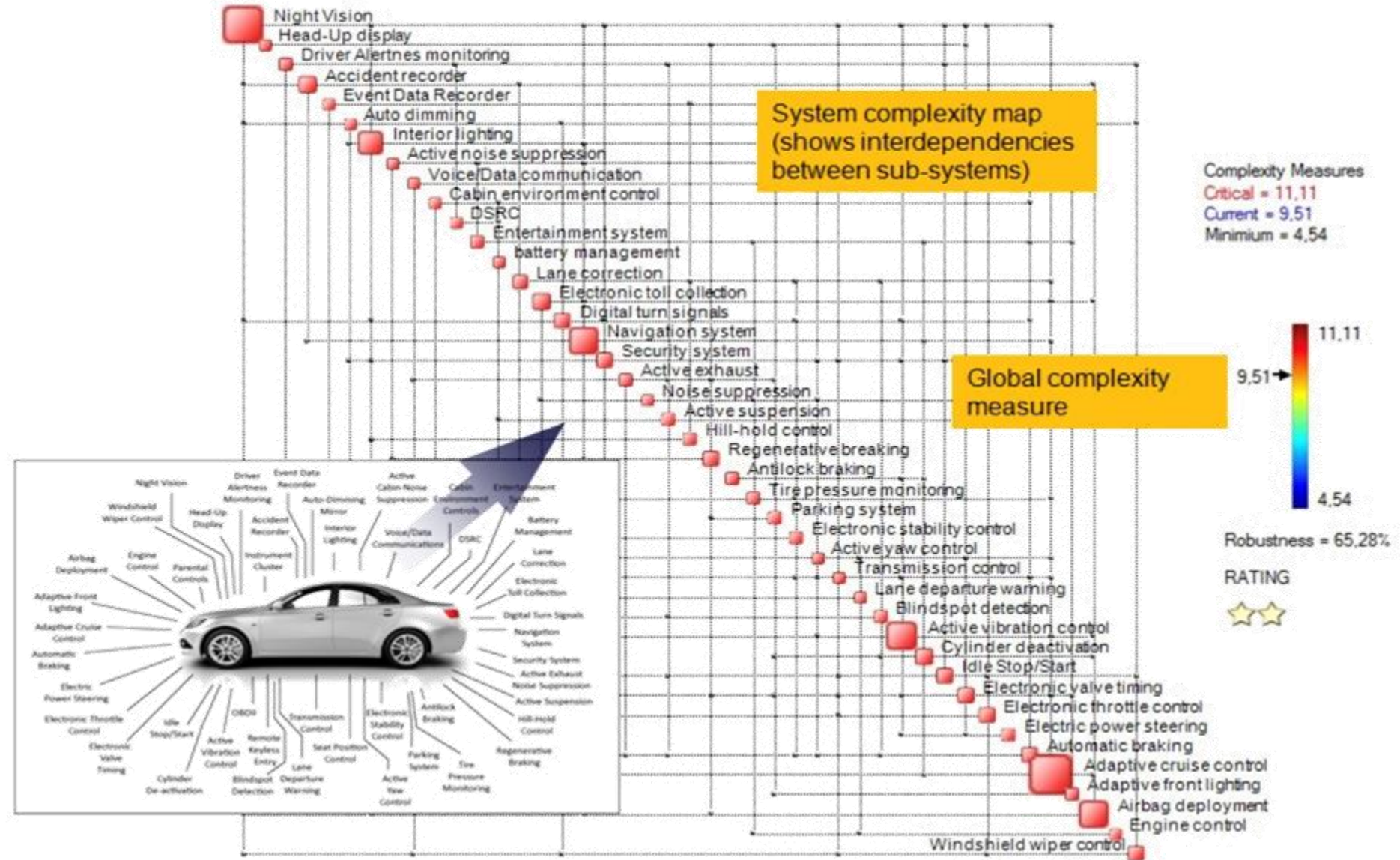
TWEET SHARE IN SHARE EMAIL



Source: <https://europe.autonews.com/automakers/automakers-struggle-create-software-defined-vehicles>

Complexity of systems

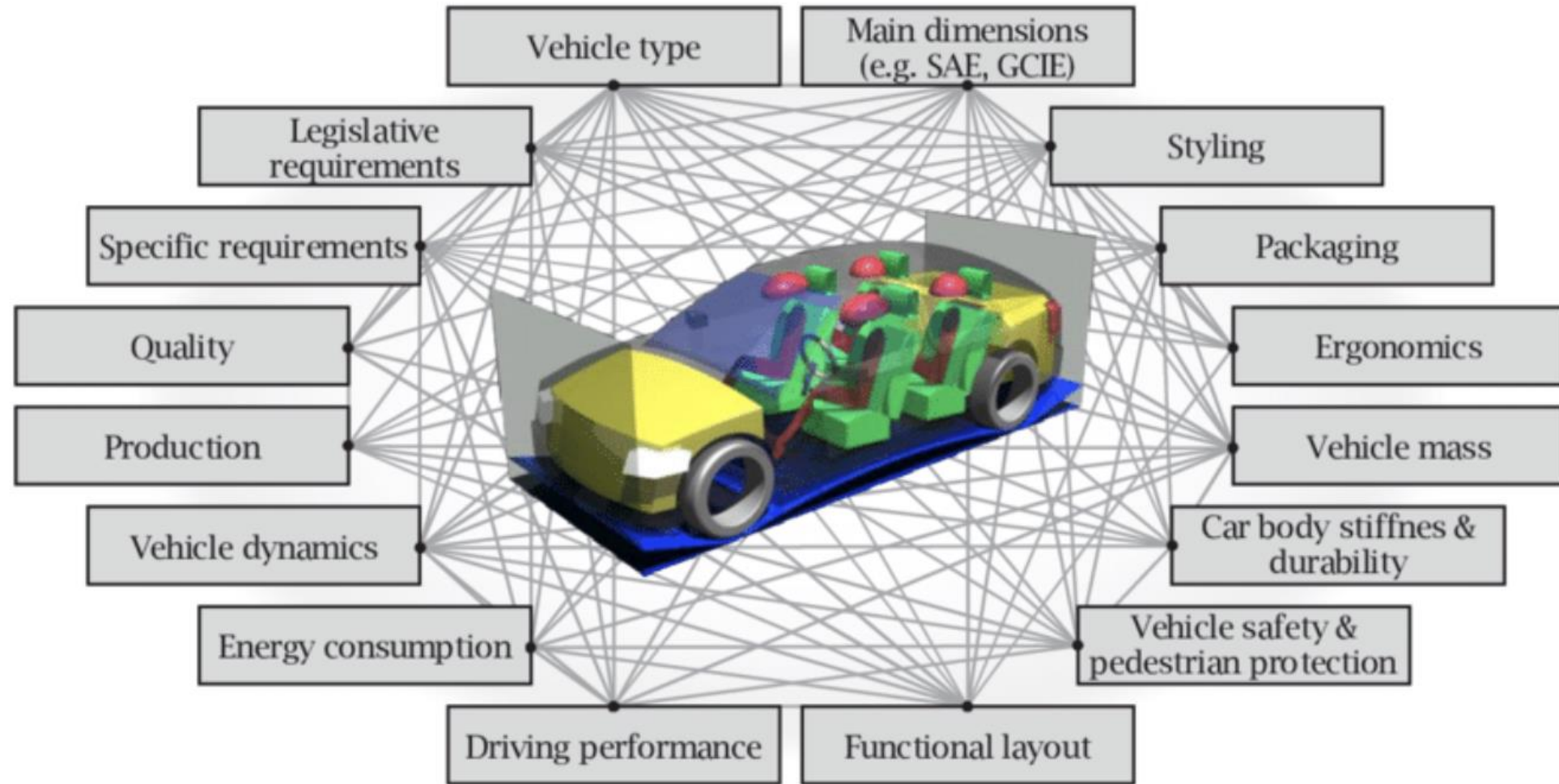
- Hardware and software with increasing complexity
- Development & operation of vehicles (e.g. software updates)
- 1 ECU → 1 vehicle problem (e.g. engine-, transmission-, suspension-, airbag-, HVAC-control)
- Many problems → many ECUs required



Source: ontonixqcm.blog/car-electronics-how-much-more-complexity-can-we-handle/

Vehicle Requirements

- A lot of vehicle functions
- Battery – Safety, Capacity, Weight, Structure
- Energy Efficiency
- Worldwide legal requirements
- Virtual Validation is coming



High-performance E/E platform

Key architectural directions

Centralized computer system

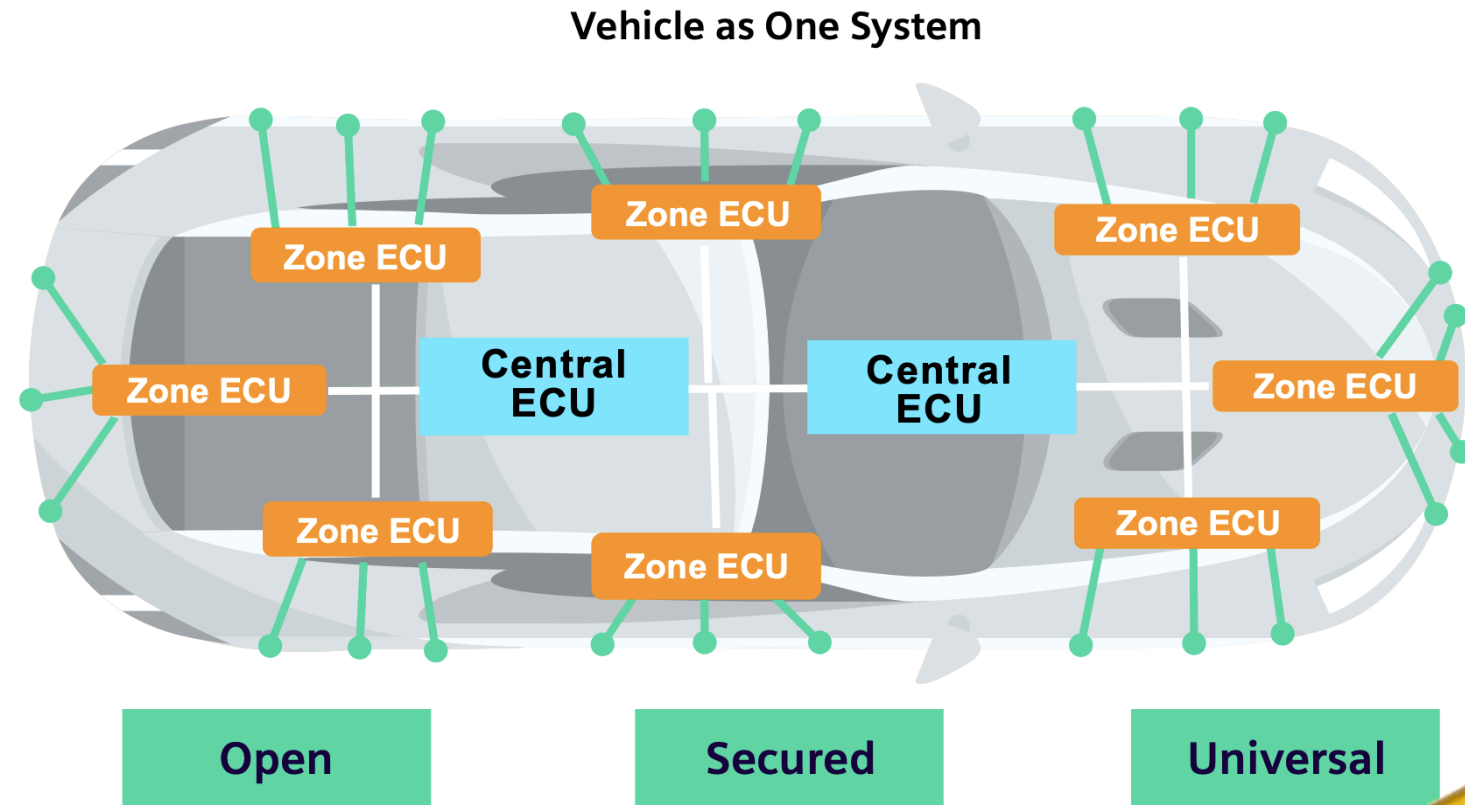
Vehicle zonal I/O concentrators

Highly scalable and modular E/E hardware structure

Software centric with a Service Oriented Architecture

Real-time, deterministic Ethernet AVB/TSN network

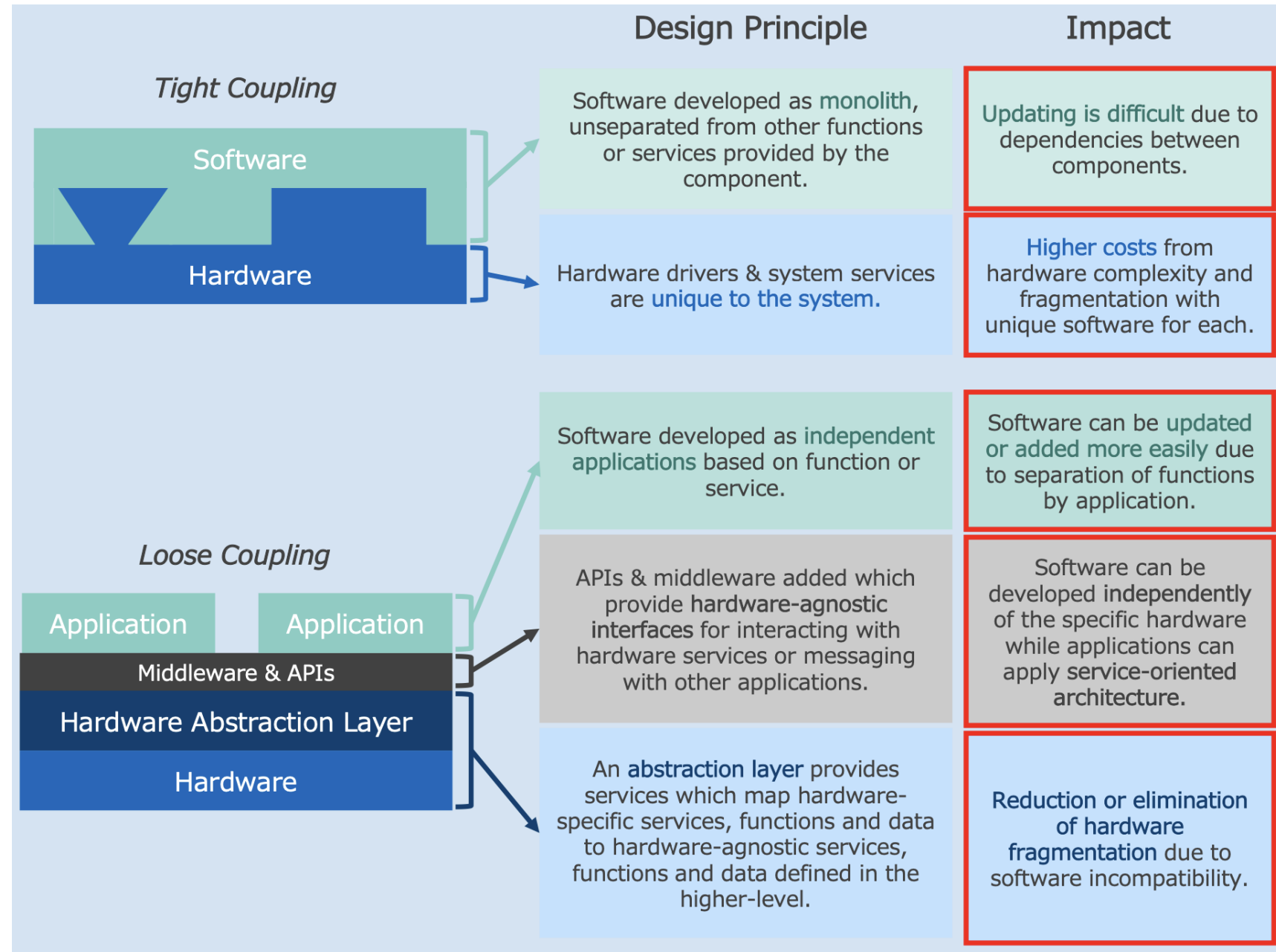
Must support software configuration and Agile Continuous Integration & Test development flow



Source: Siemens / BCC

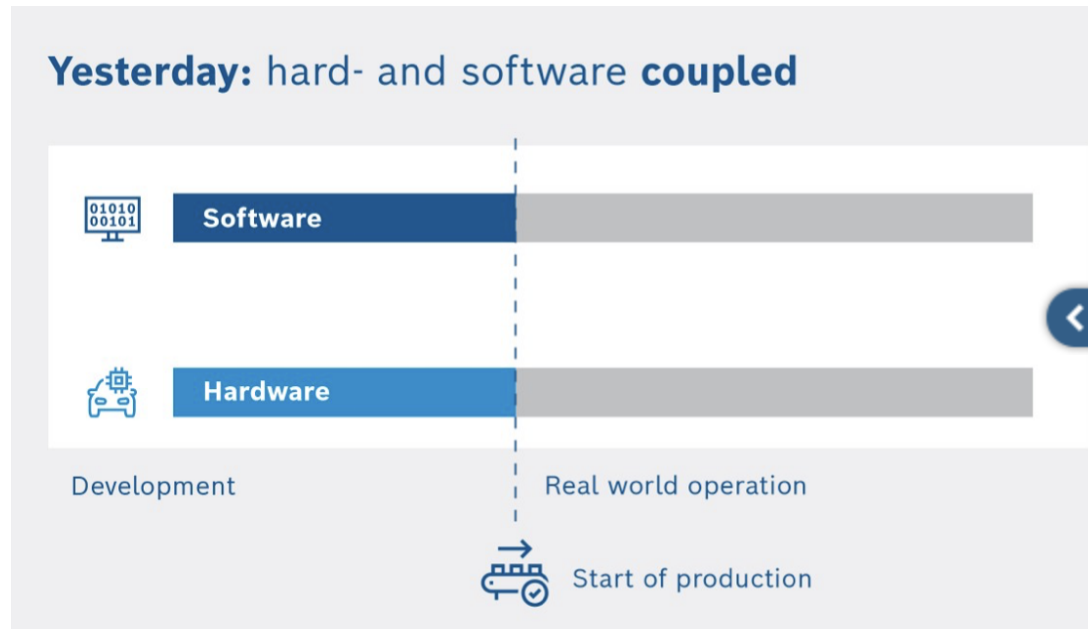
Huge demand for **scalable, versatile software and hardware platforms**

Future hardware-software co-design



Source: SBD Automotive

Future hardware-software co-design



The separation of hardware and software

Source: Bosch-Mobility

**How to handle the different cycles
for hardware and software?**

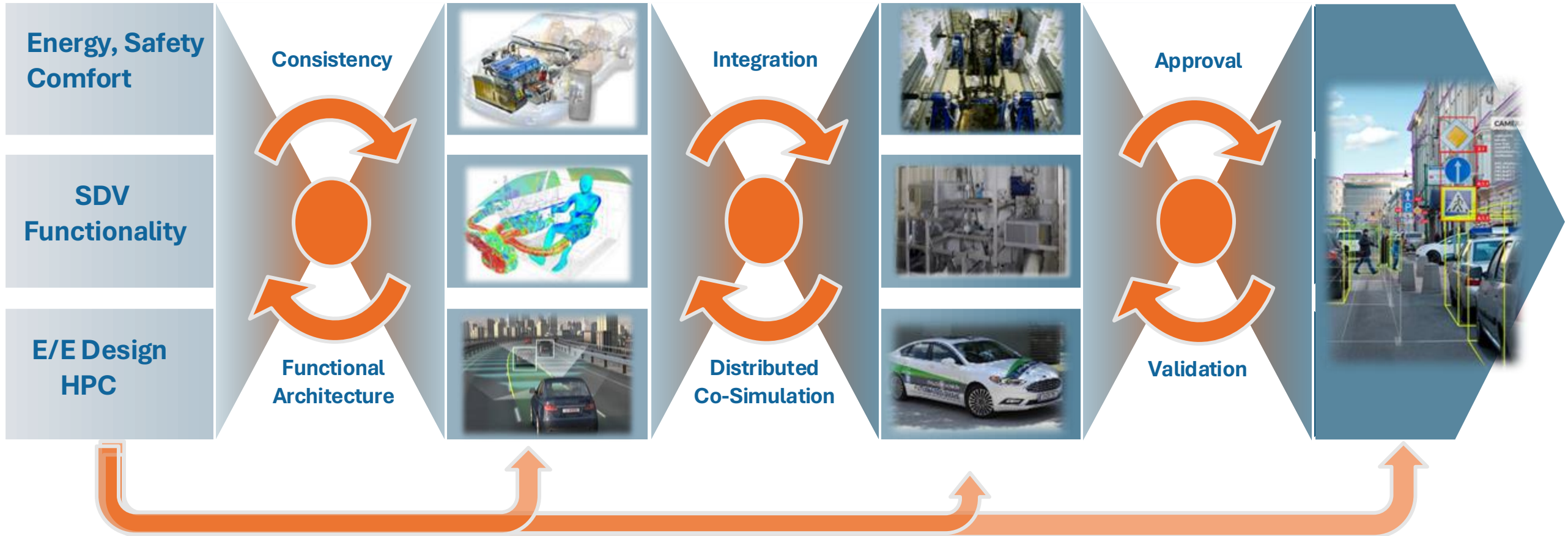
USP: Multi-domain system: Vehicle Domains, SDV, HPC

Systems Specification

Virtual Testing

Real Testing

System Operation



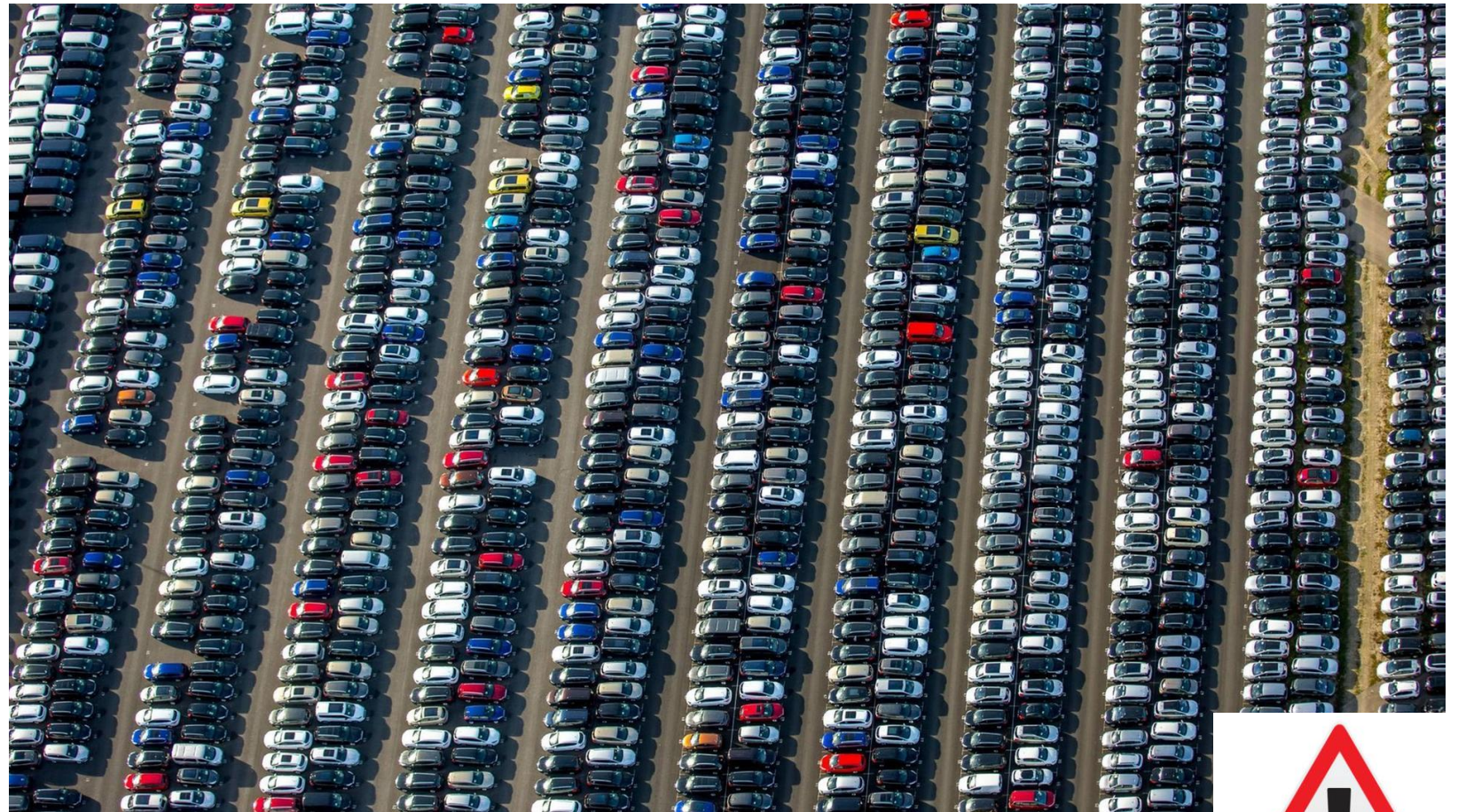
Continuous Data Provision and Utilization - 3 x times

Connecting SW-intensive systems, vehicle domains,
HPC HW integration and operation

Why is data-driven relevant?



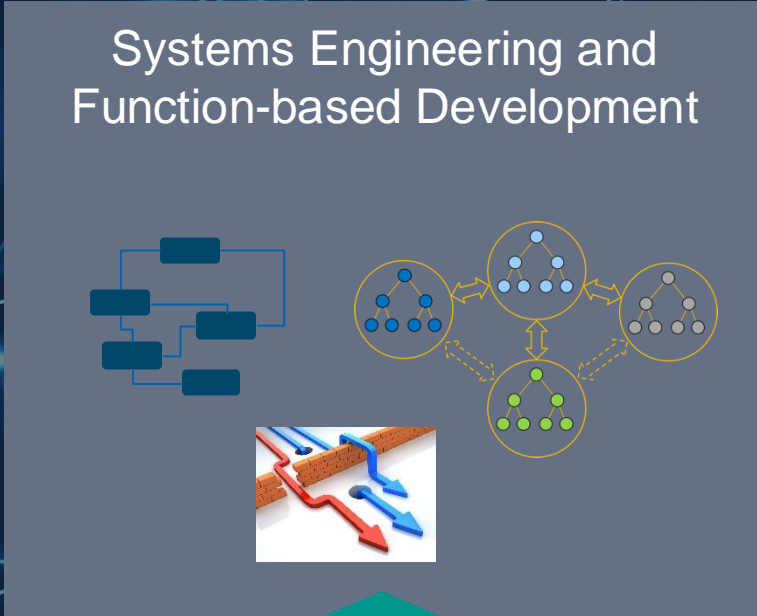
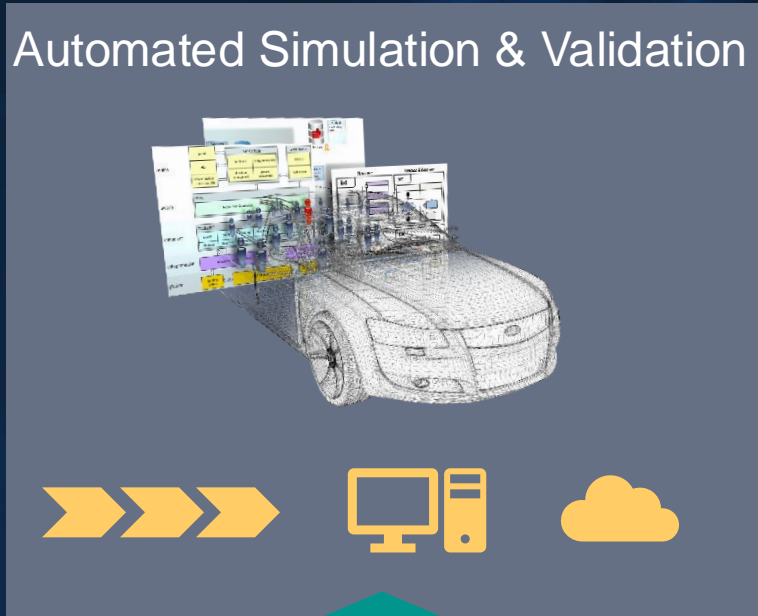
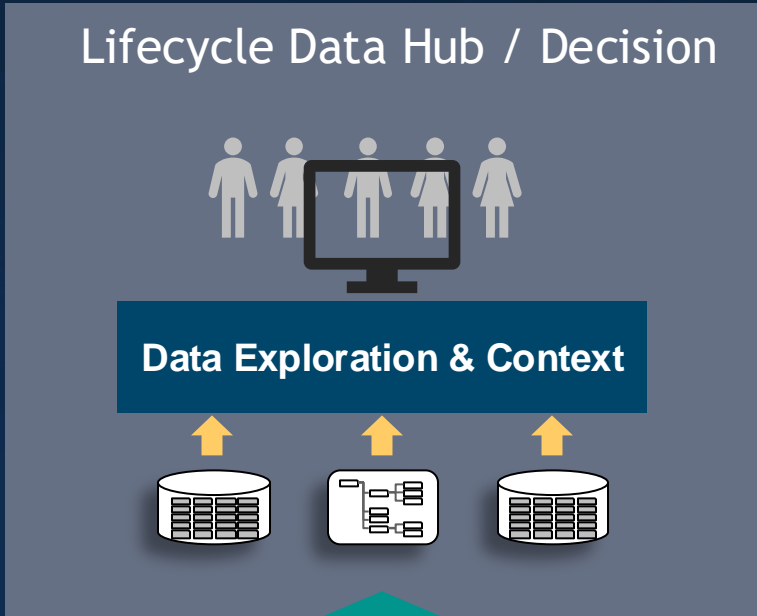
Software: version 3.1.2 (7 Nov 2025)
Additional customer settings: ADAS kit, sport kit
Hardware platform: generation 3 (2 Feb 2025)



Millions of vehicles
→ countless SW, HW and data statuses

How to find mutual influence?
Where to fix a bug?

Future Competitiveness and Process Performance



Digital Thread - availability, traceability and semantic context of heterogeneous data and information

Data Accessibility and Synchronisation



Connectivity, Context and Semantics of Data

DATA



EXPLAINED
WITH A STORY



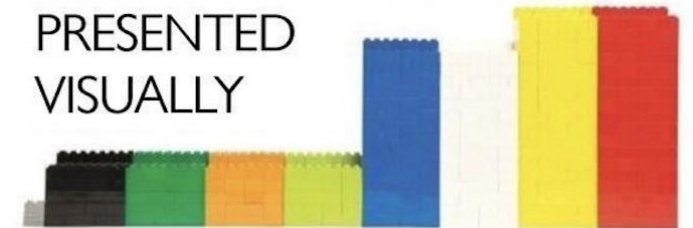
SORTED



ARRANGED

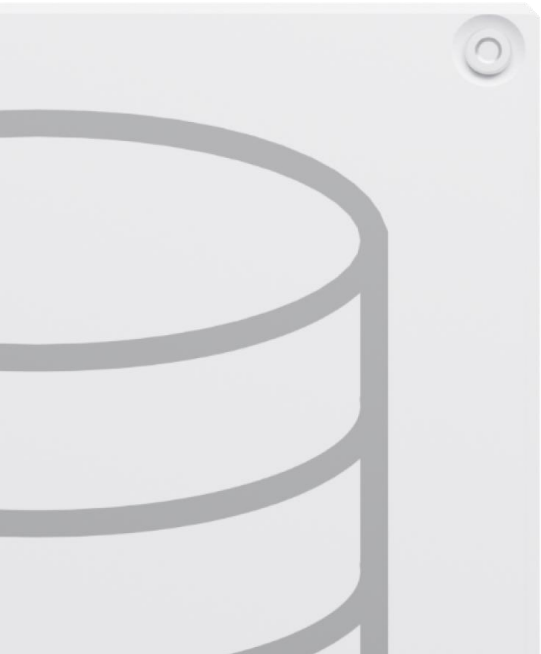


PRESENTED
VISUALLY

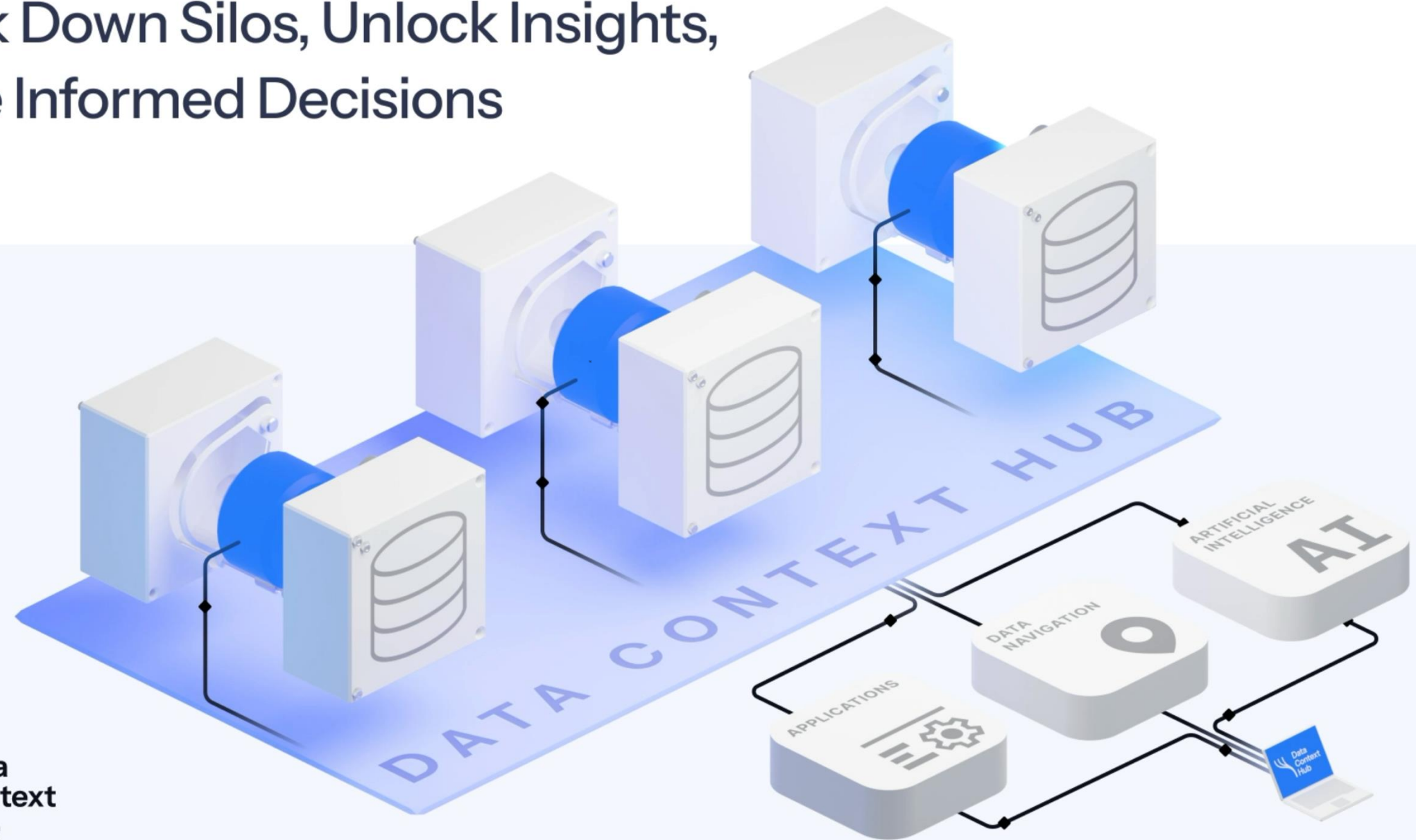




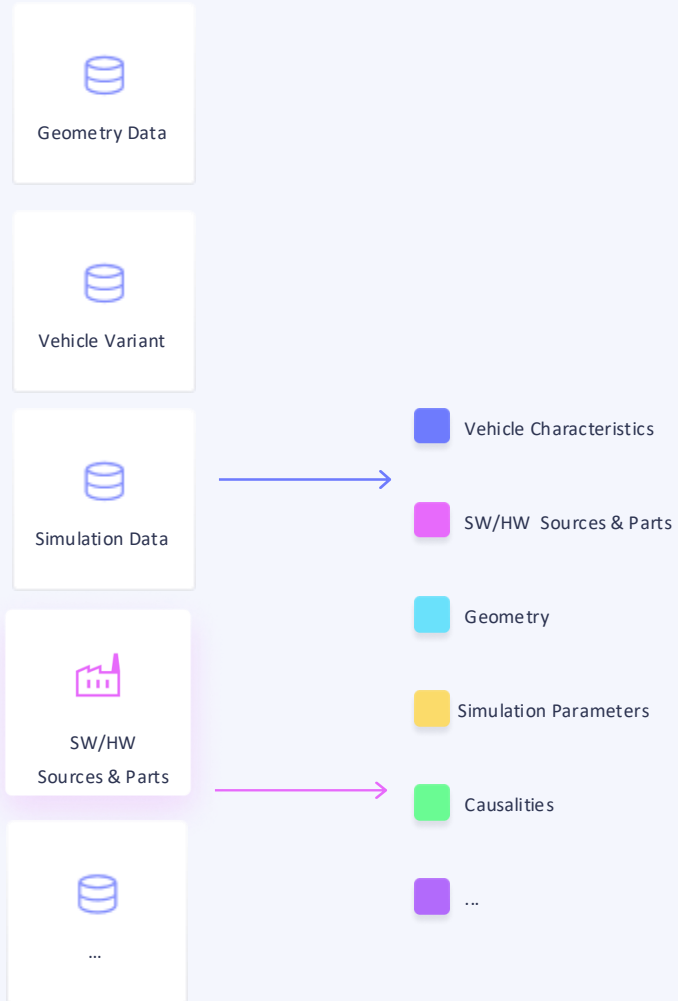
Efficient Data Management



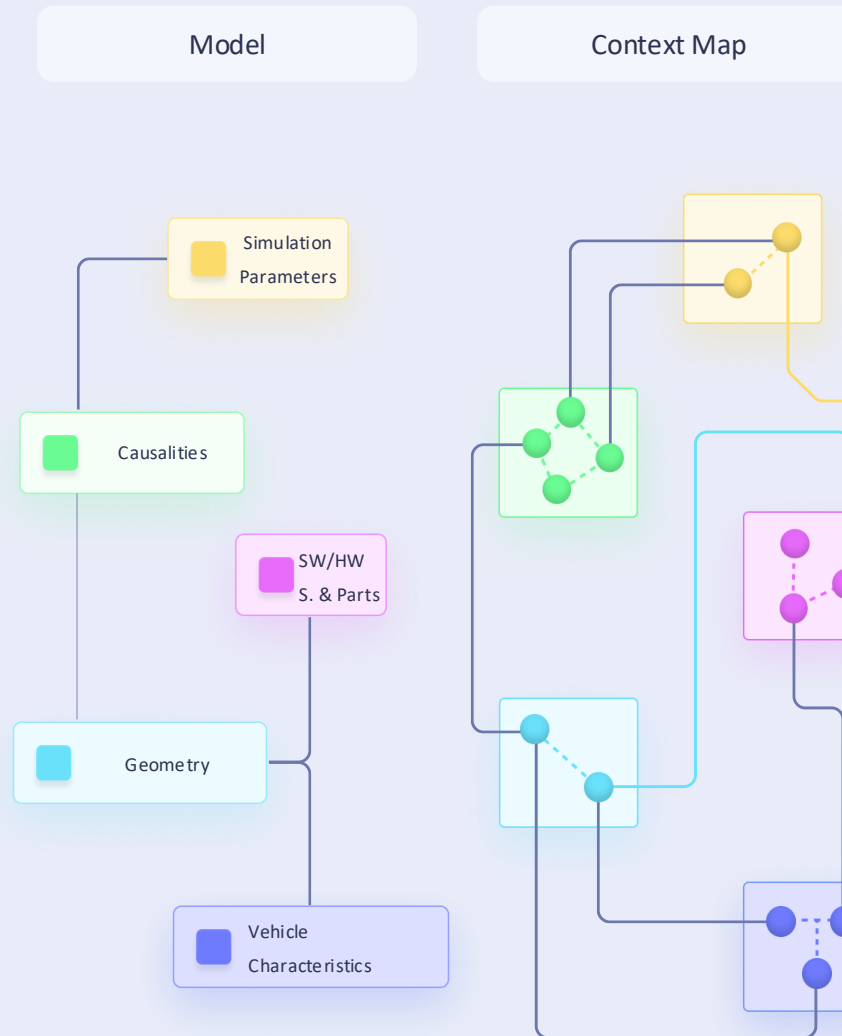
Break Down Silos, Unlock Insights,
Make Informed Decisions



Intake



Context



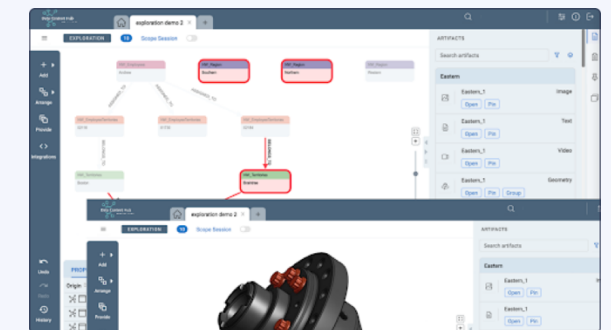
Delivery

Solution – Virtual Buildability

DCH empowered the client to develop a unified frontend application. This application facilitates the assessment of a vehicle's virtual buildability by centralizing access to all relevant information. With its high performance and minimal latency, it ensures swift decision-making and efficient feedback loops.

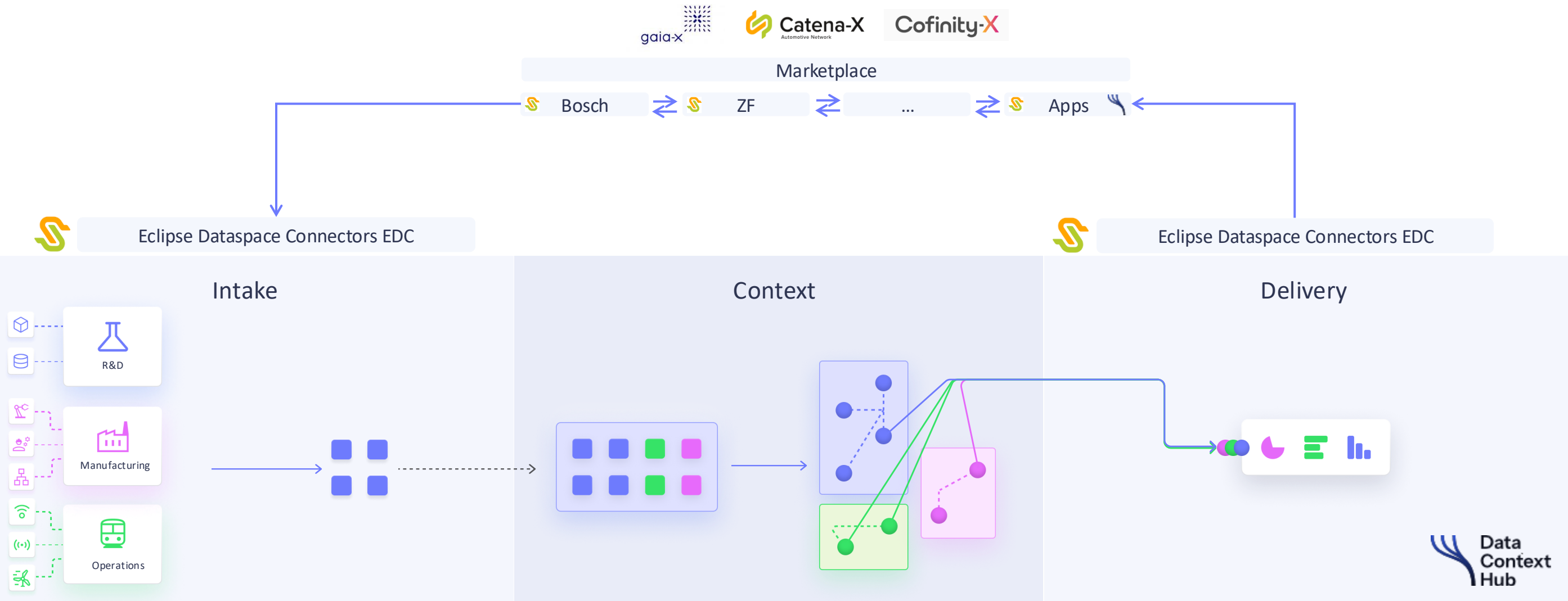


Solution – Engineering data exploration



Future potential – Open Data Spaces Data Provider

DCH, as the **technology for implementing a data provider** in an open data space, offers datasets in standardized and interoperable formats, ensuring they're accompanied by precise metadata and documentation. Complying with technical protocols, DCH ensures secure and regulated data transmission while continually updating its data for relevance. Integration with the open data space infrastructure, such as specific APIs or platforms, facilitates seamless accessibility and exchange by other participants.



Data-driven hardware-software co-design at Virtual Vehicle Research Examples

From the initial spark to a global player

2002-2007
Foundation

Spin-off from TU Graz & Styrian industry: **New research center for virtual vehicle development**



2008-2017
Structure & Growth

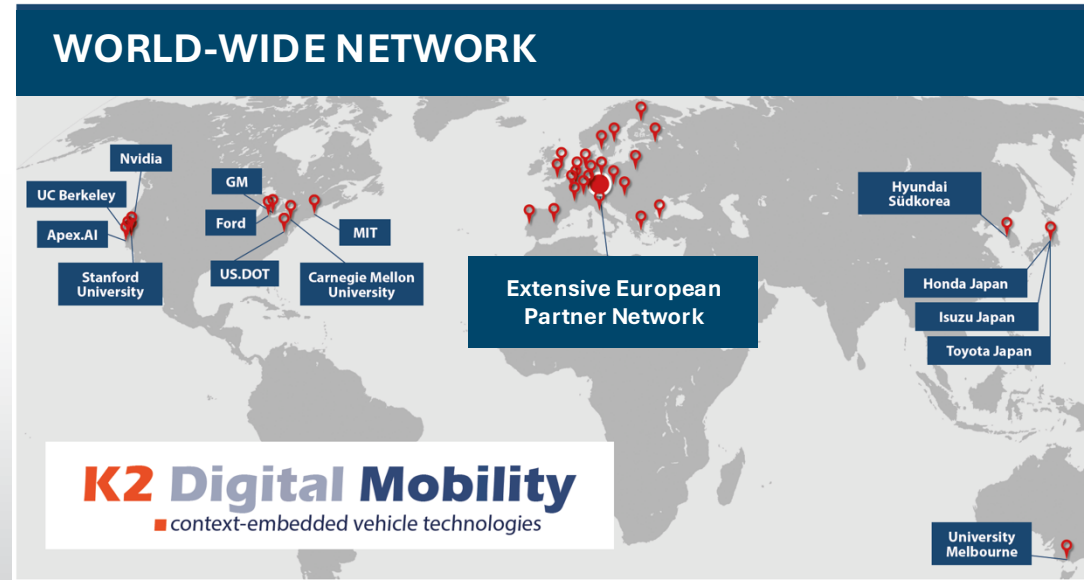
R&D sustainable mobility
New pillars

- EU projects
- Contract research



2018-2026 / 2027-2034
Long-term stability & international success

Strategic partners road and rail
Additional domains: robotics, energy, health-tech, defense
Putting innovations from 300+ experts into practice

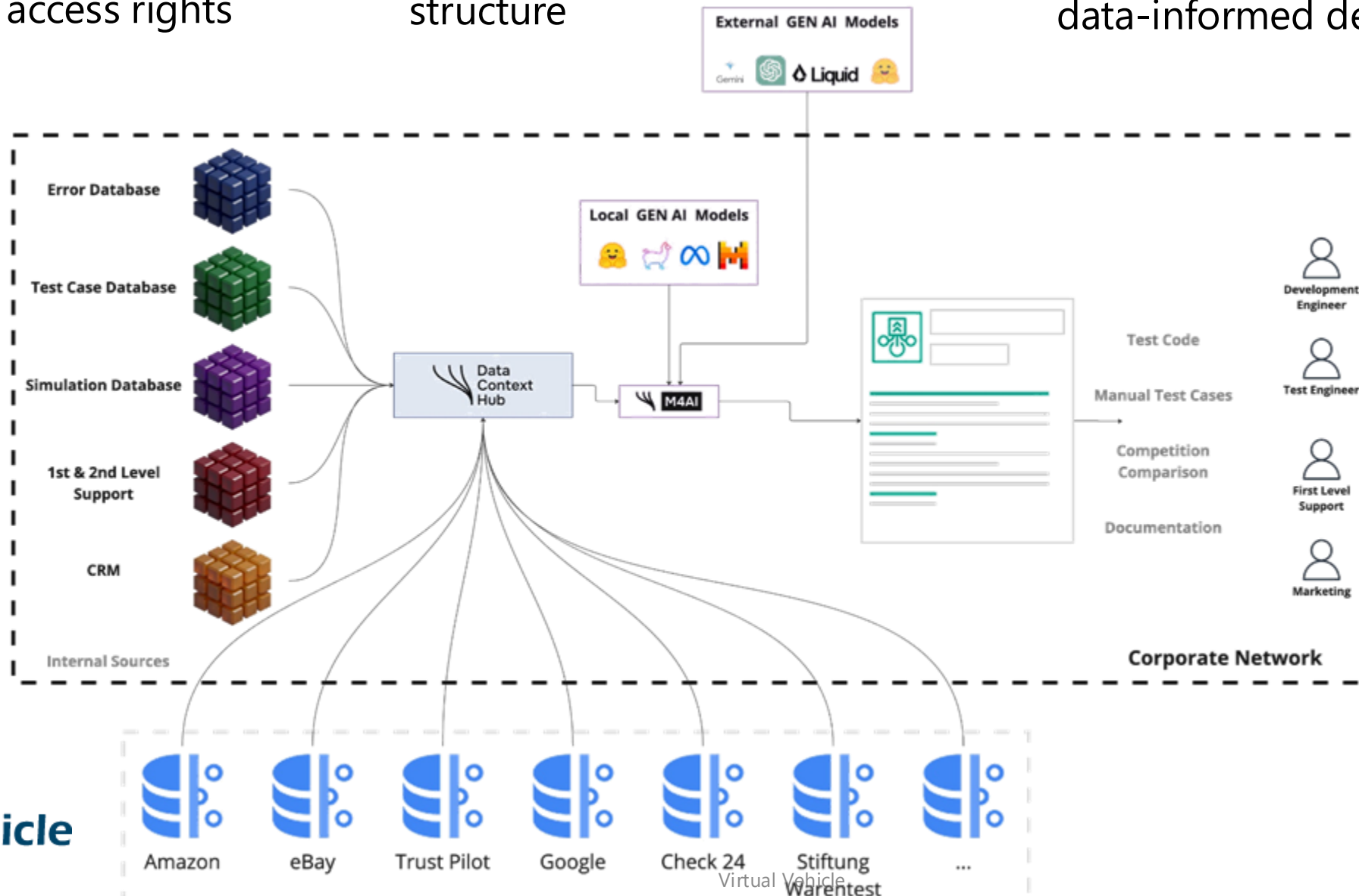


Contextualisation of distributed data

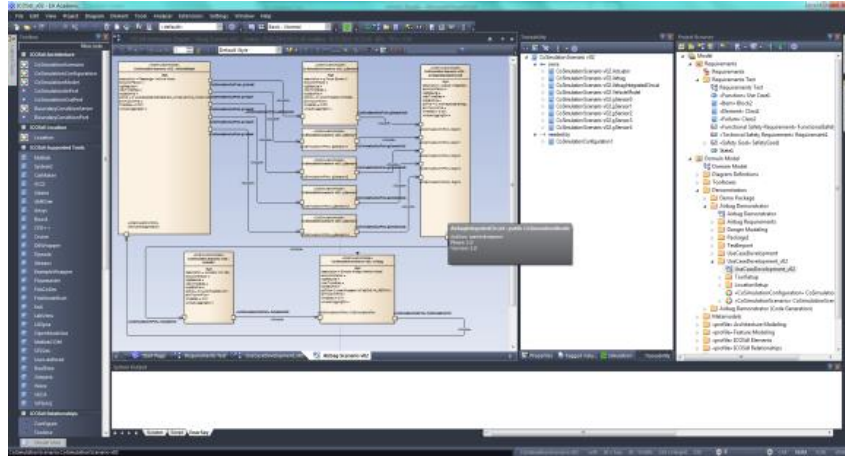
(1) Integration of distributed, heterogenous data while maintaining access rights

(2) Contextualizing data in an efficient and robust graph structure

(3) AI/LLM methods for reliably understanding data and enable data-informed decisions

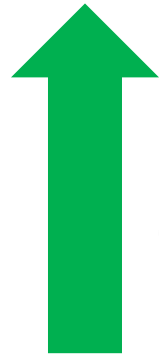


High-level Automation of credible Simulation for Virtual Approval



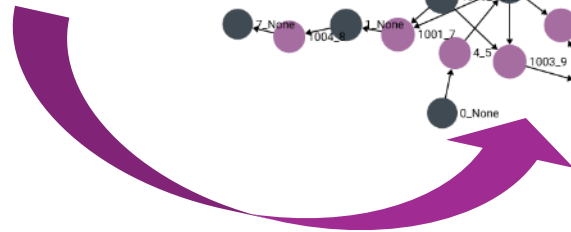
Functional Architecture modeled in MBSE Tool, like Enterprise Architect (EA) or System Architecture Modeler (SAM) → Sysml-2

Design Changes

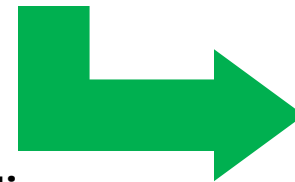


Import of system information like: interfaces, test-cases, simulation models, configurations etc.

Additional test-stages for Simulation Credibility

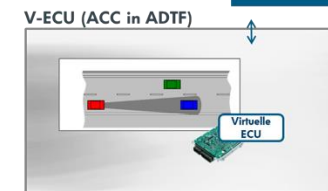


Generation of Automation Pipeline for Execution Automation



Central, graphbased Databasis in the background for interlinkage of Dev't artefacts (interfacing distributed information)

Evaluated KPIs / AI-based

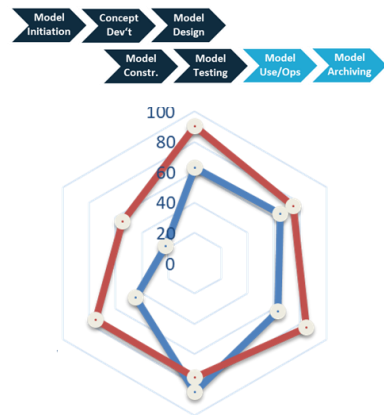


Co-Simulation framework

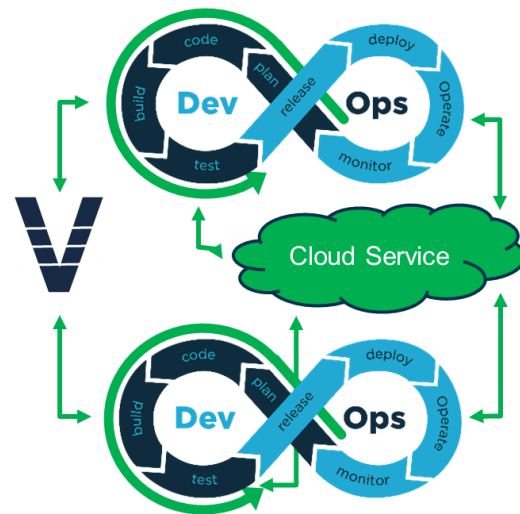


- How to derive a method & process to assess the **quality of models and simulations?**
- Result of UPSIM → being prepared for an industrial standard
- M&S SPICE specification by intacs® WG Q3/2023 (start date)

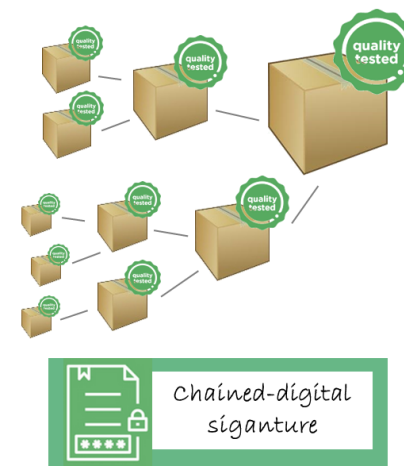
1 Credible Digital Twin Readiness Levels

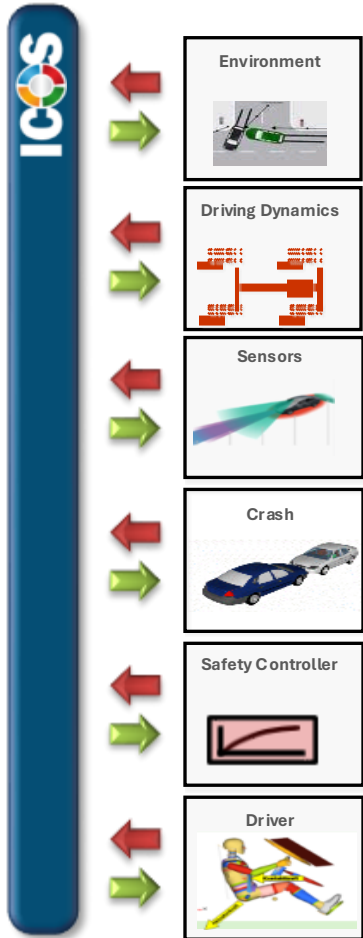
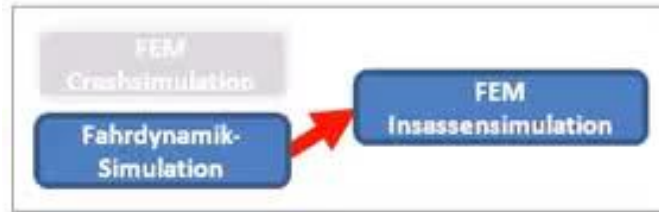


2 Continuous Collaboration

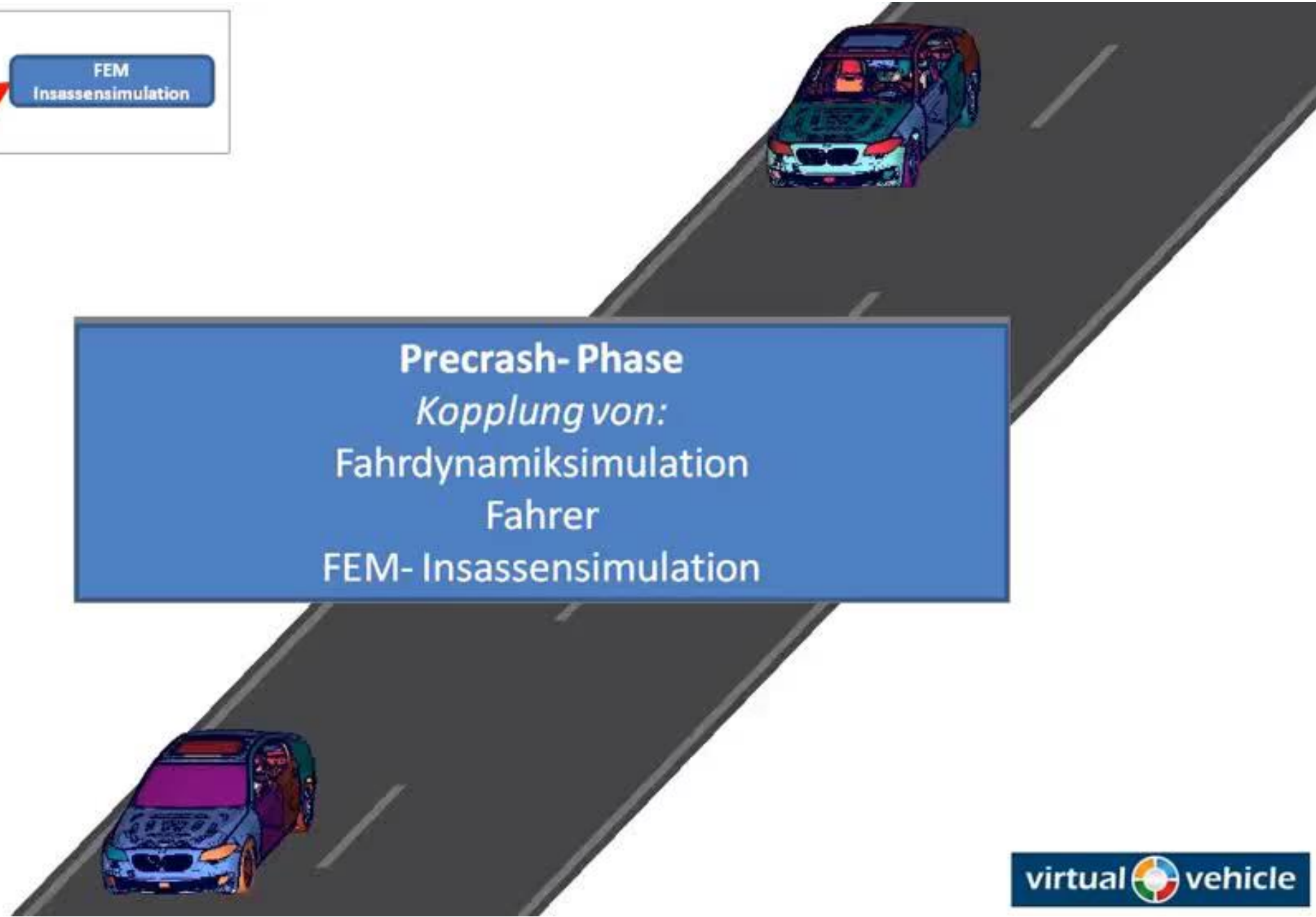


3 Unique Identification





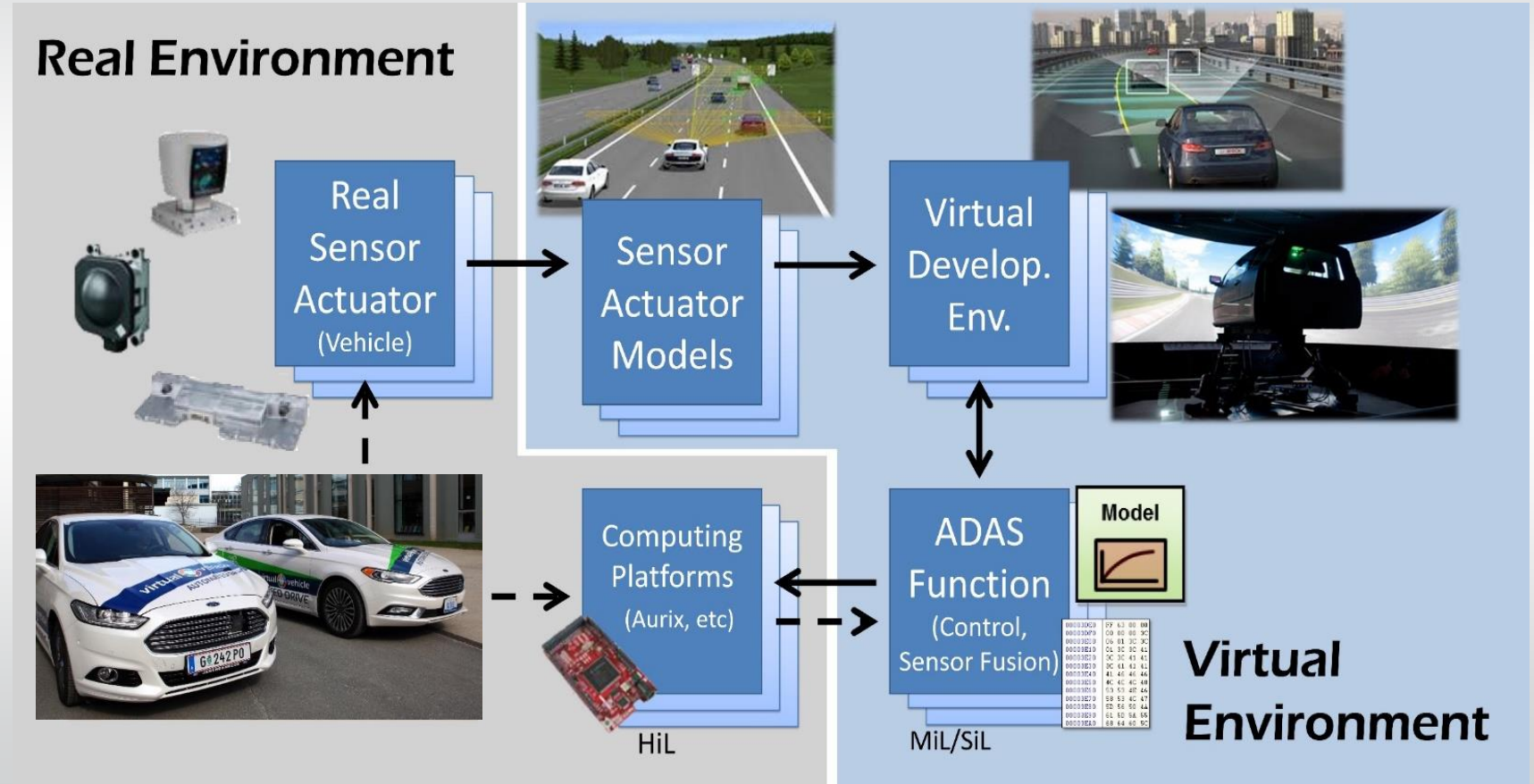
Pre-crash-Phase
Kopplung von:
Fahrdynamiksimulation
Fahrer
FEM- Insassensimulation



First autonomous research car in Austria



HW/SW co-design for automated driving



- **Fusion of real and virtual testing**

- **Test of E/E architectures and SW-Stack**

- **HW-SW co-design in virtual environment**

Handling complexity



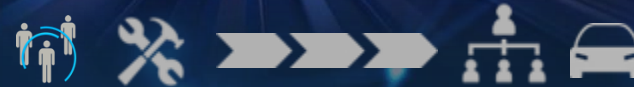
Collaboration



Ability to adapt



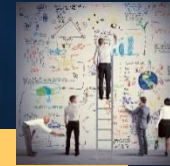
Speed – Time to Market



Culture, mind-set



Handling complexity



- Providing valuable context
- Single point of truth / source / access
- Simplification of IT architecture

Collaboration

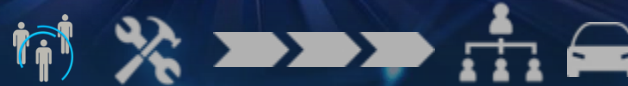
- Flexible viewpoints on data and relations
- Context from any perspective
- Graph security layer



Data-Driven Development

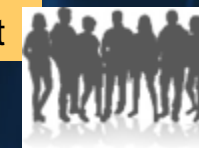
- Automated Engineering
- Software-Defined Vehicle
- E/E Architecture - HPC

Speed – Time to Market

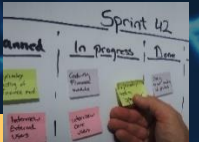


Culture, mind-set

- Scalable from need2know to good2know
- Reliable and traceable data and context

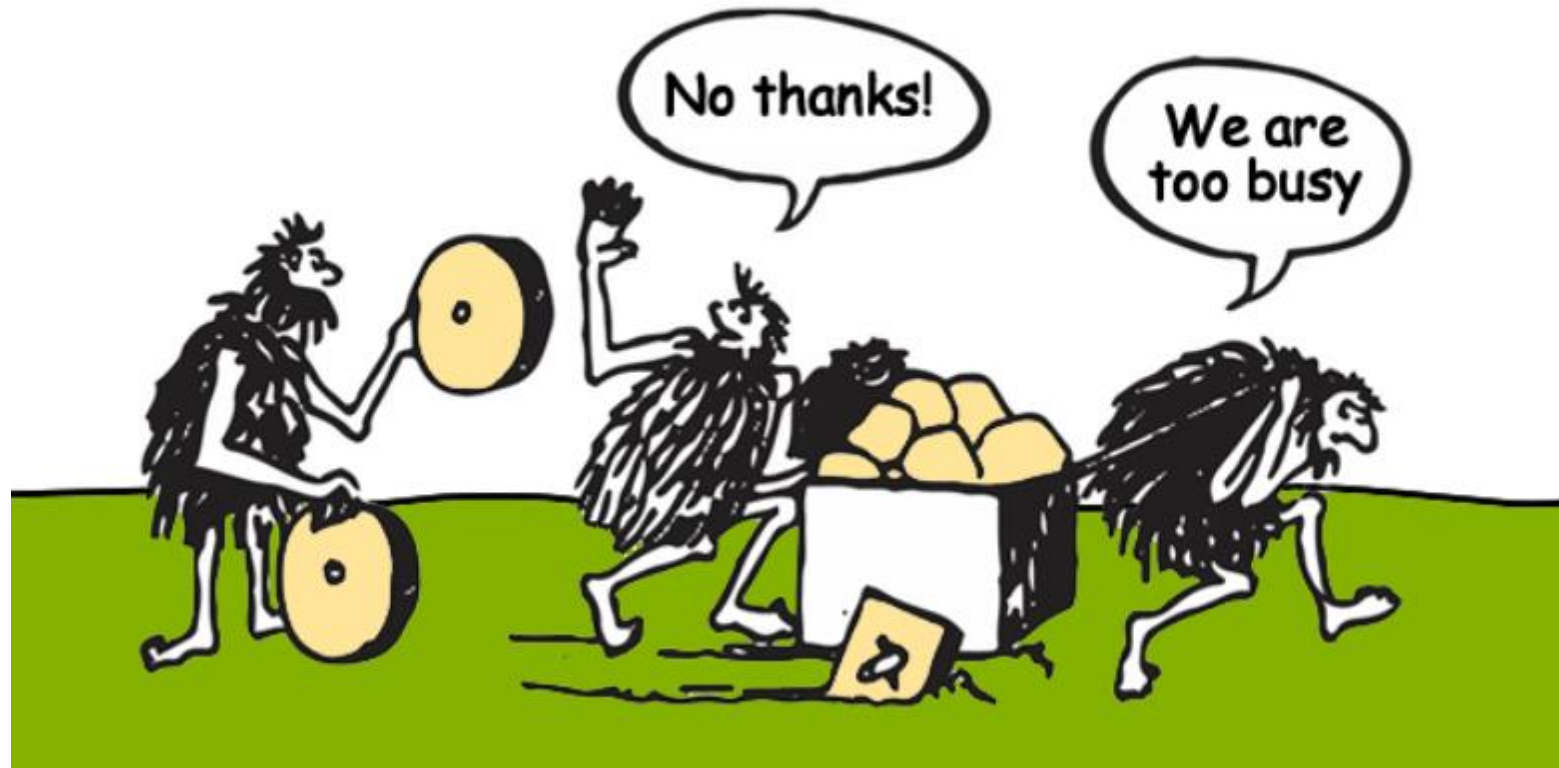


Ability to adapt



- No proprietary data model
- Enterprise specific knowledge model
- Agile data modelling
- Brownfield & greenfield capability

The Most Important Skill for the Future is Change Agility



THANKS!

Dr. Jost Bernasch
CEO

1. The development of complex software-defined vehicles requires scalable, versatile software and hardware platforms
2. Handling the different time scales of hardware and software development and managing data is a basic condition for success
3. Data-driven SW-HW co-design is key: Enabling MBSE based development, automated engineering, co-simulation, co-verification and agility in technology integration.

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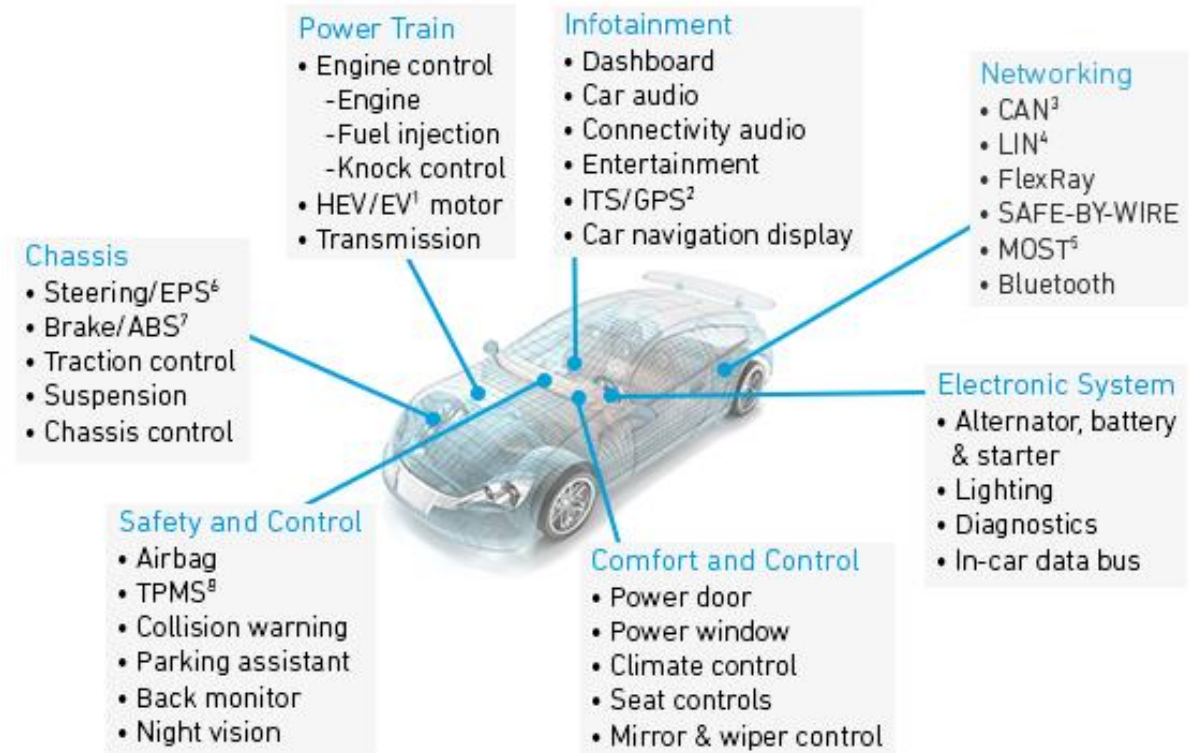
Chips JU – open source hypervisor
 → approval for automotive



Chips JU - Building Blocks for SDV



Semiconductors Power Today's Automobiles



- 1 Hybrid electric vehicle/electric vehicle
- 2 Intelligent transportation system/global positioning system
- 3 Controller area network
- 4 Local interconnect network

- 5 Media-oriented systems transport
- 6 Electric power steering
- 7 Anti-lock brake system
- 8 Tire-pressure monitoring system

Source: McKinsey



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