



Communication and Knowledge Management In Elegant System Design

Michael D. Watson

NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Michael D. Griffin

Chief Executive Officer, Schafer Corporation

Principles of Elegance

- Elegant Systems are
 - Effective
 - Efficient
 - Robust
- Elegant Systems Manage and Minimize
 - Unintended Consequences



System Engineering Framework

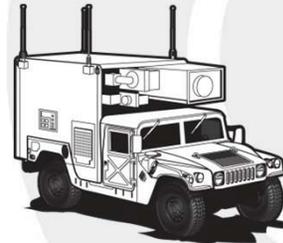
- **Elegant Systems are achieved through**
 - Understanding the Mission Context
 - Managing the Physical and Logical System Interactions among the system components and with the system environment
 - Physics (Structural, Thermal, Fluid, Electrical)
 - Logical (Data and Information)
 - Managing the Organizational Structure and Information Flow
 - Understanding the Policy and Law Constraints
 - Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations

Properties of Elegance

- Simplicity in Function and Operations
- Espalier: Seamless integration of secondary functions
- Efficient Configuration within the Mission Context
- Robust in Operation and Application
 - Evolve in a graceful manner
- Minimize Unintended Consequences

Communication

- Communication is a critical aspect in design and operation of Elegant Systems
 - Based on organizational relationships
 - Engineering Disciplines
 - Business Units
 - Operators vs. Analysts
 - Based on physics relationships
 - Structure/GN&C
 - Airframe/Engine
 - Based on logical relationships
 - Caution & Warning/Engine Redlines



Communication

- Communication is one of the keys characteristics of System Integration
 - Communication is personal
 - Process facilitates communication, but will not maintain consistency by itself
 - Communication pathways should be simple
 - Organizational stove pipes inhibit communication and must be explicitly managed
 - Functional swim lanes help clarify responsibility and must be actively managed to avoid becoming barriers to communication
 - Optimize the number of interfaces



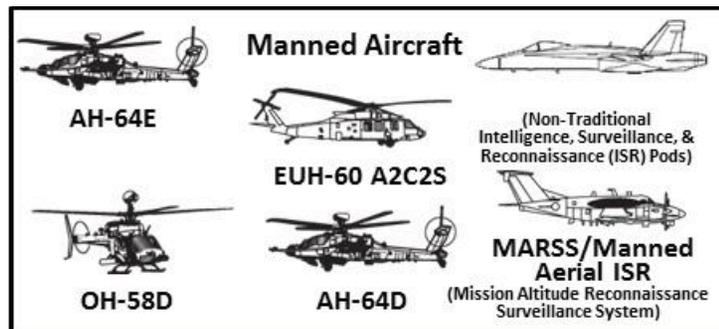
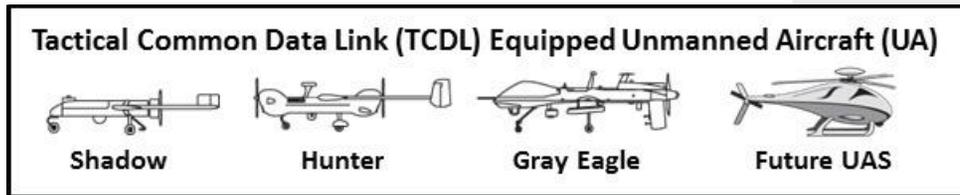
Communication

- Communication exhibits various forms of Unintended Consequences
 - Error (mistakes)
 - Ignorance (not knowing or not understanding)
 - Bias
 - Cultural Values
 - Historical Precedent
 - Short Sightedness (Imperious Immediacy of Interest)



Communication

- **System Engineer:**
 - Influences the Organizational Structure
 - Manages the Influence of the Organizational Structure on the System Design or Operation



Communication

SLS SE&I MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE										
June 9, 2014 version										
() = OPR [] = ORGANIZATIONS MAPPED TO DISCIPLINE										
SLS PROGRAM OFFICE ORGANIZATION	CHIEF ENGINEERS OFFICE ORGANIZATION	Systems Engineering (EV01) [EV70, EE12]	Vehicle Management (EV40) [EV40]	Structures & Environments (StE) (EV30) [EV30, ER40, ES21, ES22]	Propulsion (ER01) [ALL ER EXCEPT ER40]	Production (EM01) [ALL EM]	Integrated Avionics and Software (ES01) [ALL ES EXCEPT ES21, ES22]	Operations (EO01) [ALL EO, ES10]	Test (ET01) [ALL ET]	S&MA (QD01) [ALL QD]
SLS Program Manager SLS Program Deputy Manager SLS Associate Program Manager Assistant PM Procurement	Program Chief Engineer Program Deputy Chief Engineer SE&I Technical Manager Assistant CE for Affordability Tech. Assist. Cross Program Integ. Tech. Assist. Ext. Interface Integ.	LSE: EV01 Alt: EV70 Alt: EV73	DLE: EV40 Alt: EV40	DLE: EV30 Alt: EV30	DLE: ER01 Alt: ER51 Alt: ER24	DLE: EM03 Alt: EM03 Alt: EM03	DLE: ES30 Alt: ES01	DLE: EO04 Alt: EO04	DLE: ET10 Alt: ET10	Program CSO Deputy CSO QD02 SE&I S&MA Lead QD35
Stages Element Manager Stages Deputy Element Manager - Avionics Manager - Core Stage Manager - Integration Manager	Stages Chief Engineer Stages Deputy Chief Engineer Stages Deputy CE - Avionics Stages Deputy Chief Engineer - Test	EV70 Alt: EV71	EDLE: EV41	EDLE: EV34	EDLE: ER22	EDLE: EM03 Alt: EM32	EDLE: ES12	EDLE: EO40	EDLE: ET10	QD33
Booster Element Manager Booster Deputy Element Manager - Control Systems Manager - Assem & Struct Systems Manager - Motor/BSM ASM - Booster CE/Interface Mgr	Booster Chief Engineer Booster Deputy Chief Engineer	ER50	EDLE: EV40	EDLE: ER40	EDLE: ER51	EDLE: EM03	EDLE: ES12	EDLE: EO40		QD31
Engines Element Manager Engines Deputy Element Manager	Engines Chief Engineer Engines Deputy Chief Engineer	ER20	EDLE: EV43	EDLE: ER41	EDLE: ER21	EDLE: EM03	EDLE: ES12	EDLE: ER21		QD32
Spacecraft/Payload Integration and Evolution (SPIE) Office Manager SPIE Deputy Manager	SPIE CE SPIE Deputy CE	EV70 Alt: EV70	EDLE: EV41	EDLE: EV30	EDLE: ER23	EDLE: EM03	EDLE: ES10	EDLE: EO40	EDLE: ET30	QD22
	SPIE CE SPIE Deputy CE				EDLE: ER01 Alt: ER21	EDLE: EM03				QD31

Knowledge Management

- Knowledge Management

- Mission Context

- Heritage Components or Designs

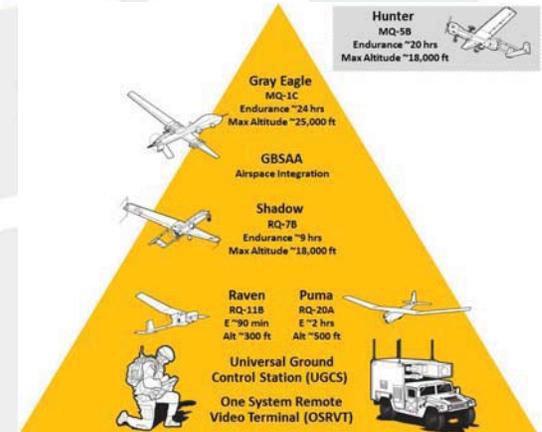
- » Review of prior Program knowledge

- Capture of Knowledge from current Design Work

- Physical

- Logical

- Organizational



- Data Management plays a key role in design documents, models, & drawing maintenance and accessibility

Knowledge Management

- Model based designs can add an additional challenge to knowledge capture and retention

- Need common format to archive models



- Requires maintenance of model tool licenses with associated version in order to view models

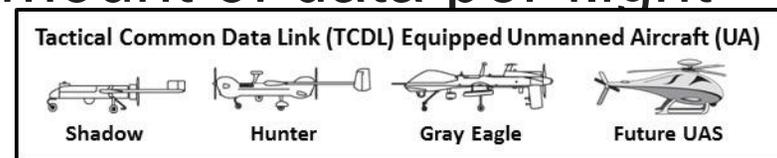
- » Computer Aided Design (CAD)
 - » Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM)
 - » Digital Manufacturing and Analysis Tools
 - » Thermal Models

- » Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)
 - » Finite Element Models and Analysis
 - » Software Language Editors, Compilers
 - » System Simulation Models



- UAV/UAS have a large amount of data per flight

- Analysis Challenging
 - Large Data volumes for archiving



Summary

- **Elegance**
 - Communication and Knowledge Management are keys to System Integration
- **Framework**
 - Communication and Knowledge Management are characterized by the System Engineering Framework
 - Communication and Knowledge Management are keys elements of Organizational Structure and Information Flow

Acknowledgement

- Information on UAV/UAS provided by
 - U.S. Army Program Executive Office (PEO) Aviation
 - Lars Ericsson
 - James Springer



Shaping the Future of Aerospace