

Welcome and Introductions

Process Overview

Systems Engineering “V”

Cross-Cutting Activities

Applying SE to a Project

Establishing SE in your Organization

Process Improvement Discussion

Wrap Up

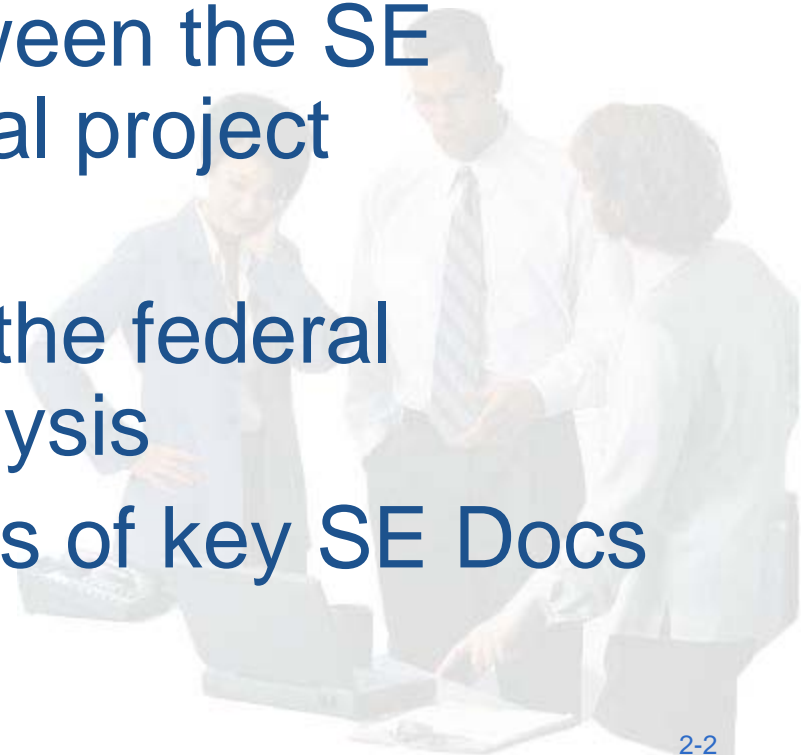
# Session 2: Process Overview

These materials developed under the RITA National ITS Architecture Program



# Learning Outcomes

- Identify the principles of systems engineering (SE)
- List benefits of using SE
- Describe similarities between the SE process and the traditional project development process
- Explain in general terms the federal requirements for SE Analysis
- Describe general contents of key SE Docs





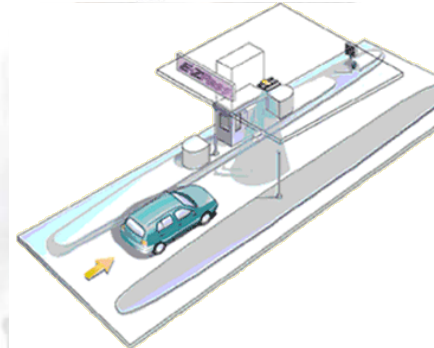
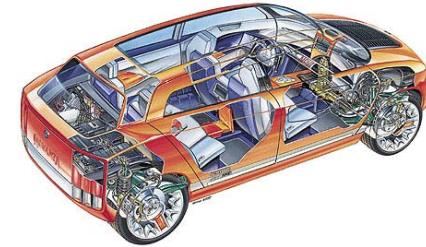
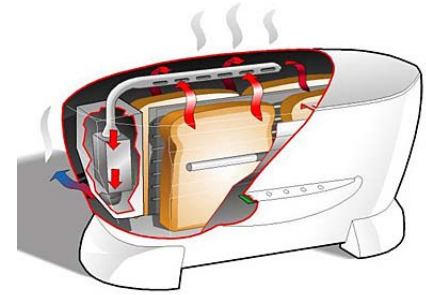
# What Is a System?

**“A combination of interacting elements organized to achieve one or more stated purposes.”**

International Council of Systems Engineering

**“An aggregation of end products and enabling products to achieve a given purpose”**

Electronics Industry Association EIA-632



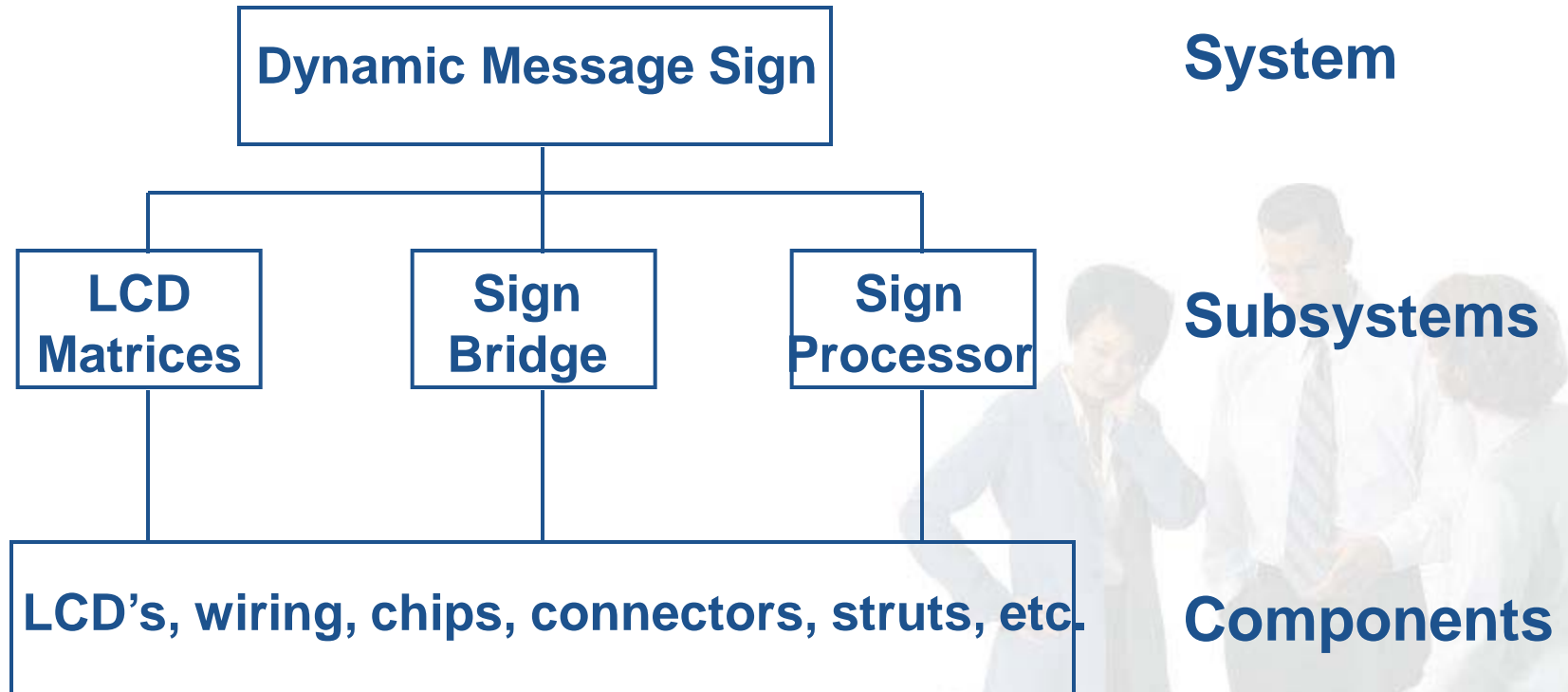


## Is a Dynamic Message Sign a System?



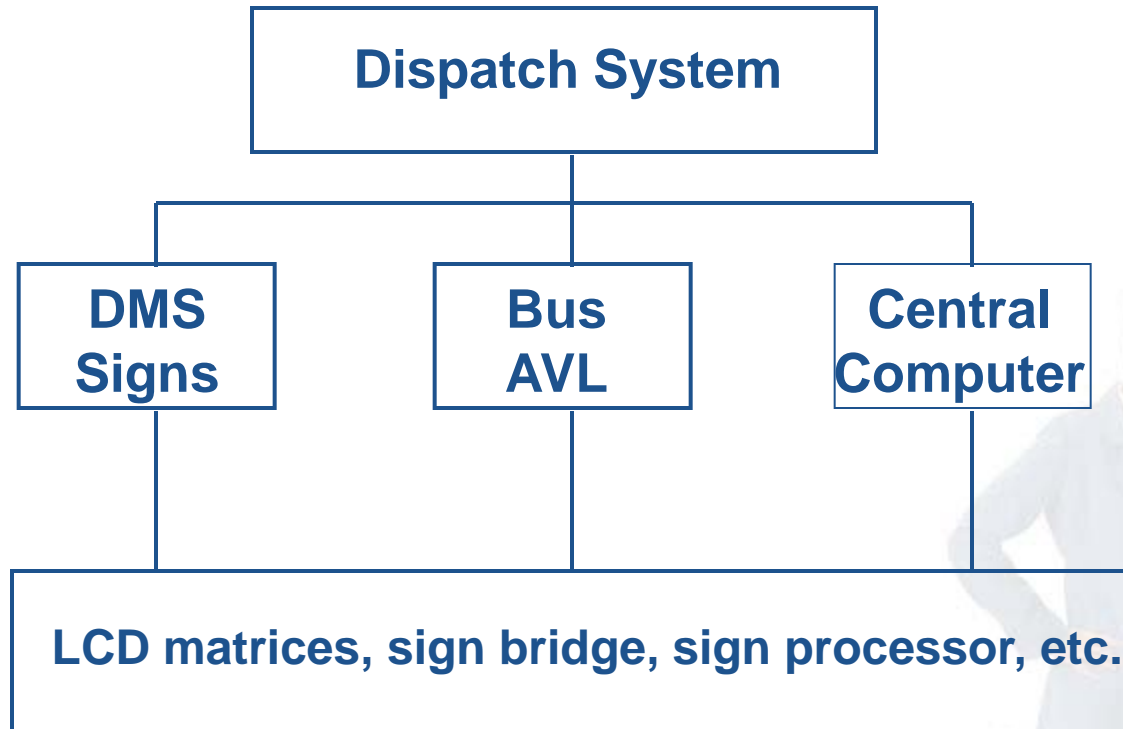


# To a sign manufacturer it is...





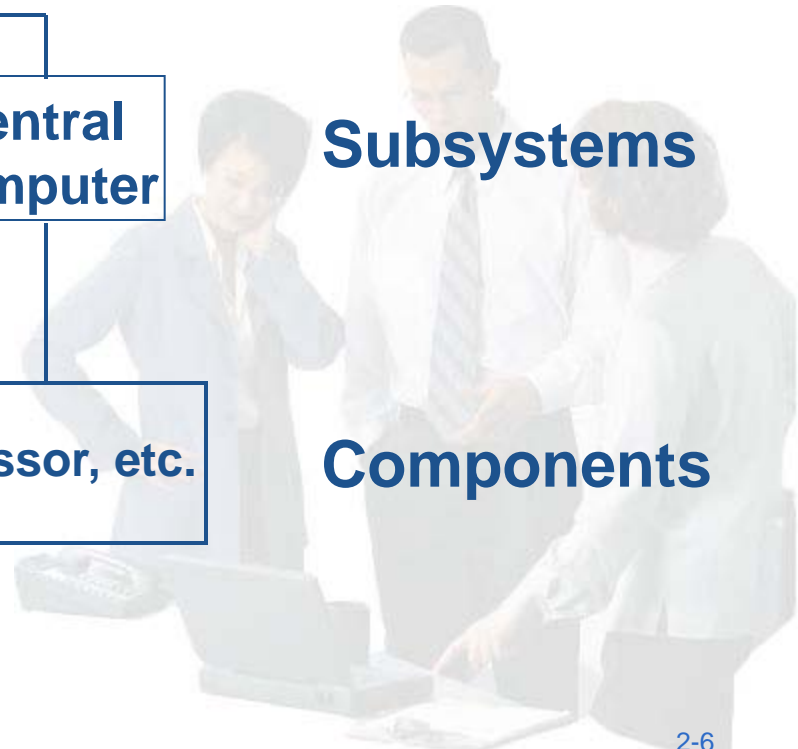
# But not to a Transit System Dispatcher



**System**

**Subsystems**

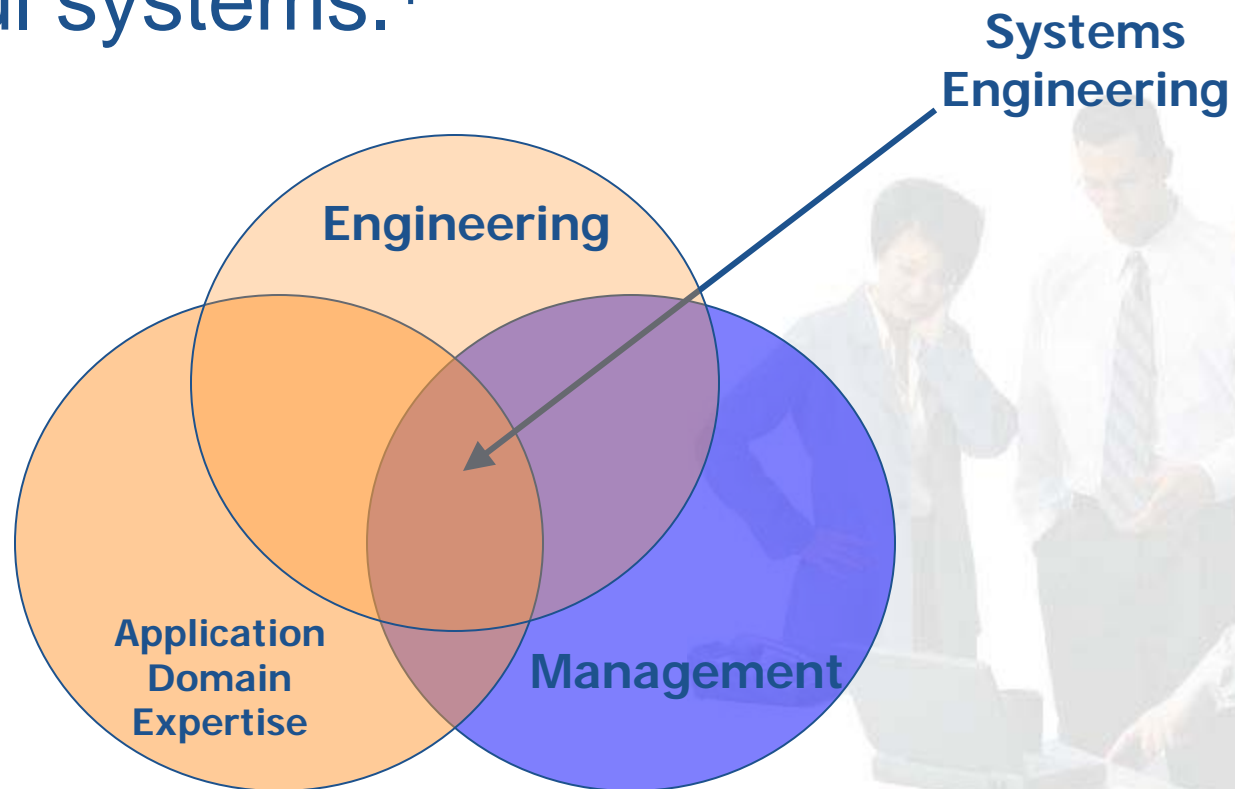
**Components**





# What is Systems Engineering?

An *inter-disciplinary approach* and means to enable the realization of successful systems.<sup>1</sup>





# Systems Engineering (cont.)

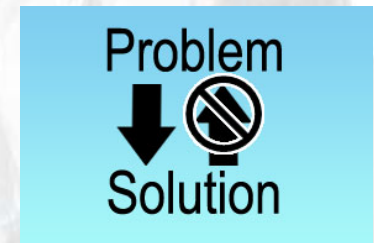
- Focuses on:
  - Defining customer needs and required functionality early in the development cycle
  - Documenting requirements
  - Then proceeding with design, implementation, and system validation while considering the complete problem





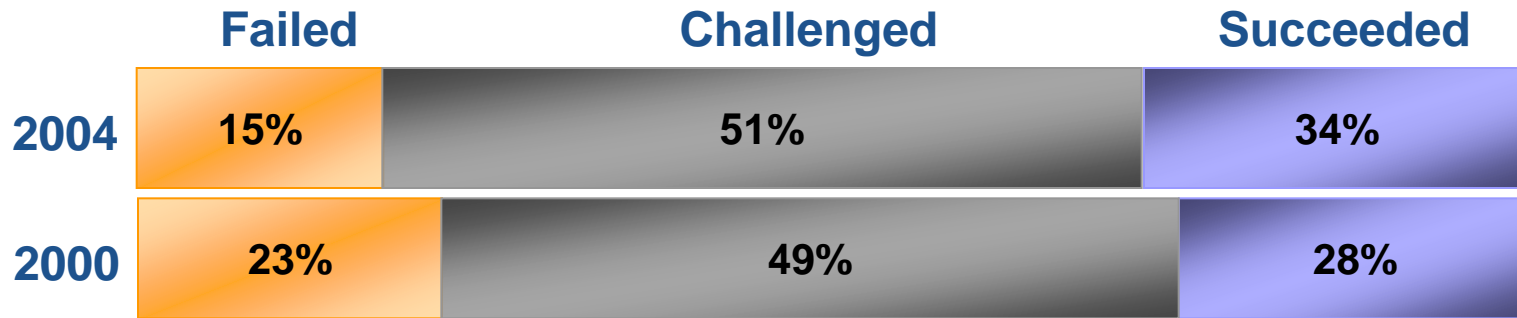
# Systems Engineering Principles

- Start with Your Eye on the Finish Line
- Stakeholder Involvement is Key
- Define the Problem before Implementing the Solution
- Delay Technology Choices

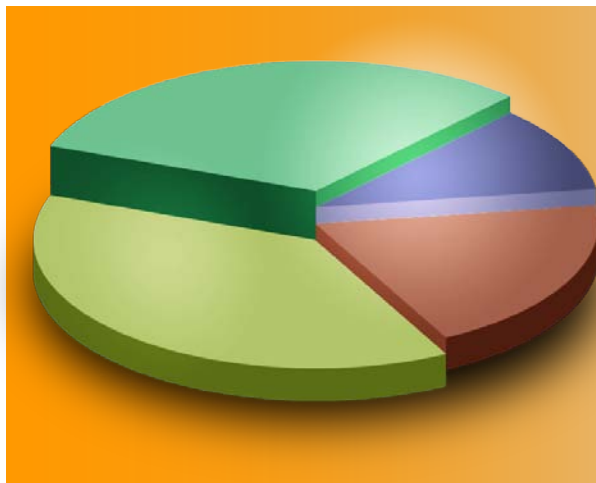




# Project Success is Rare



Source: The Standish Group International, *Extreme Chaos*, The Standish Group International, Inc., 2000

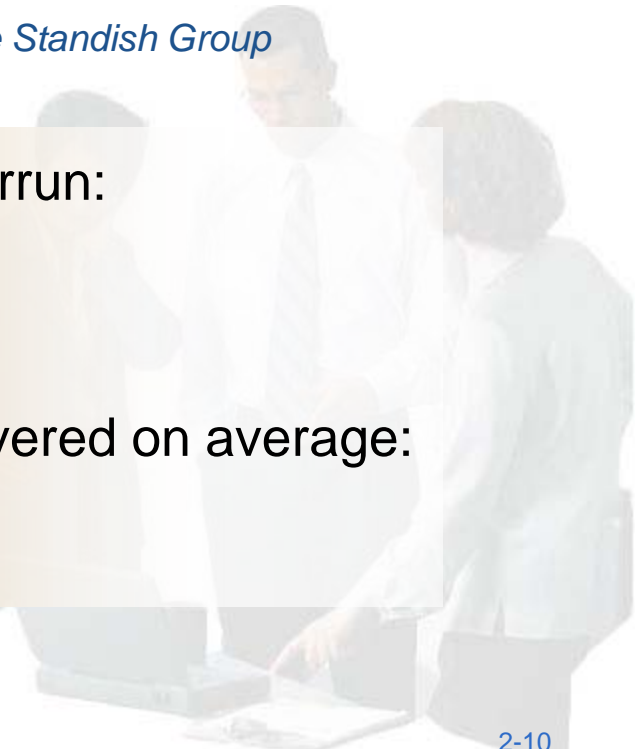


Average cost overrun:  
45%

Time overrun:  
63%

Functionality delivered on average:  
67%

Standish Group





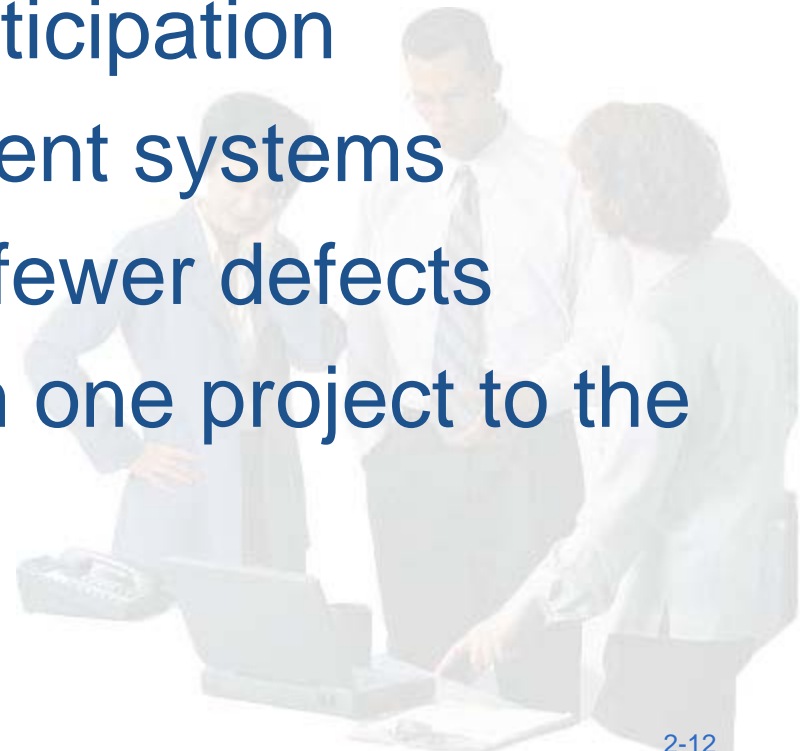
# Project Failures are Visible





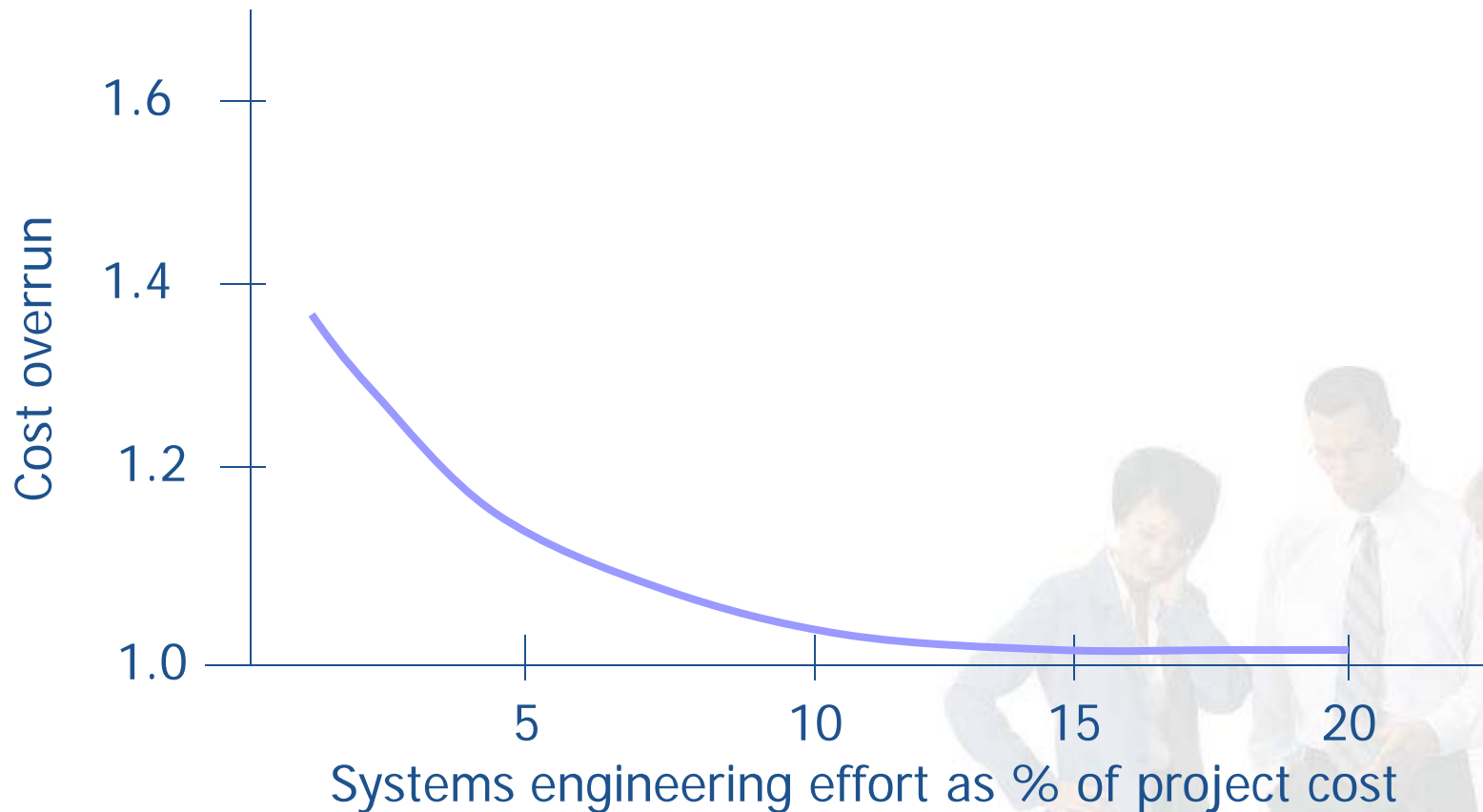
# Benefits of Using SE

- Reduced risk of schedule and cost overruns
- Increased likelihood that implementation will meet users' needs
- Improved stakeholder participation
- More adaptable and resilient systems
- Verified functionality and fewer defects
- Higher level of reuse from one project to the next
- Better documentation





# Systems Engineering Impact: Project Cost vs. SE Cost



Source: Honour, et al., 2004, *Value of Systems Engineering*, Honourcode, Inc., Pensacola, FL



# A Lesson from the 'Greatest Generation'

- Eisenhower Wants to Build Roads
  - How fast Germans moved armies during WWII
  - America embroiled in the Red Scare
  - Post war prosperity presented an opportunity





# How Would We Use a New Roadway Network

- Move armies quickly
- Move people, goods & services efficiently





# What slows armies down?

- Intersections
- Narrow roads
- Tight curves
- Incomplete network





# Basic Requirements

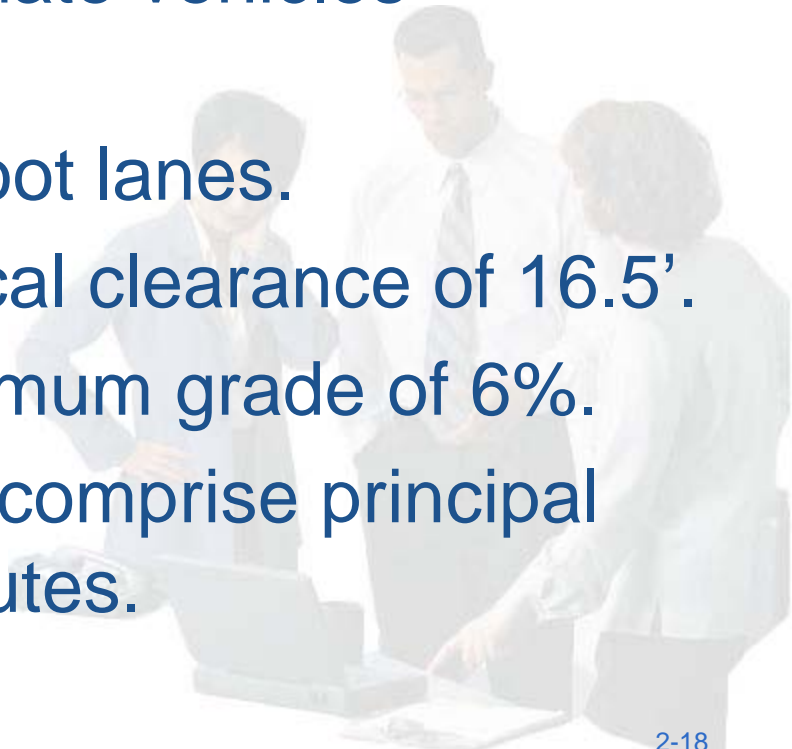
- Limited access
- Wide lanes with shoulders
- Divided highway
- High design speed
- Comprehensive network





# Functional Requirements

- The highway shall have no at-grade crossings.
- The highway shall separate the two directions of travel.
- The highway shall accommodate vehicles traveling at 70 mph.
- The highway shall have 12' foot lanes.
- The highway shall have vertical clearance of 16.5'.
- The highway shall have maximum grade of 6%.
- The highway network should comprise principal east-west and north-south routes.





- Does Eisenhower know anything about building roads?
- Do road builders know anything about moving armies?
- Do they need to?





# How did we do?

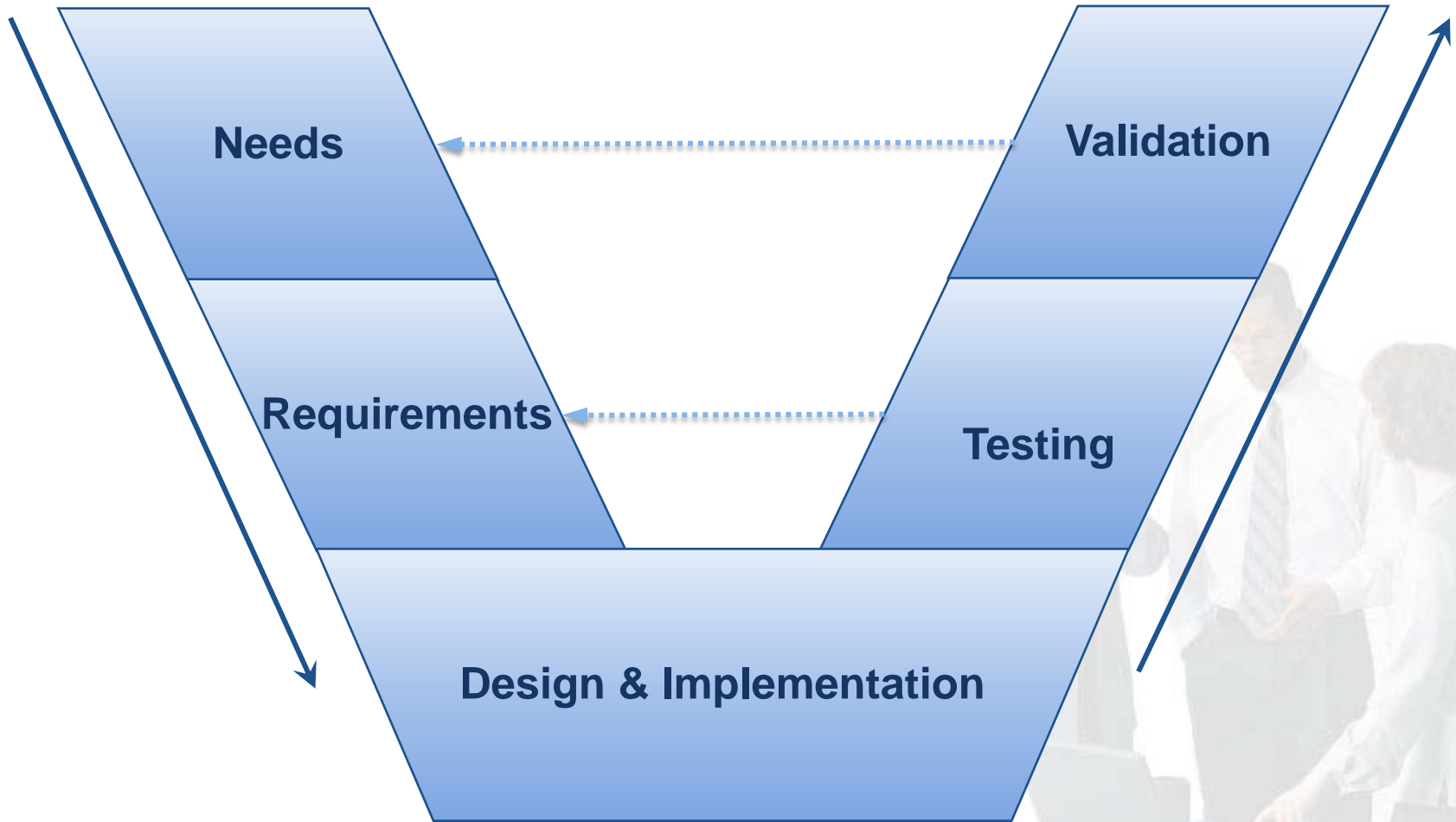


- Did we build the roads right?
- Did we build the right roads?





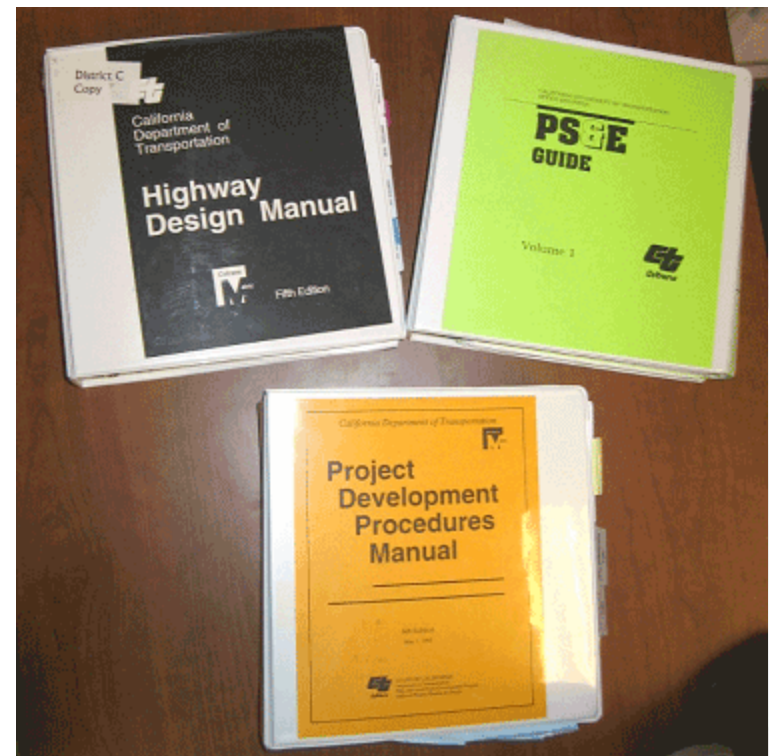
# Systems Engineering Ties It All Together



# SE-like Processes ALREADY in Place!



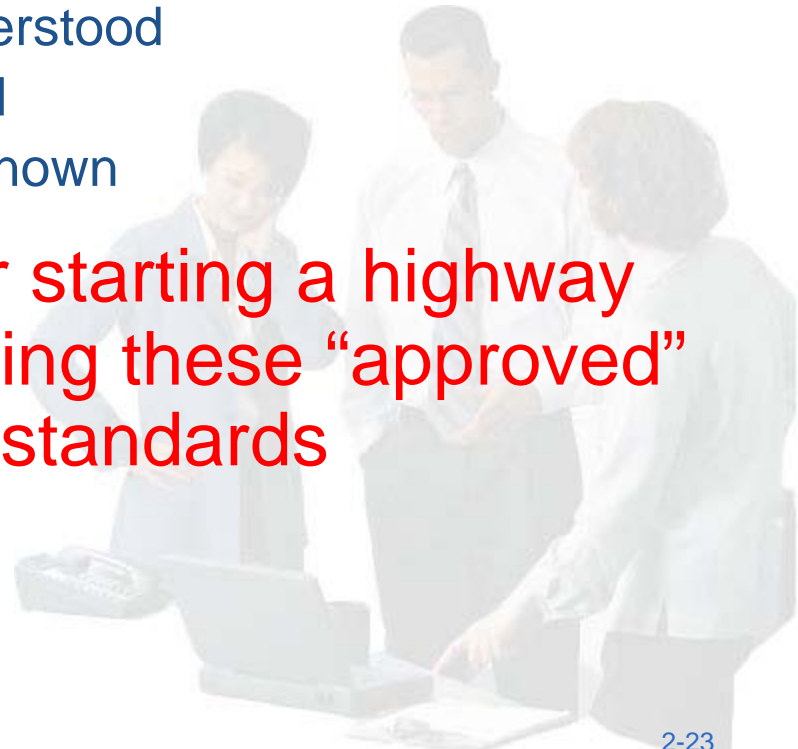
- ✓ Well Documented
- ✓ Highly Formalized
- ✓ Rigorously Followed
- ✓ Required by Management





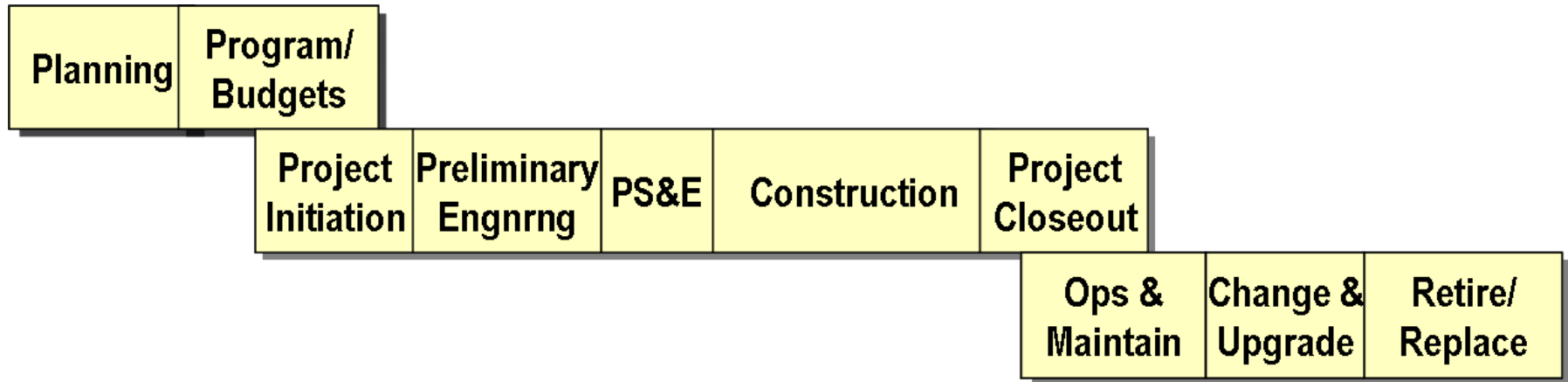
# What We Did Right

- DOTs have been building roads for many years
- DOTs have developed processes for design and construction of roads and bridges where:
  - Performance well understood
  - Requirements well defined and understood
  - Technology proven, well understood
  - Documented designs proven, well known
- **No one would even consider starting a highway design project without following these “approved” processes, documents, and standards**



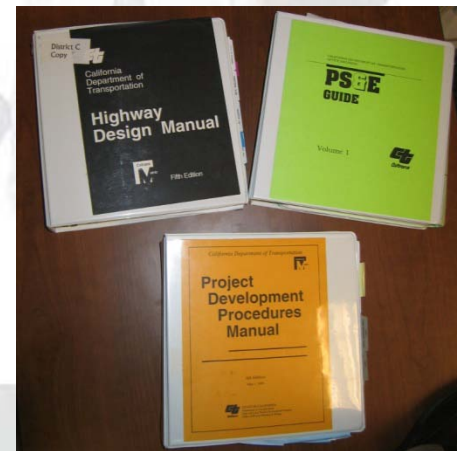


# Traditional Project Development Process Has Led to This Success



## Low Risk of Unsuccessful Implementation!

- ✓ Performance of products and materials well understood
- ✓ Requirements well defined and understood
- ✓ Proven, well-known technology
- ✓ Documented, proven designs



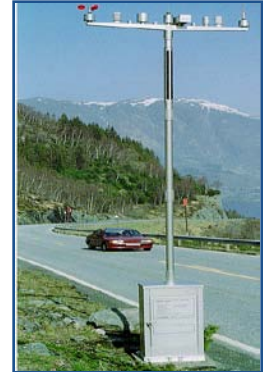
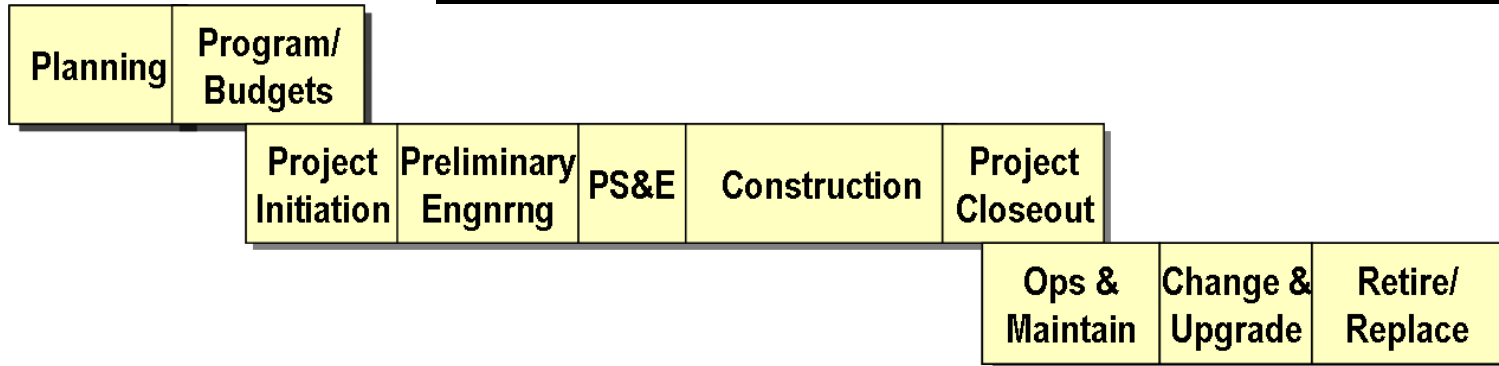


# Result: Long-Lasting Highways Are Designed, Built, and Tested



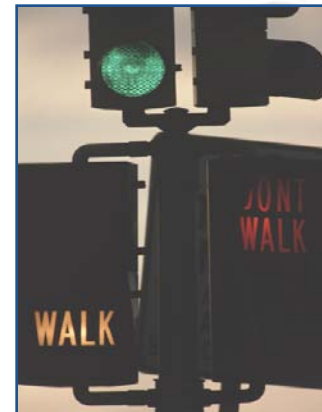


# Traditional Project Development ALSO Works for ITS Infrastructure Expansion



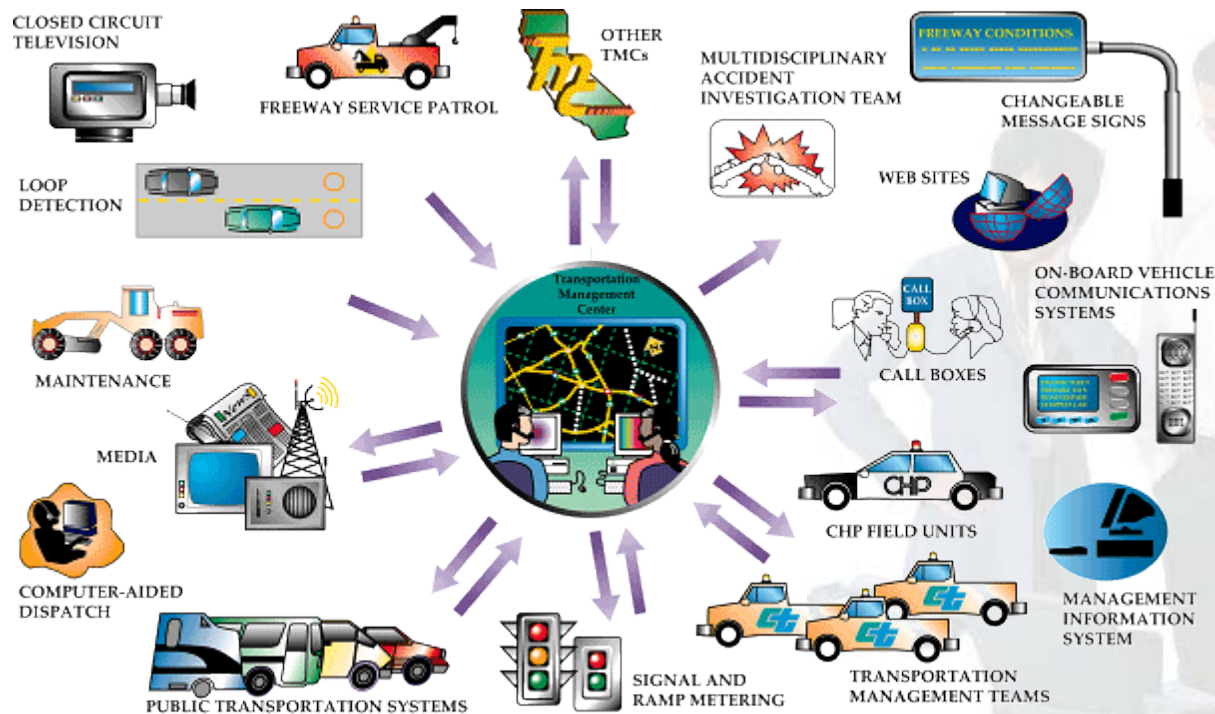
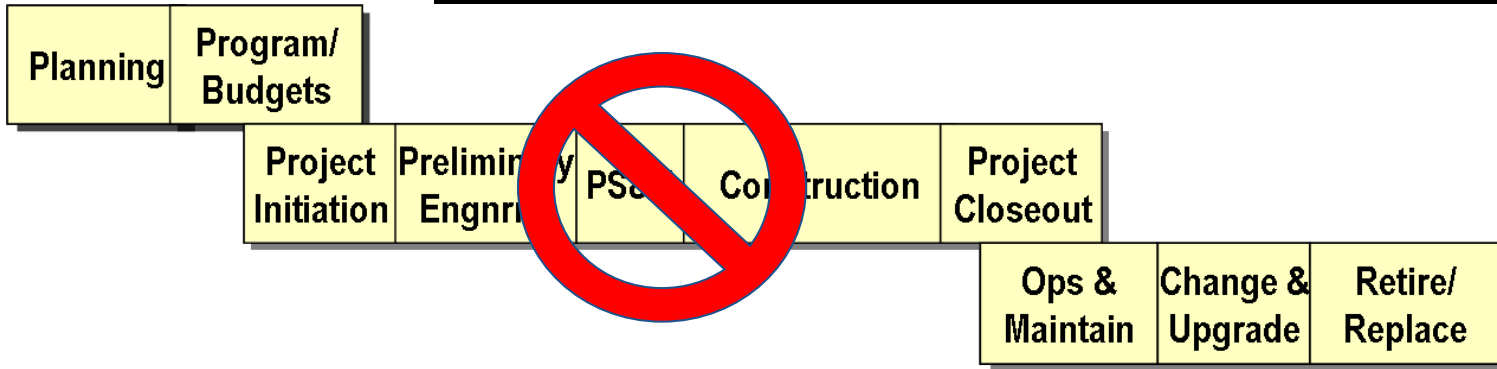
## ITS Infrastructure Expansion: Low-Risk Projects

Processes and approved manuals ALSO in place for field installation of many ITS technologies





# BUT This Traditional Process Does NOT Work for Complex ITS Projects





# What is Different about Designing Complex Systems?

**Software and computer technology are involved!**

So, just how *do* you manage systems development when software or integration to other systems is involved?





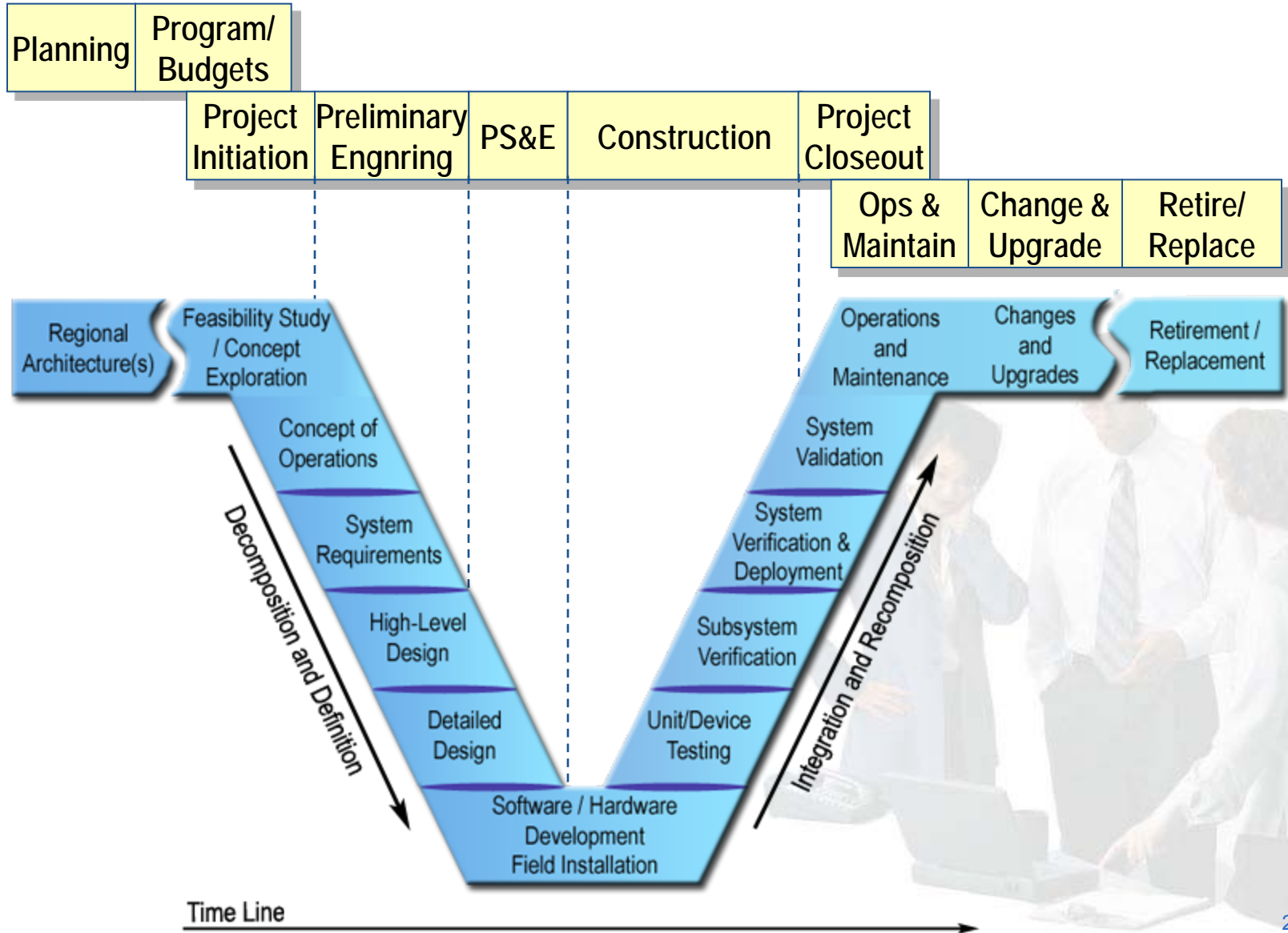
# Systems Engineering “V” Process

- FHWA representation of SE methods
- Representation of systems development process
- Addresses project life cycle
- Aligns with traditional project development process





# SE “V” and the Traditional Project Development Process





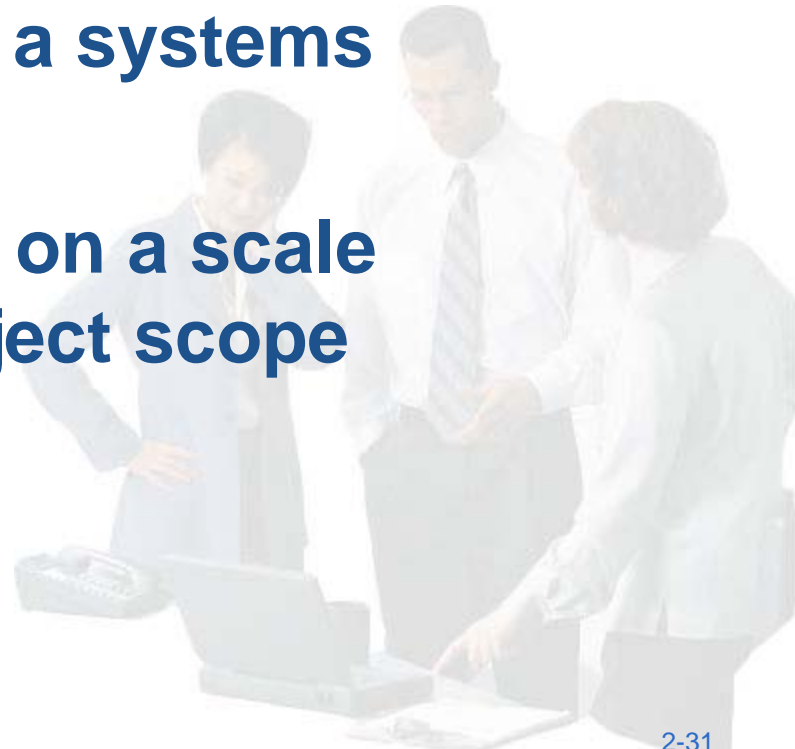
# Federal Regulations Require Systems Engineering

Rule/Policy



23 CFR 940.11 Project Implementation requires:

- a) All ITS projects funded with highway trust funds shall be based on a systems engineering analysis
- b) The analysis should be on a scale commensurate with project scope





# 23 CFR 940.11(c) defines “systems engineering analysis”

1. Identification of portions of the regional ITS architecture being implemented
2. Identification of participating agencies roles and responsibilities
3. Requirements definitions
4. Analysis of alternative system configurations and technology options to meet requirements
5. Procurement options
6. Identification of applicable ITS standards and testing procedures
7. Procedures and resources necessary for operations and management of the system

Rule/Policy



***SE “V” covers all 7 requirements***



# 23 CFR 940.13: Project Administration

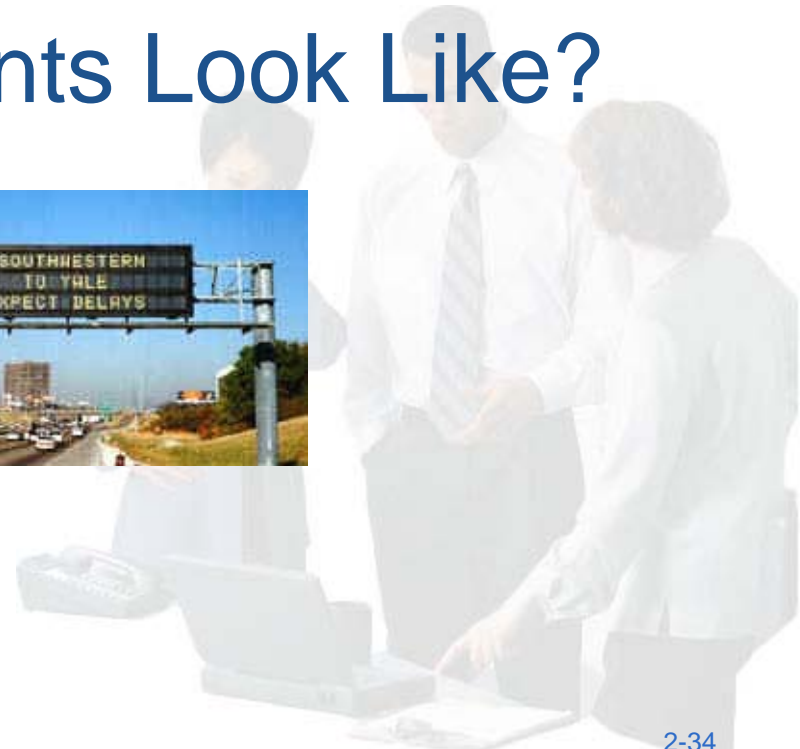
- Prior to authorization of highway trust funds for construction or implementation of ITS projects, compliance with §940.11 shall be demonstrated
- Compliance will be monitored under Federal-aid oversight procedures
  - Each FHWA Division Office works with State/Local Partners to establish these procedures

Rule/Policy





## What Do SE Documents Look Like?





# What Do SE Documents Look Like?

- Focus on these SE documents:
  - Concept of Operation
  - Requirements
  - Verification
  - Validation
- What SE documents should include
  - Properly documented needs
  - High-Level Requirements based on needs
  - Traceability between needs and requirements
- Not included: SE management documents such as SEMP, SEA
- Not Included: How design fulfills requirements



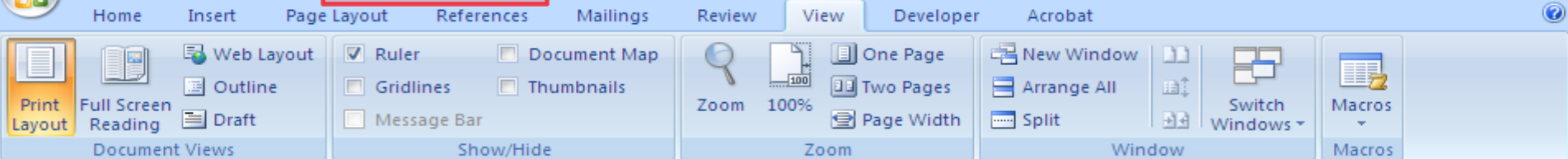
# Example: DMS Replacement Program

The image displays several overlapping screenshots of Microsoft Word documents related to a DMS replacement program. The documents include:

- DMS Upgrade and Expansion Program Concept of Operations**: Version 1.1, February 25, 2008. Prepared for VDOT (Virginia Department of Transportation Northern Region Operations) by ITERIS.
- Appendix 1, High-Level Requirements**: Draft Version 0.4, February 25, 2008. Includes a revision history and an introduction.
- Appendix 2, Validation Plan**: Draft Version 0.3, February 25, 2008. Includes a revision history and an introduction.
- DMS Requirements Traceability Table v0...M**: Shows a table with columns for User Need, ConOps Section, and High-Level Requirement Number.

The traceability table is partially visible at the bottom right:

User Need	ConOps Section	High-Level Requirement Number
Concept of Operation 1.1,	ConOps 1.1,	Ver 0.



# DMS Upgrade and Expansion Program

## *Concept of Operations*

Version 1.1  
February 25, 2008

Prepared for



Virginia Department of Transportation  
Northern Region Operations

Print Layout Full Screen Reading Draft Document Views

Ruler  Document Map  Gridlines  Thumbnails  Message Bar Show/Hide

Zoom 100% One Page Two Pages Page Width

New Window Arrange All Split Window Switch Windows

Macros

## Table of Contents

Revision History.....	ii
1. Scope.....	1
1.1. Identification.....	1
1.2. Concept of Operations Role within the Systems Engineering Process.....	1
1.3. System Overview.....	1
1.4. Goals and Objectives.....	2
1.5. Vision for the System.....	3
2. Referenced Documents.....	3
3. User-Oriented Operational Description.....	4
3.1. Description of Existing Situation.....	4
3.2. Identification of Stakeholders, Roles and Responsibilities.....	5
3.3. Operational Sequence.....	5
4. Operational Needs.....	5
4.1. Message Display Needs.....	6
4.1.1. Real-Time Message Display.....	6
4.1.2. Scheduled Message Display.....	8
4.1.3. Travel Time.....	8
4.1.4. Future Applications.....	9
4.1.5. Message Legibility.....	9
4.1.6. Status Reporting.....	10
4.1.7. Sign Location for Messaging.....	10
4.2. Maintainability Needs.....	11
4.2.1. Preventive Maintenance.....	11
4.2.2. Emergency Maintenance.....	11
4.2.3. Reliability.....	12
4.2.4. Reparability.....	12
4.2.5. Maintenance Diagnostics.....	12
4.2.6. Sign Location for Maintenance.....	12

Print Layout Full Screen Reading Draft Document Views

Ruler  Document Map  
 Gridlines  Thumbnails  
 Message Bar Show/Hide

Zoom 100% One Page Two Pages Page Width

New Window Arrange All Split Window Switch Windows

Macros

4.2.5.	Maintenance Diagnostics.....	12
4.2.6.	Sign Location for Maintenance.....	12
4.3.	Integration and Configurability Needs.....	13
4.3.1.	Operational Configuration.....	13
4.3.2.	Communications Versatility.....	13
4.3.3.	Interface Needs.....	13
4.3.4.	Control System Versatility.....	13
4.4.	Physical Construction Needs.....	13
4.4.1.	Existing Structure Compatibility.....	13
4.4.2.	Positioning.....	13
4.4.3.	Roadway Appurtenance Clear Zone.....	13
5.	System Overview.....	14
5.1.1.	DMS Subsystem.....	14
6.	Operational and Support Environment.....	15
6.1.	Personnel.....	15
6.1.1.	Staffing Requirements.....	15
6.2.	Facilities.....	16
6.3.	Hardware and Software.....	16
6.4.	Operating Procedures.....	16
6.5.	Maintenance.....	16
7.	Operational Scenarios.....	16
7.1.	ATMS Sign Control.....	16
7.1.1.	Incidents.....	16
7.1.2.	HOV Restrictions.....	17
7.1.3.	DHS Alert.....	17
7.1.4.	Amber Alert.....	17
7.1.5.	Special Event.....	17
7.1.6.	Work Zones.....	17
7.1.7.	Weather.....	18

Microsoft Word ribbon showing tabs: Home, Insert, Page Layout, References, Mailings, Review, View, Developer, Acrobat. The View tab is active, showing options for Document Views (Print Layout, Full Screen Reading, Draft), Show/Hide (Ruler, Document Map, Gridlines, Thumbnails, Message Bar), Zoom (Zoom, 100%, One Page, Two Pages, Page Width), Window (New Window, Arrange All, Split, Switch Windows), and Macros.

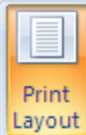
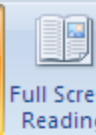
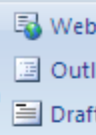
7.1.7.	Weather.....	18
7.1.8.	Congestion.....	18
7.1.9.	Travel Time.....	18
7.2.	DMS Design.....	18
7.3.	DMS Installation and Configuration.....	18
7.4.	DMS Maintenance.....	19
8.	Next Steps.....	19
8.1.	Detailed Requirements.....	19
8.2.	System Design.....	19
8.3.	Software/Hardware Development Field Installation.....	19
8.4.	Unit/Device Testing.....	19
8.5.	Subsystem and System Verification and Acceptance.....	20
8.6.	System Validation.....	20
8.7.	Operations & Maintenance.....	20
	Appendix 1, High-Level Requirements.....	A1-1
	Appendix 2, Validation Plan.....	A2-1

## Revision History

Version 0.3, October 31, 2007  
Initial working draft without stakeholder input

Version 0.4, January 25, 2008  
First completed draft, including stakeholder input, for VDOT review.

Version 1.0, February 19, 2008  
Added sections on project architecture, revised name of TMC, and editorial revisions.

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Document Views

Web Layout

Outline

 Ruler Gridlines Message Bar Document Map Thumbnails

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Zoom



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One Page



Two Pages



Page Width

Zoom



New Window



Arrange All



Split

Window

Switch  
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Windows

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VDOT technicians perform board-level repair of DMS hardware rather than electronic component-level repair. When an electronic component on a circuit board fails, VDOT technicians troubleshoot to determine which board failed, and then return the faulty board to the manufacturer for repair. VDOT's mechanism for paying for these repairs is limited, and the use of extended warranties is preferred.

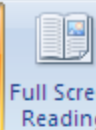
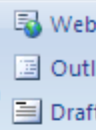
The expected field-serviceable lifespan of the signs is 10 years.

#### 4.2.5. Maintenance Diagnostics

Technicians need to be able to diagnose sign faults as completely as possible from their shop location, or in consultation with ATMS operators.

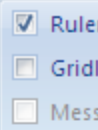
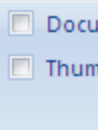
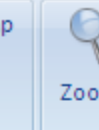
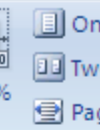
#### 4.2.6. Sign Location for Maintenance

Field technicians need to be able to effect maintenance and repair on the sign in all weather conditions without closing any lanes of the facility to traffic. Technicians need to be able to park maintenance vehicles safely with reasonable access to the sign, ground control cabinet, and all pull boxes for maintenance, without closing lanes and without deploying extensive work zone traffic management. Maintenance vehicles do not include buckets or lifts, and therefore need to access signs using secure access from the ground for technicians in accordance with state and federal worker safety requirements.

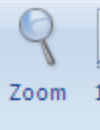
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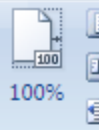
Document Views

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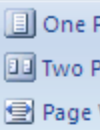
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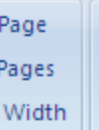
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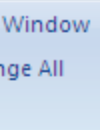


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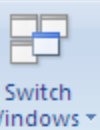
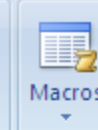


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Macros

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## 4. Maintainability Requirements

### 4.1. *DMS Location for Field Accessibility*

The DMS shall be located such that field technicians are able to effect a repair on the sign, ground cabinet, and pull boxes in all weather conditions without closing any part of the facility to traffic.

### 4.2. *DMS Design for Field Accessibility*

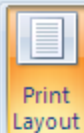
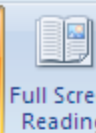
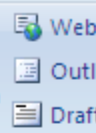
The DMS shall be physically designed to protect the field technician from inclement weather, so that the field technician can effect a board-level repair in all weather conditions without closing the facility to traffic and without exposing sign components to damage from inclement weather.

### 4.3. *DMS Overhead Accessibility*

The DMS shall be accessible by field technicians without requiring the use of bucket trucks or other personnel lifting devices.

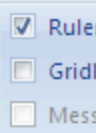
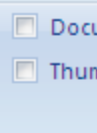
### 4.4. *DMS Access Safety*

The DMS shall be designed such that technician access conforms to all state and federal worker safety requirements.

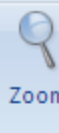
Print  
LayoutFull Screen  
Reading

Draft

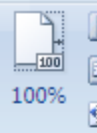
Document Views

 Ruler Gridlines Message Bar Document Map Thumbnails

Show/Hide

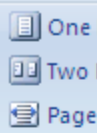


Zoom



100%

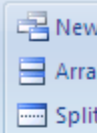
Zoom



One Page

Two Pages

Page Width

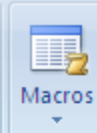


New Window

Arrange All

Split

Window

Switch  
Windows

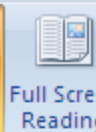
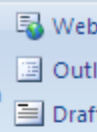
Macros

Macros

Operators

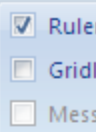
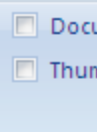
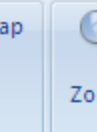
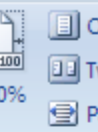
Sign Location for Maintenance	4.2.6			
Reparable in all weather conditions while protecting technician and sign components	4.2.6	4.2 DMS Design for Field Accessibility	The DMS shall be physically designed to protect the field technician from inclement weather, so that the field technician can effect a board-level repair in all weather conditions without closing the facility to traffic and without exposing sign components to damage from inclement weather	
Sign location provides maintenance vehicle parking area without blocking traffic	4.2.6	4.1 DMS Location for Field Accessibility	The DMS shall be located such that field technicians are able to effect a repair on the sign, ground cabinet, and pull boxes in all weather conditions without closing any part of the facility to traffic	
Sign components accessible from parking area, including sign, ground control cabinet, and all pull boxes	4.2.6	4.1 DMS Location for Field Accessibility	The DMS shall be located such that field technicians are able to effect a repair on the sign, ground cabinet, and pull boxes in all weather conditions without closing any part of the facility to traffic	
Signs serviceable without the use of bucket trucks or personnel lifting devices	4.2.6	4.3 DMS Overhead Accessibility	The DMS shall be accessible by field technicians without requiring the use of bucket trucks or other personnel lifting devices	
Sign access conforms to state and federal worker safety requirements	4.2.6	4.4 DMS Access Safety	The DMS shall be designed such that technician access conforms to all state and federal worker safety requirements	

User Need	ConOps Section	High-Level Requirement Number and Title	High-Level Requirement	Function Requirement Number
Concept of Operation 1.1, 2/25/08	ConOps 1.1, 2/25/08	Ver 0.4, 2/25/08	Ver 0.4, 2/25/08	

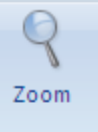
Print  
LayoutFull Screen  
Reading

Draft

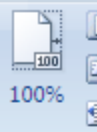
Document Views

 Ruler Document Map Gridlines Message Bar

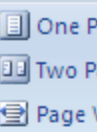
Show/Hide



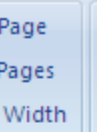
Zoom



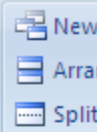
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One Page

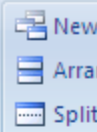


Two Pages



Page Width

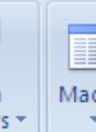
Zoom



New Window

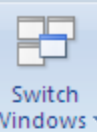
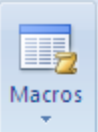


Arrange All



Split

Window

Switch  
Windows

Macros

Macros

## **2.3. Field Accessibility**

Are signs located to allow field technician access in all weather conditions without closing lanes? Are signs located to minimize knockdowns? Can technicians safely perform all work on the sign without requiring a bucket truck?

## **2.4. Reliability**

Do signs operate properly in all ambient conditions? Do the signs maintain at least 99.9% reliability? Is the sign designed for 100,000-hour MBTF (10,000 hours for routine maintenance items)?

## **2.5. Reparability**

Are technicians able to effect repairs without special tools or manipulation of software? Can those repairs be made within 20 minutes of diagnosis?

## **2.6. Maintenance Diagnostics**

Are technicians able to request and receive relevant diagnostic information from the sign?

## **2.7. Sign Location for Maintenance**



# Review...

- Needs describe *what the agency will do with the system*
- Requirements describe *what the system must do to support those activities*
- Traceability demonstrates
  - All needs are served by requirements
  - All requirements are driven by needs
- Validation means the system supports agency activities as described in the ConOps

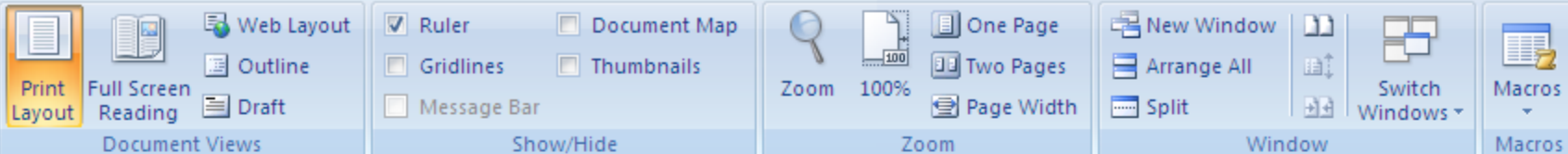




# One Final Point...

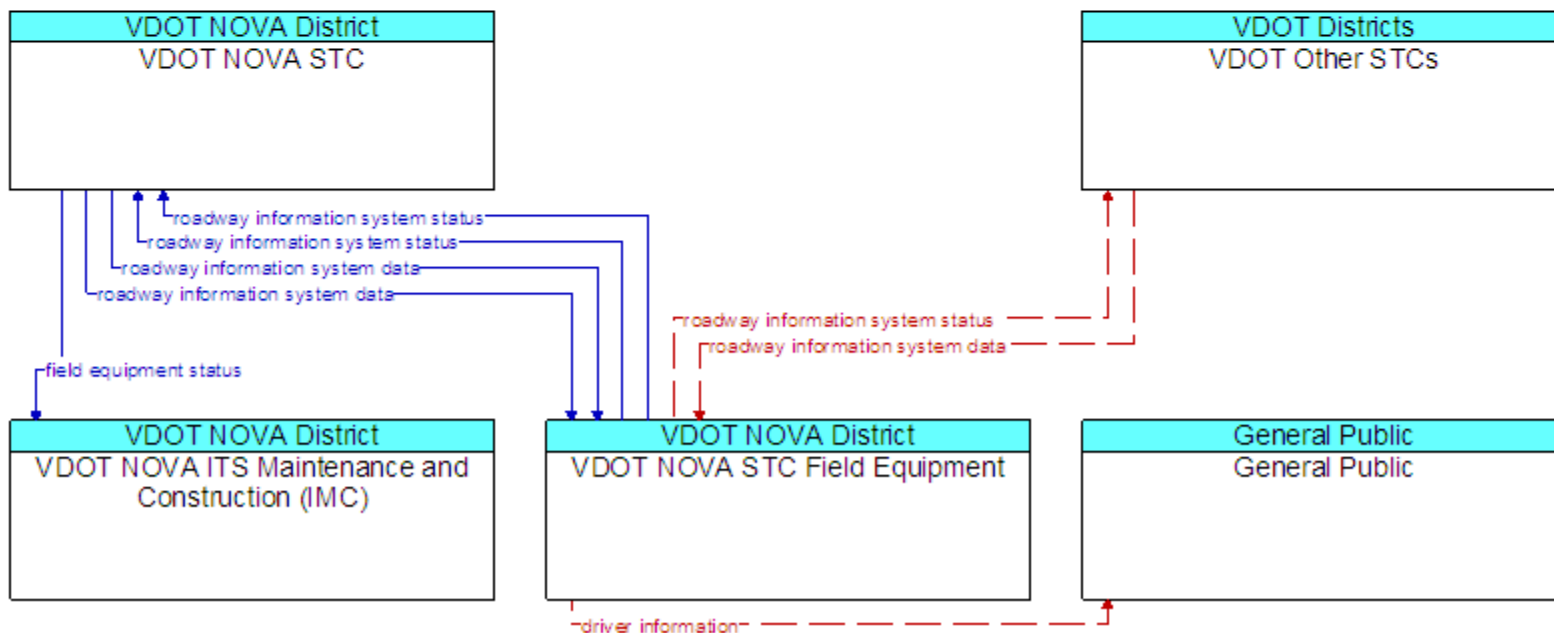
- The SE process should show how the project conforms to the regional ITS architecture





#### 5.1.1.4. System Architecture, High Level Requirements, and ITS Standards

The diagram below shows the architecture flows, elements, and stakeholders associated with the DMS Upgrade and Expansion program. These were derived from the current VDOT NOVA District Regional Architecture, Version 2.1, dated December 20, 2005. Flows are shown that affect the interface of the signs to the system, not that affect the information gathered that will be displayed on the signs.





# Learning Outcomes

- Identify the principles of systems engineering (SE)
- List benefits of using SE
- Describe similarities between the SE process and the traditional project development process
- Explain in general terms the federal requirements for SE Analysis
- Describe general contents of key SE Docs

