

# Randy's Bio

- Woolley Consulting      randy.woolley@engineer.com
- BSEE CSU Sacramento, BS Biochemistry UC Davis
- Retired from Caltrans Division of Research (25 years)
- Successfully completed 50+ transportation research projects
- Developed and taught (>40x) a 2 day SE fundamentals class for Caltrans
- Taught 3 day classes for UC Irvine- Fundamentals, Requirements, Design, Verification & Validation (>20 x)
- Member of INCOSE, ITE, IEEE, ITS America, ITS Ca
- Worked in Electronics Design and Manufacturing more than 26 years
- Using SE Techniques more than 20 years



# The Value of Systems Engineering and Transportation System Examples

INCOSE Los Angeles Chapter

June 13, 2017

Membership Meeting Presentation

Randy Woolley, CSEP, PE

# Ice Breaker

An Engineer, a Surgeon and  
a Priest are playing golf ...



# Does this look familiar?

Traffic jam in Berlin,  
Germany, on the first  
Saturday after the fall  
of the Wall on  
November 9, 1989, **~28  
years ago.**

# Topics to Discuss

- My Interest in SE/ My History
- Basics- SE101
  - What is a System?
  - What is Systems Engineering?
- Some Caltrans History
- What do we mean by “Value”
- Who determines value?
- Transportation Examples

# My Interest/ History

- Began in the early 1970s in flight school and while flying UH1 Huey aircraft on Medevac Missions at Ft Knox
- Nearly all missions are solo flights with critical patients on board
- Flight diversions for **perceived** mechanical or electrical problems are seldom in the patient's best interest
- Few pilots have any training to determine what is a critical problem and what is a minor one
- I really wanted to know how to tell the difference

# My Interest/ History

- I was privileged to attend the US Army Maintenance Test Pilot School where they teach these things
- Most military aircraft have redundant system indicators for critical items such as oil pressure and temperature
- When a problem is perceived, you must be able to interpret all the system indicators to determine if you have a major problem, a minor problem or an indicator problem
- This led to my interest in understanding all the **aircraft systems**, how they operated, and what the indicators actually told me
- **My interest really started more than 40 years ago**

# My Interest/ History

- After my time in the service, I obtained a degree in Electronics Engineering, and went to work for General Electric Medical Systems Ultrasound Division assigned to investigate and solve equipment field problems
- This again required a detailed understanding of the entire system
- I learned similar details of processes when transferred to manufacturing, responsible for vendor quality
- I continued at System Integrators as the Quality Assurance Manager, implementing SE and Just-in-Time into their manufacturing process (was not called SE at that time)



# My Interest/ History

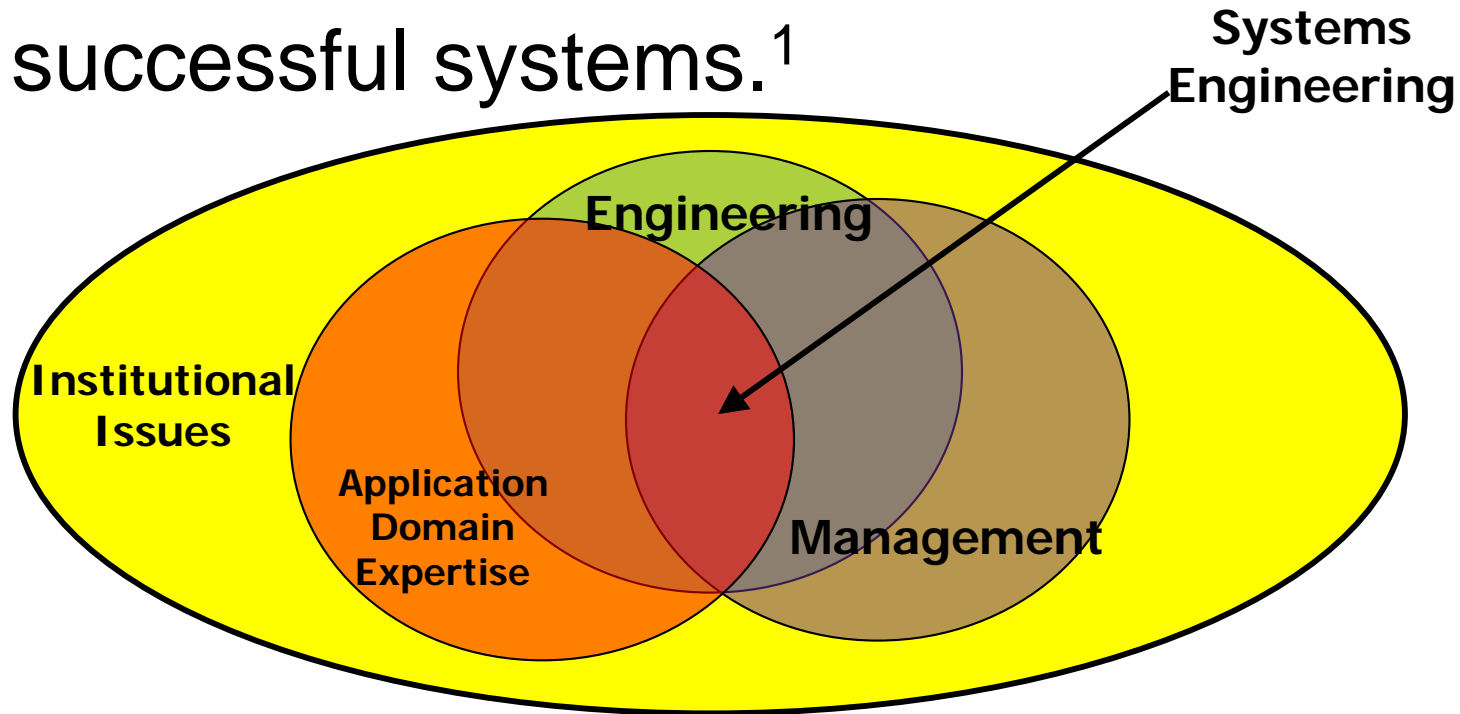
- I was assigned similar problem solving responsibilities at Caltrans in the Research Division
- In January 2001, the Federal Highway Administration issued “The Final Rule” mandating the use of Systems Analysis for ITS Projects (23CFR940.11) (Use of Systems Engineering)
- I was assigned as the team lead for Caltrans to implement 23CFR940.11 into Caltrans ITS Project processes to insure that we continued to receive federal funds (80% of most projects) for ITS Projects.

# SE 101- Formal Definition of a System

- Definition:
  - The **aggregation** of end products and enabling products that achieves a given purpose (EIA 632 V1.0 April 1998)
  - An **integrated composite** of people, products, and processes that provide a capability to satisfy **a stated need or objective**. (INCOSE SE Handbook Version 2.0 July 2000)

# SE 101 What is Systems Engineering?

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



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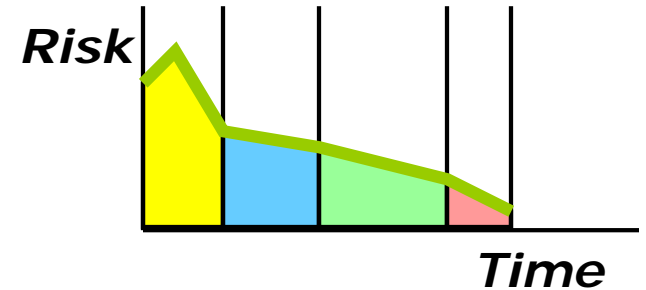
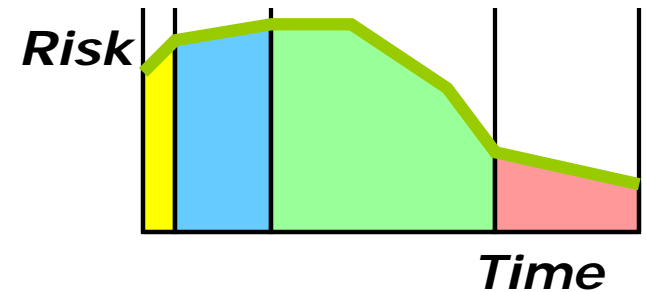
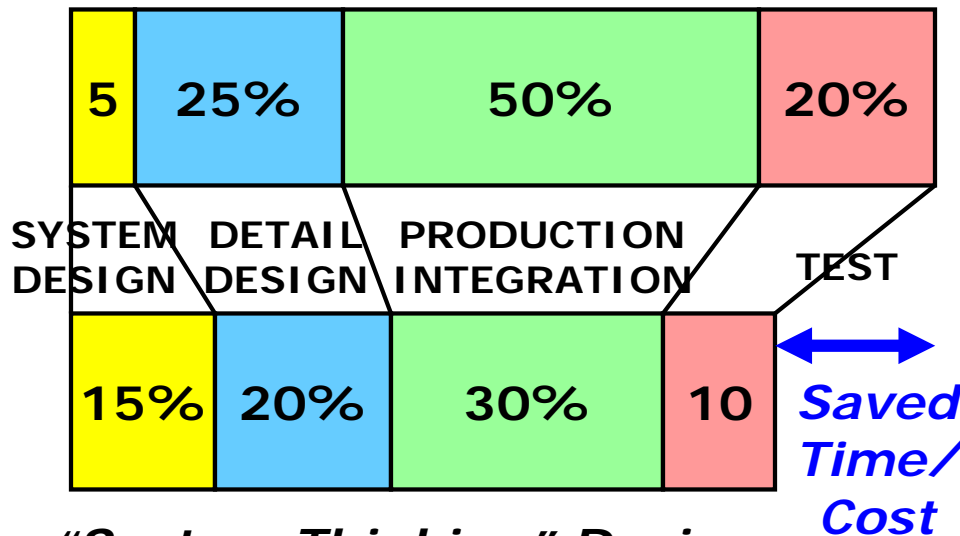
1-EIA-731 Annex B (Glossary)

# Heuristic Claims of SE- SE 101

- Better systems engineering leads to
  - Better system quality/value
  - Lower cost
  - Shorter schedule

**RISK IS  
REDUCED EARLIER**

*Traditional Design*



# Developing the Systems Engineering Guidebook (SEGB), SE Training

- FHWA Final Rule mandated use of Systems Analysis for ITS Projects (23CFR940.11 January 2001) (Use of Systems Engineering)
- The Code of Federal Regulations specified seven steps, all of which are common in Systems Engineering
- Randy led the Caltrans development of the *Systems Engineering Guidebook (SEGB) for ITS Projects*, partnering with FHWA and private industry
- Hosted at <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/cadiv/segb/>
- Used by most state DOTs in the US and many around the world

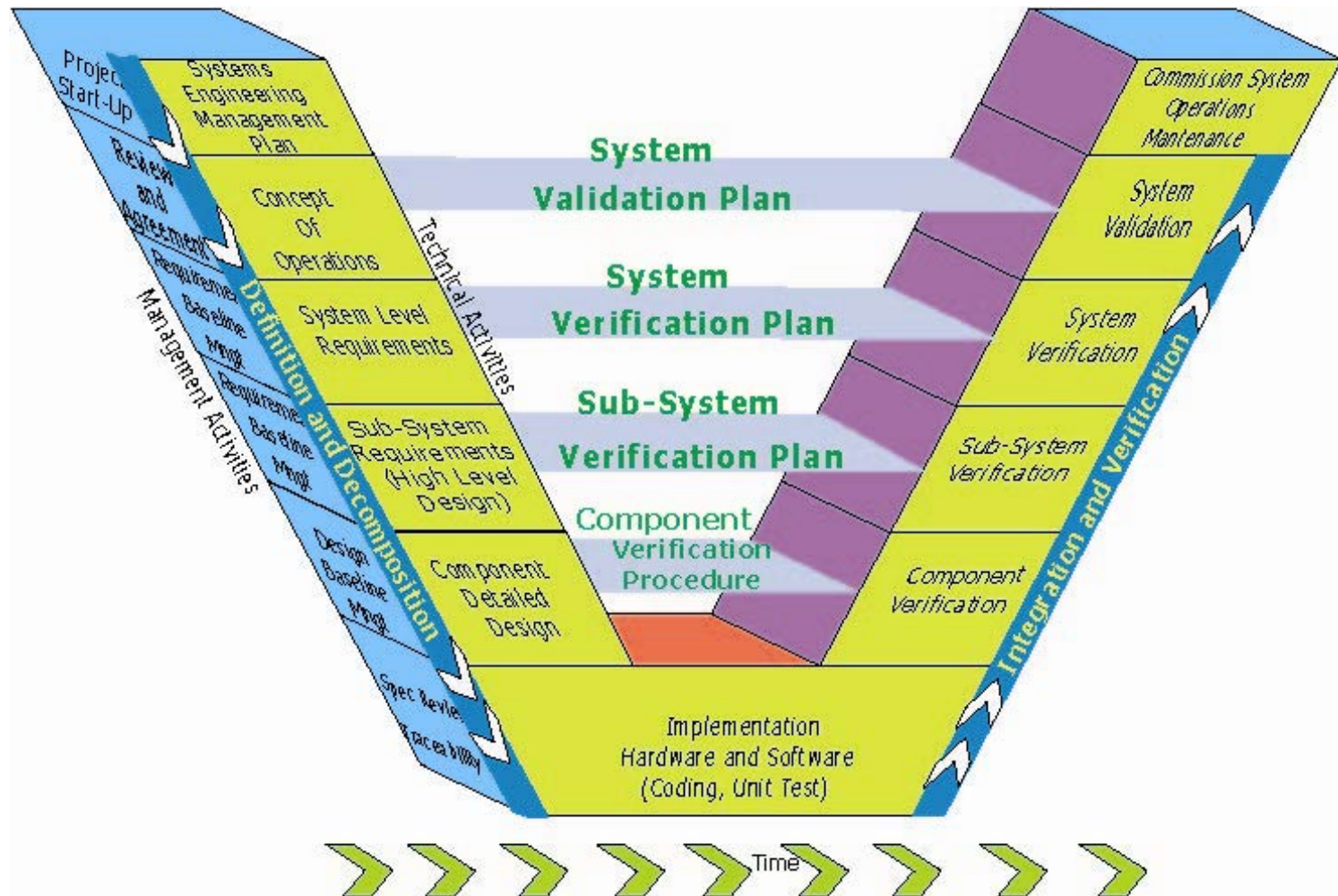
# Developing the Systems Engineering Guidebook (SEGB), SE Training

- Randy was also the Contract and Project Manager to develop a two day Systems Engineering Fundamentals class (SE101)
- This two day class was taught >40 times to Engineers and Planners throughout Caltrans, as well as multiple counties and cities in California. We focused on those developing Intelligent Transportation System Projects.
- I later updated this to four 3 day classes for UC Irvine and taught them in the corporate world.
- These included: Fundamentals, Requirements, Design, Verification & Validation. I taught this series more than 20 times.

# Changes in the Research Process

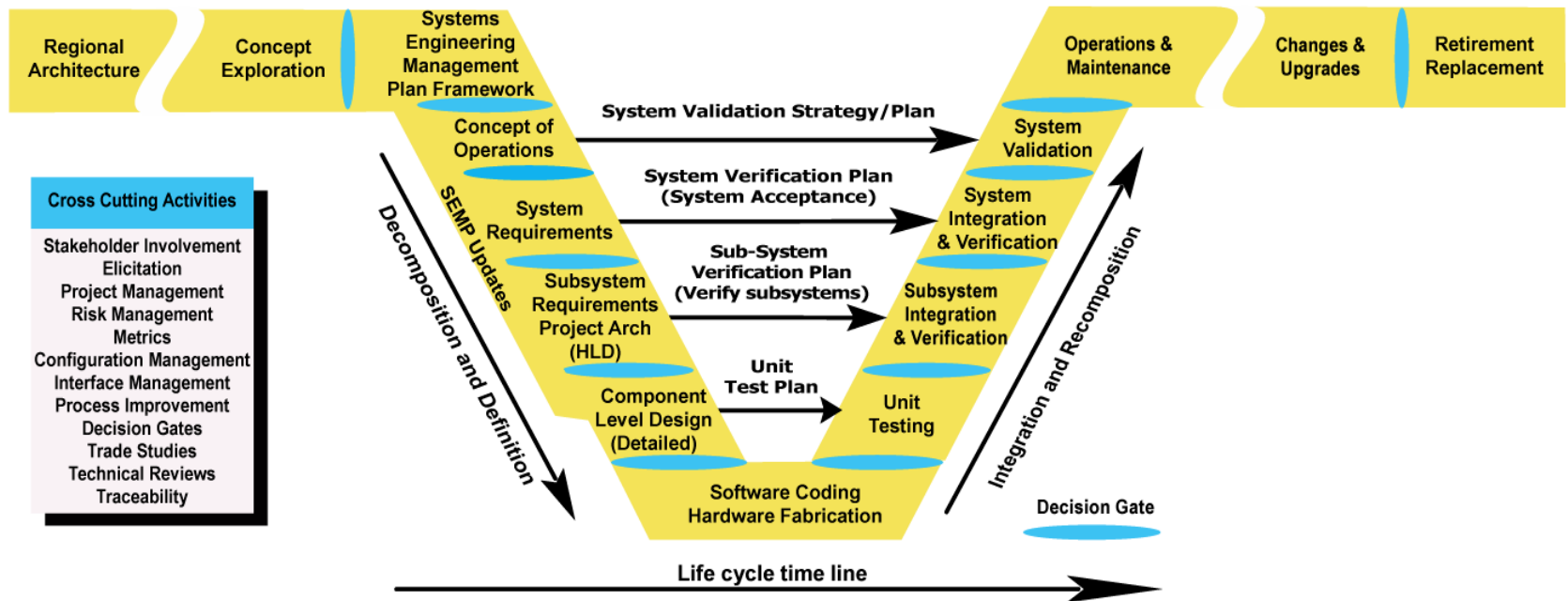
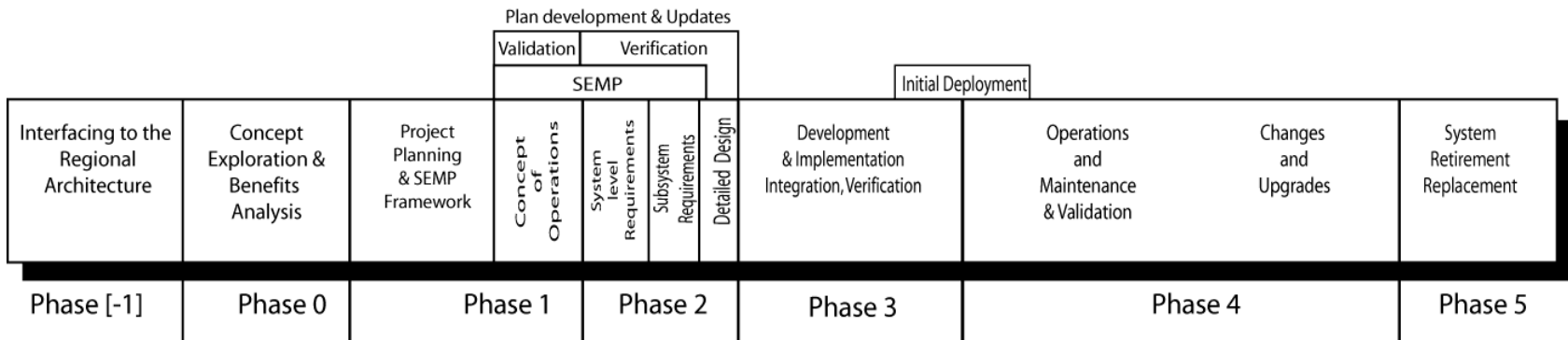
- **Communication with the customer became key at all stages of the research**
- **Focus on Customer Needs**
- Research projects needed a customer champion to start
- Champion customer must **commit to implementing** when an affordable solution is found
- Began use of systems engineering Vee model
- SE and PM training provided
- My team mandated use of SE Vee model for our projects
- **Engineers, Planners and first level supervisors** managed contracts (rather than higher level managers)

# Systems Engineering Vee Diagram

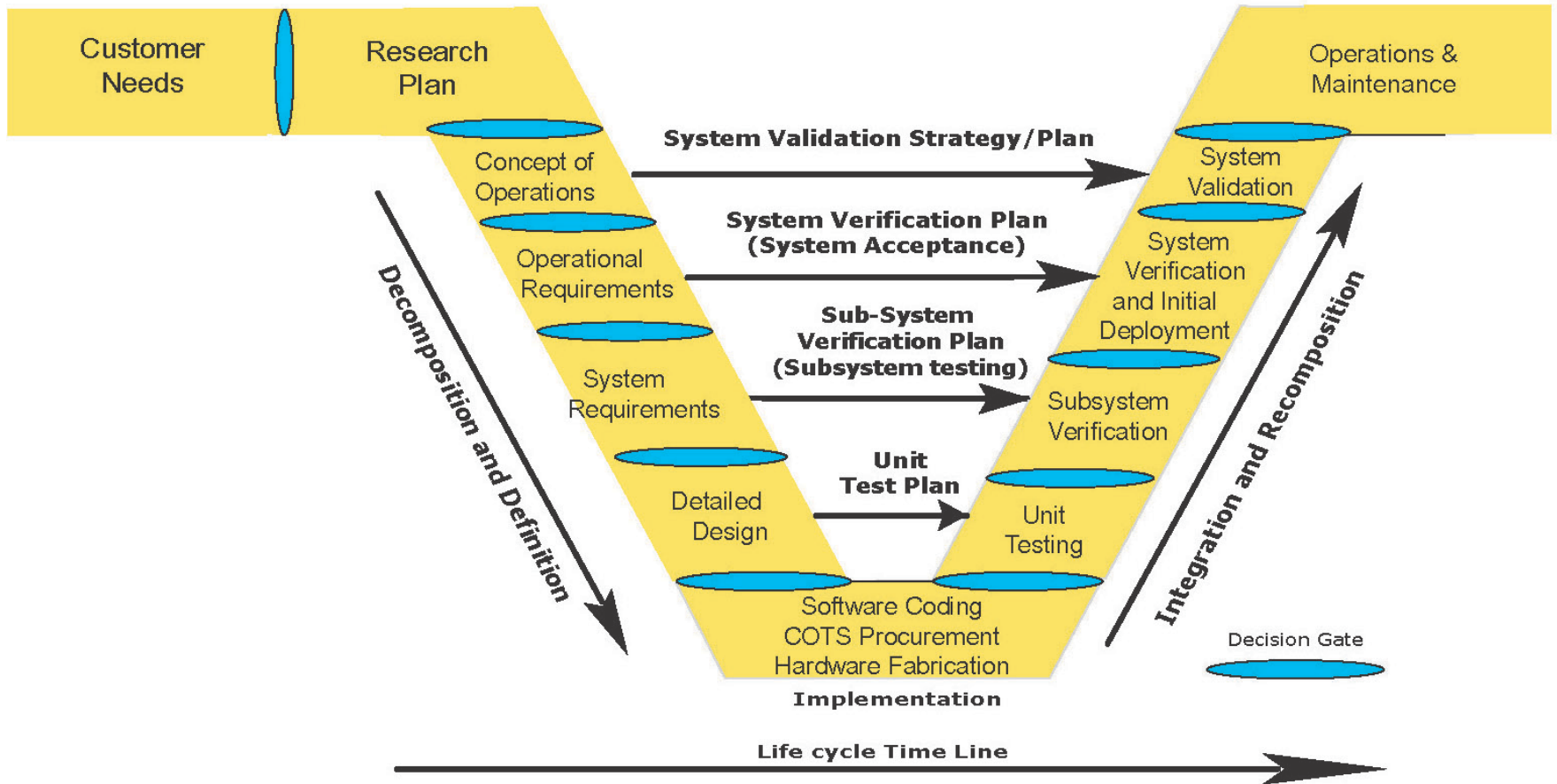




# Vee Diagram for Transportation



# Vee Diagram for Transportation Research



# The Results

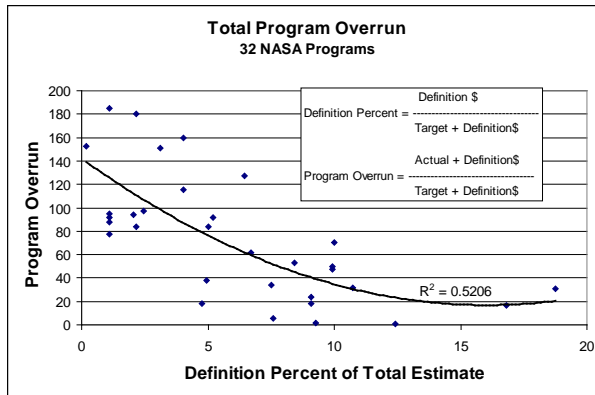
- **Research projects only started when the customer was on board.**
- Higher Quality Research, Quality Control by customer and Contract Manager
- Payment only **after** an accepted delivery
- Change orders made very difficult
- CM and PM **MANAGED** the project
- Weekly and monthly status with CM/PM, **customer** and researchers
- Nearly all projects completed on time/ in budget
- **Each of these things contributed to better quality or higher value product**

# What is Value?

- **First, a Look at Webster** (2 nouns, 2 verbs)
  - “A fair return or equivalent in money, goods, or services for something exchanged”
  - “The monetary worth of a thing”
  - “To estimate the worth of: Appraise”
  - To rate in usefulness, importance, or general worth”

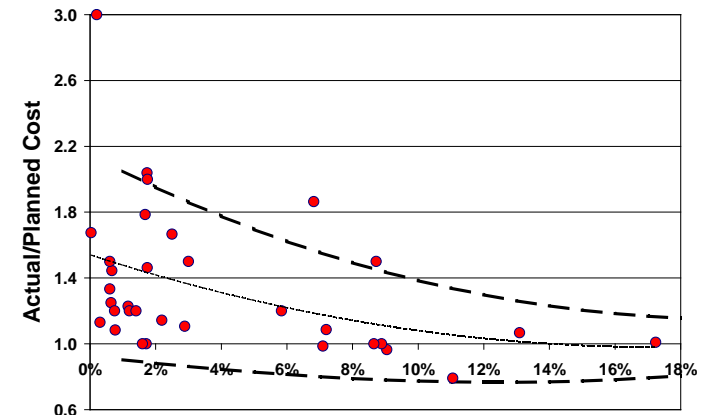
# Value of Systems Engineering Effort

## NASA Tracking 1980s



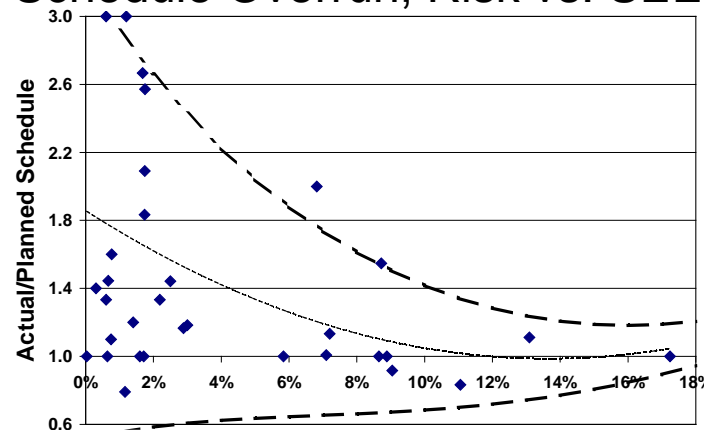
Source Werner Gruhl  
NASA Comptroller's Office

## Cost Overrun, Risk vs. SEE



$$SE\ Effort = SE\ Quality * SE\ Cost/Actual\ Cost$$

## Schedule Overrun, Risk vs. SEE



$$SE\ Effort = SE\ Quality * SE\ Cost/Actual\ Cost$$

Source: SECOE 01-03  
INCOSE 2002

- Program Overrun
- Actual/Planned Cost/ Risk
- Actual/Planned Schedule

All Plotted  
Against Systems  
Engineering Effort

# Value of Systems Engineering

- The Questions to Ask-
  - Did the system work **as the customer envisioned it**?
  - Was the **cost** what the **customer expected**?
  - Was the system **delivered on time**?
  - Do the customer's users **use the system**?
  - Does the system work as the **users needed it to work**?
- If your customer answers favorably to these questions, then Systems Engineering was likely of significant value to the project

# Who Determines Value of SE

- Ultimately comes down to: How does your **Customer, Owner, User, Funder** Value the system, ie: What is it worth to them
- **These people** determine whether or not SE was of value for the project
- Ultimately, the **PM, SE, CM and engineers on the job do not make the final determination** of the value of SE on a project.

# Sample Research Projects

- \* Snowfighter Communication
- \* Using Highway Patrol in Workzones-COZEEP/MAZEEP
- Advanced CMS Sign Specification
- New Barrier Designs
- Alternative Fuel Vehicle/ Maintenance Fleet tracking
- Airborne GPS for Photogrammetry
- 1997 Automated Highway Technology Demonstration
- Placing travel times on CMS Signs
- Reducing backing accidents
- Numerous workzone safety investigations



# Snowfighter Communication Project

# Sample Research Projects - Snowfighter Communication

- In mountainous areas, there is little or no line of sight radio communication, few cell towers, often miles without communication
- We installed a test bed with additional radio repeaters
- We developed a store/forward software mechanism between all vehicles to pass messages, including a moving map with last known location
- Used Radio, Cell and Satellite communications as necessary
- Employed identical systems in all vehicles
- **First 12 months** developing user needs and requirements (more extensive than any previous project)

# Sample Research Projects - Snowfighter Communication

- Minimal new development, nearly all the work was integrating existing COTS products
- Tests conducted on highway 88 near Caples Lake (Kirkwood Ski Resort), the **worst communications area** in California (South and East of Lake Tahoe)
- Prototype testing successful
- Included a near real time moving map and text messaging system (available in the truck and at the maintenance station or District Office)
- Project put on hold when a similar commercial product was found to be under development and already patented- the product is being evaluated

# Using Highway Patrol in Workzones

# Using Highway Patrol in Workzones

- Construction and Maintenance Zone Enhanced Evaluation Program (COZEEP and MAZEEP)
- Evaluated using 1, 2 and 3 CHP units in the work zone
- 34 tests in 12 urban and rural sites
- Day and Night tests
- Was most effective in long work zones where the driver can see multiple CHP units
- Initial results were that traffic slowed just over 5 mph- Does not seem like much

# Using Highway Patrol in Workzones

- We evaluated the data using an FHWA microsimulation called *PC Crash*
- The outputs of *PC Crash* show all crash forces, including those which would result in fatalities, only injuries, and only likely property damage
- We used 3 years of actual crash data and entered it into the simulation, 1,860 Work Zone crashes: 35 fatalities. We ran the simulation again, with a 5 mph speed reduction
- **Showed a 27% reduction in fatalities (9)**

# Using Highway Patrol in Workzones

- Statistical cost of a fatality is \$5.8 M
- Reduction of 9 fatalities -->\$52 M savings in cost alone, as well as lives and a reduction in injuries
- CT Maintenance immediately asked for a \$2M increase in budget for MAZEED, CT Construction asked for \$10M for COZEED
- **The most successful project in my career**

# Using Agile SE in Software Development



# Using Agile in Software Development

- Caltrans uses a modified Vee Model combined with a modified Agile process for ATMS Software (Advanced Transportation Management System) in the Transportation Management Centers (TMCs)
- Start with the User Needs, ConOps, Requirements from the left side of the Vee and have the customer approve it. (Requirements left at the highest level possible)
- At the bottom of the Vee, they take the functions and create a **Product Design Case (PDC)** document (Backlog) that can be split into sprints

# Using Agile in Software Development

- Each sprint is two weeks with a demonstration for the customer and a review/ buyoff by the customer
- Changes/ additions are allowed if needed, but the customer must agree to use contingency funds to do so and they either sprint again, or include it in the next sprint
- On approval, take the next PDC feature into a sprint
- So far, this has been tested on small software projects, each requiring only 2 or 3 sprints to complete

# Using Agile in Software Development

- This has been a game changer
  - After the initial sprint, the User Needs, ConOps, Requirements and the PDC are updated, and the next sprint initiated.
  - There is a product to demo/ review every 2 weeks
  - Customer/ stakeholders involvement **required** every 2 weeks
  - During sprints, the customer can do more extensive evaluation on the last version on their own test server while the next development is in progress

# Using Agile in Software Development

- Previous efforts to develop the entire software package in one pass typically took 1-2 years, with customer involvement only at the beginning and end
- Customers now engaged every 2 weeks
- Changes/ mistakes usually caught after 2 weeks, not 2 years
- Changes in needs/ requirements caught quickly
- Testing of each function as it is developed results in the final integrated approval test using already tested/ approved pieces. Usually approved quickly.

# Using Lean Techniques in Construction-

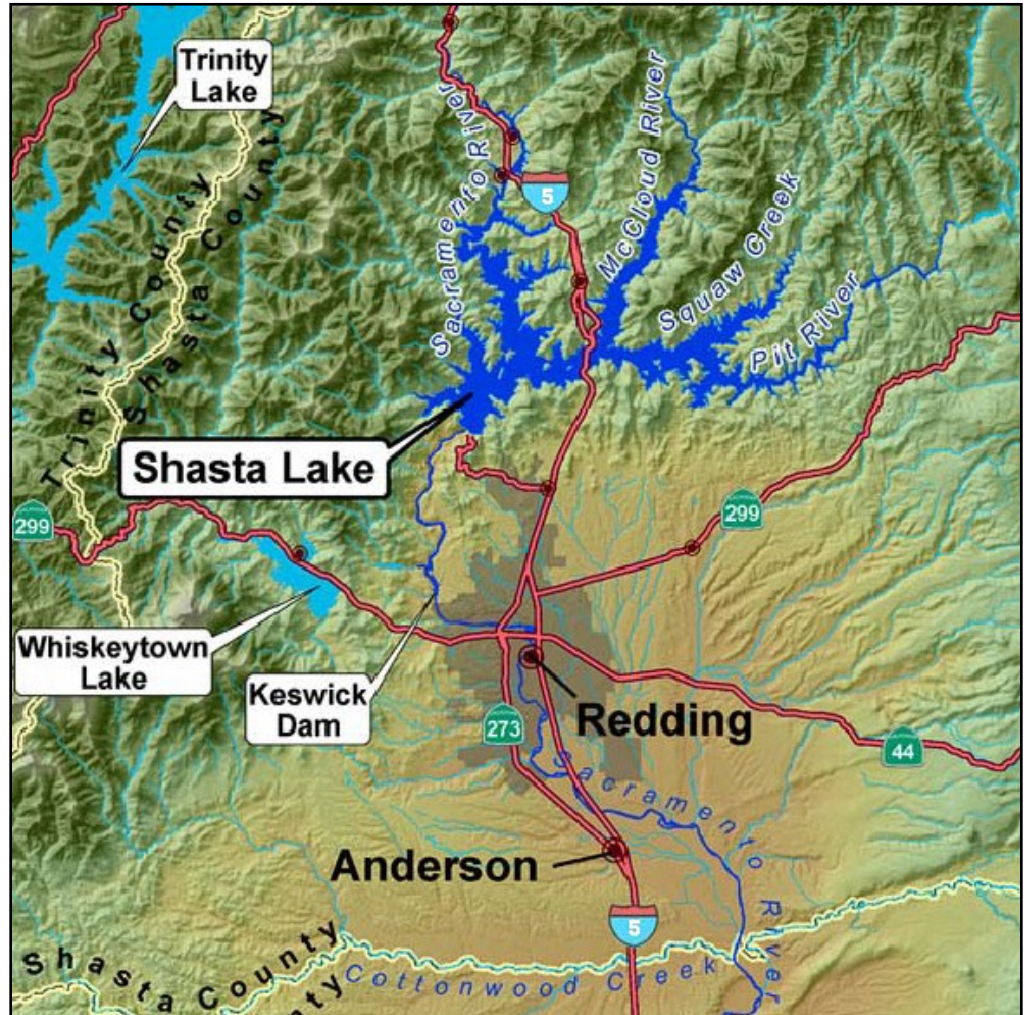
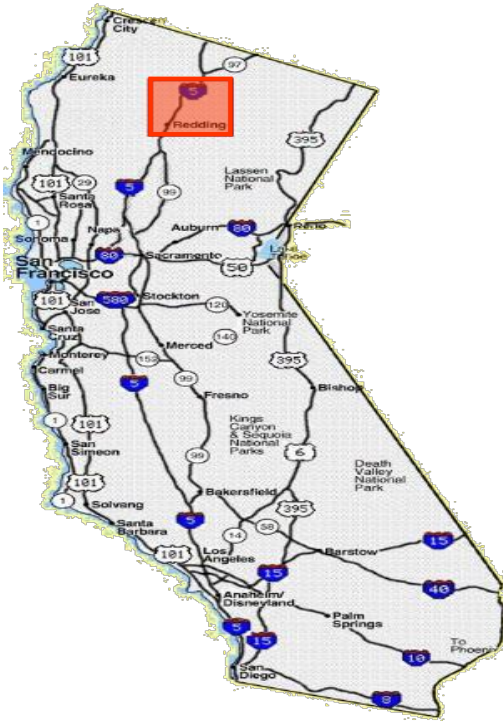
## Antlers Bridge Replacement

# Using Lean Techniques in Construction- Antlers Bridge Replacement

- Use of Lean actually began after the early design effort
- Caused some concern among engineers
- **Managers** were on a “use lean” agenda, and mostly forced its use, even though it was not well understood
- “Lean” expert brought in to help the project
- Lots of early ‘learning’ problems
- Lots of early issues with BLM, Forrest Service, Agriculture Department and other federal agencies
- Took a year or so to really get it going

# Antlers Bridge Replacement

## Project Location





# Using Lean Techniques in Construction- Antlers Bridge Replacement



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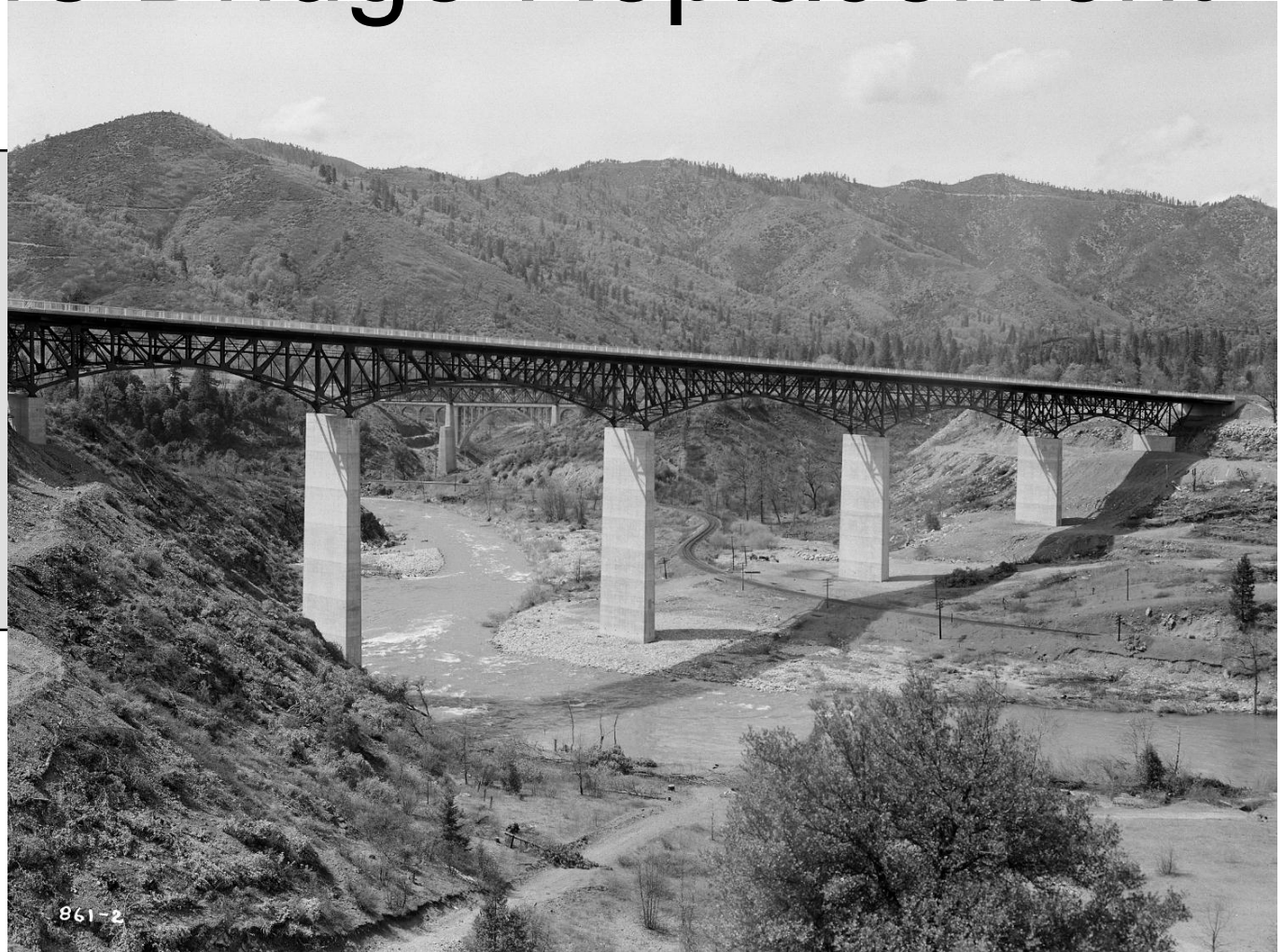
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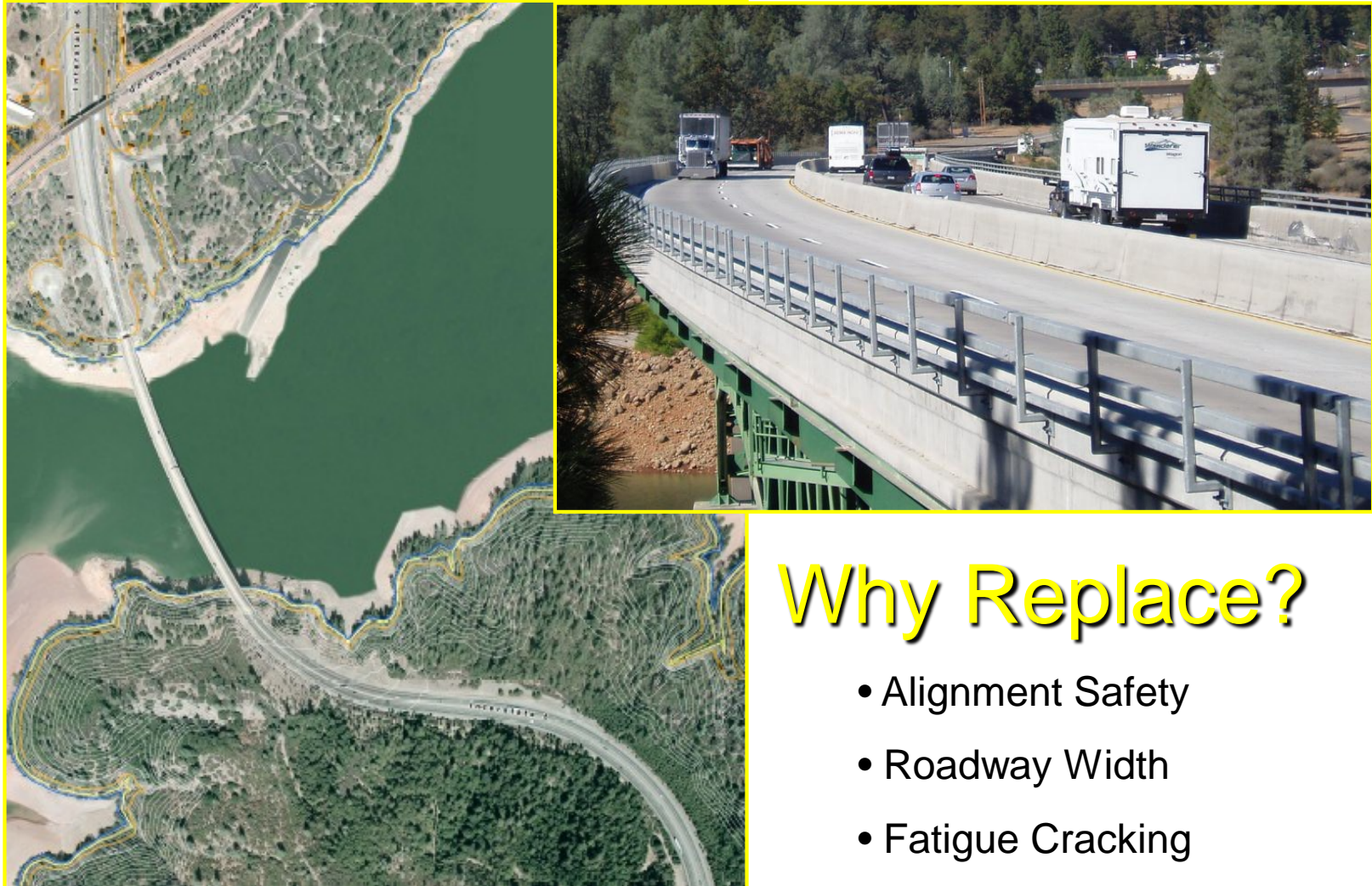
# Antlers Bridge Replacement

## Existing Bridge

- Built 1943
- Widened 1968
- Deck Replacement 2004



# Antlers Bridge Replacement



## Why Replace?

- Alignment Safety
- Roadway Width
- Fatigue Cracking



# Antlers Bridge Replacement



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# Antlers Bridge Replacement

## Deck Cracking





# Antlers Bridge Replacement



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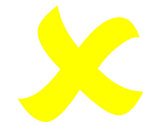
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# Antlers Bridge Replacement Foresight



That might  
work!



That'll  
never  
work...



# Antlers Bridge Replacement



# Antlers Bridge Replacement

## Artist's Conception of final Bridge





# Antlers Bridge Replacement



## Final Cost

Bid Amount = \$ 124 million  
Approved CCO's = \$ 5.2 million  
Claims to date = \$ 60 million  
Total to date = \$ 189 million

Last Working Day: May 11, 2015

Estimated Date of Completion (CPM):  
August 16, 2016

(Engineer's Estimate \$219 million)

# Antlers Bridge Replacement

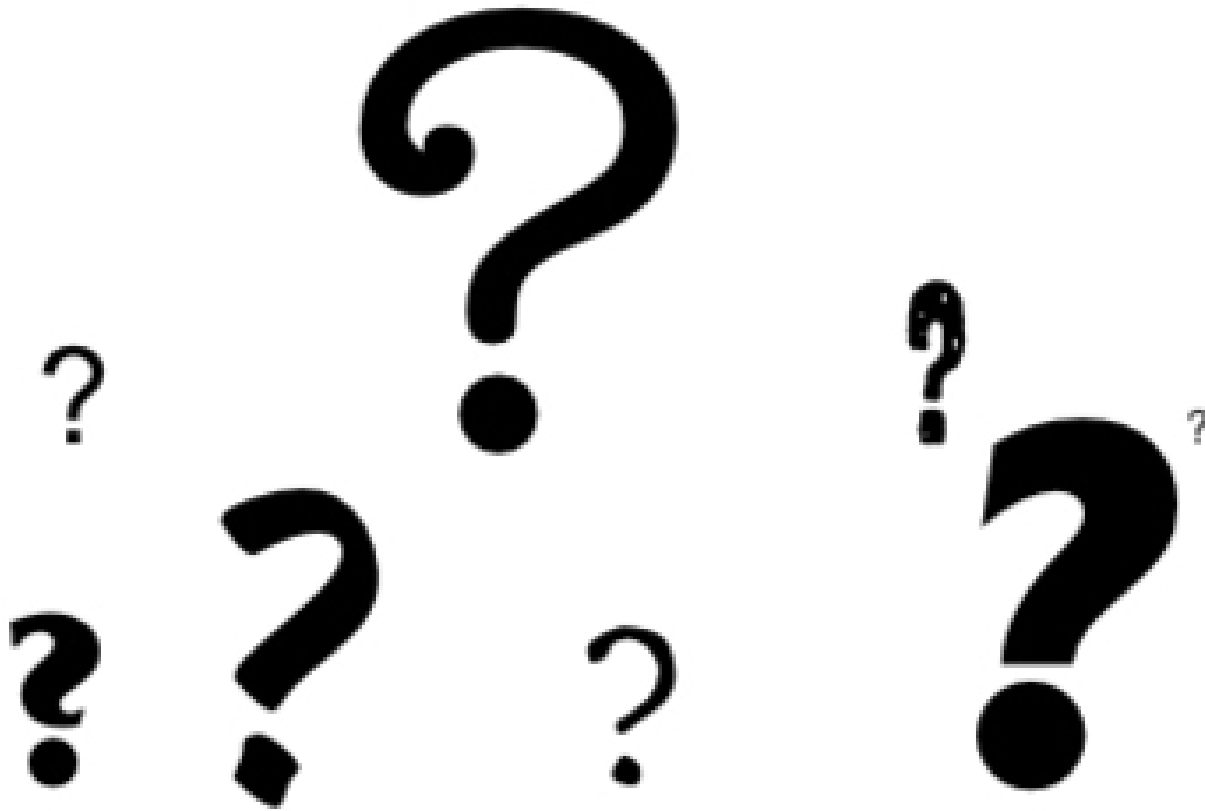


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# Questions?



# Thank You

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