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## A Systems Engineering Approach To An Integrated Design Controls and Risk Management Framework in Medical Device Development.

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# Agenda

- What Is Design Controls (DC) & Risk Management (RM)?
- Why is it important?
- Integrated DC & RM Framework
- Risk Based Framework Outcomes
  - Requirement Criticality Assessment
  - Product Specification Criticality Assessment
- How Integration Helps?
- Considerations For Implementing The Framework
- Takeaways
- Q&A

# What is Design Controls (DC) and Risk Management ?

## Design Controls

*"A set of quality practices and procedures implemented by the manufacturer to ensure that the product meets the user needs, intended uses and product requirements"*



## Risk Management

*"Systematic application of management policies, procedures and practices to the tasks of analysing, evaluating, controlling and monitoring risk"*



**Robust & Safe Design**

# Why is it important?

01

**Drive Robust Design Selection  
based on User Safety**

- More opportunities to mitigate risk through "Inherent Safety by Design"
- Effective verification strategies based on criticality of requirement
- Understand critical areas of interest early in design.

02

**Make Design Process More  
Efficient**

- Reduce reconciliation effort during Design Reviews
- Enable better alignment b/w Design, Risk and Manufacturing
- Lesser design deficiency surprises during Design Transfer

03

**Reduce Product Recalls**

- Robust Design means lesser failures in the field
- Product Recalls are cost/image intensive to company
  - Increase in 11% for product recalls b/w 2022 and 2023 [1]

04

**Successful Regulatory Audits**

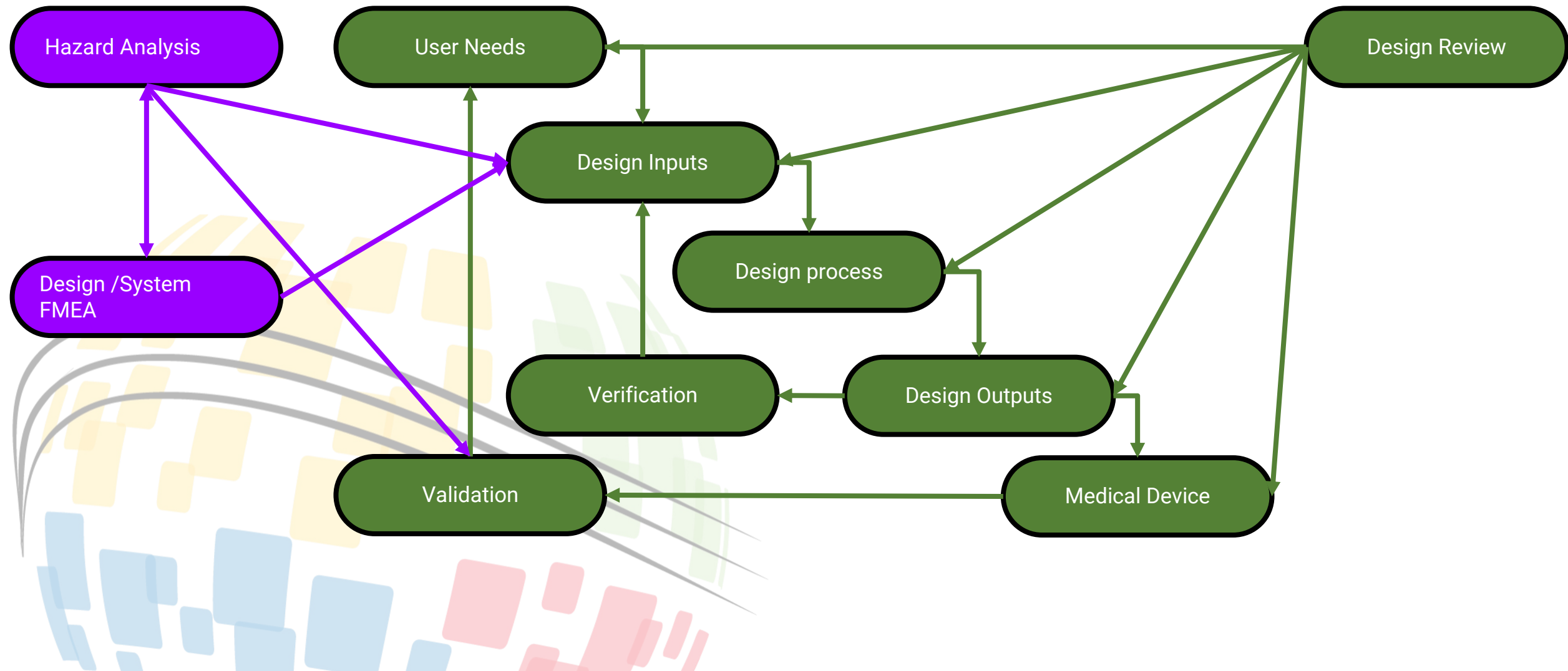
- Integrated system indicates successful quality systems application & improves audit success rate

05

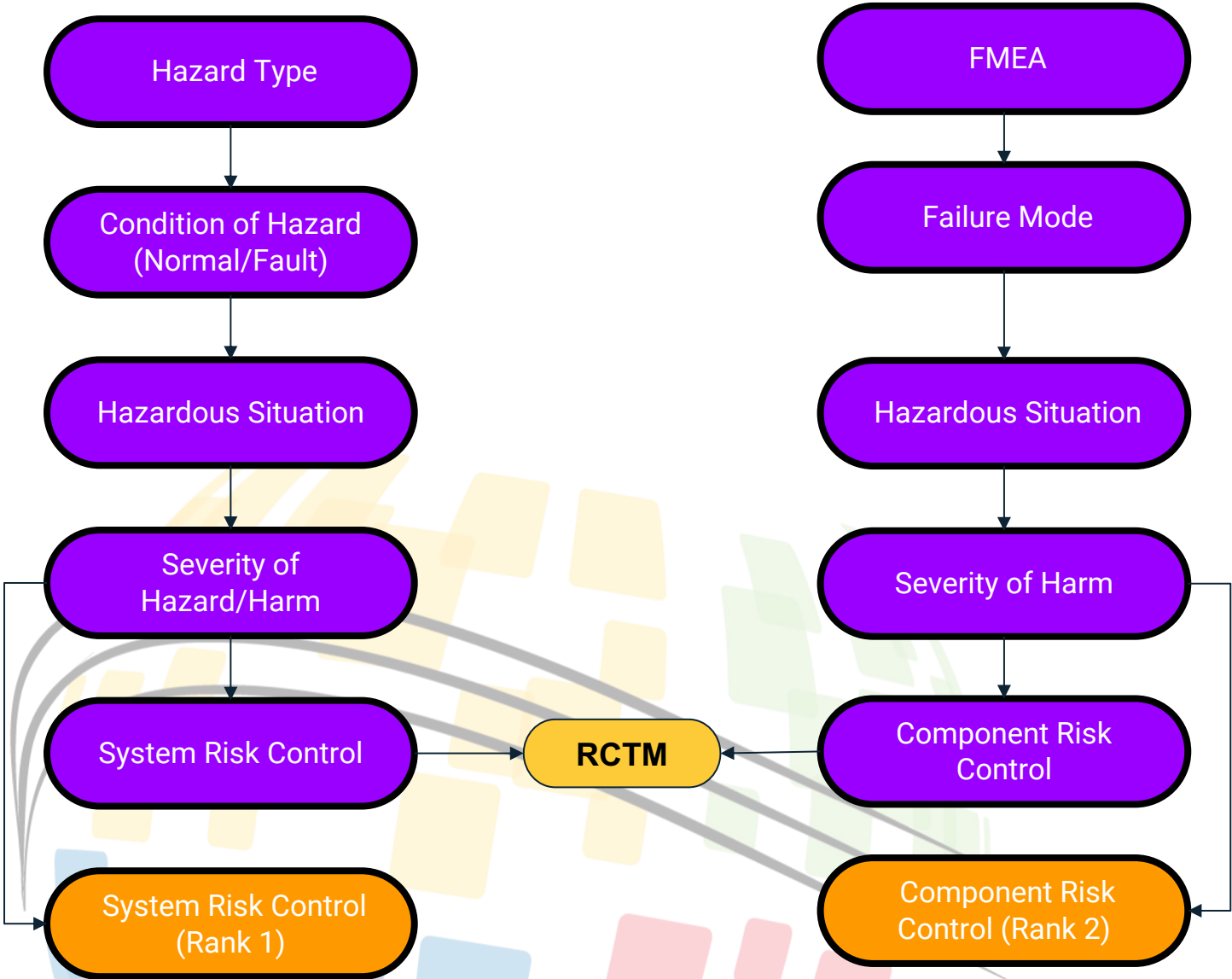
**Reduce Pressure on Post  
Market Engineering**

- Fewer design changes required during initial product release and helps focus more on product innovation than remediation

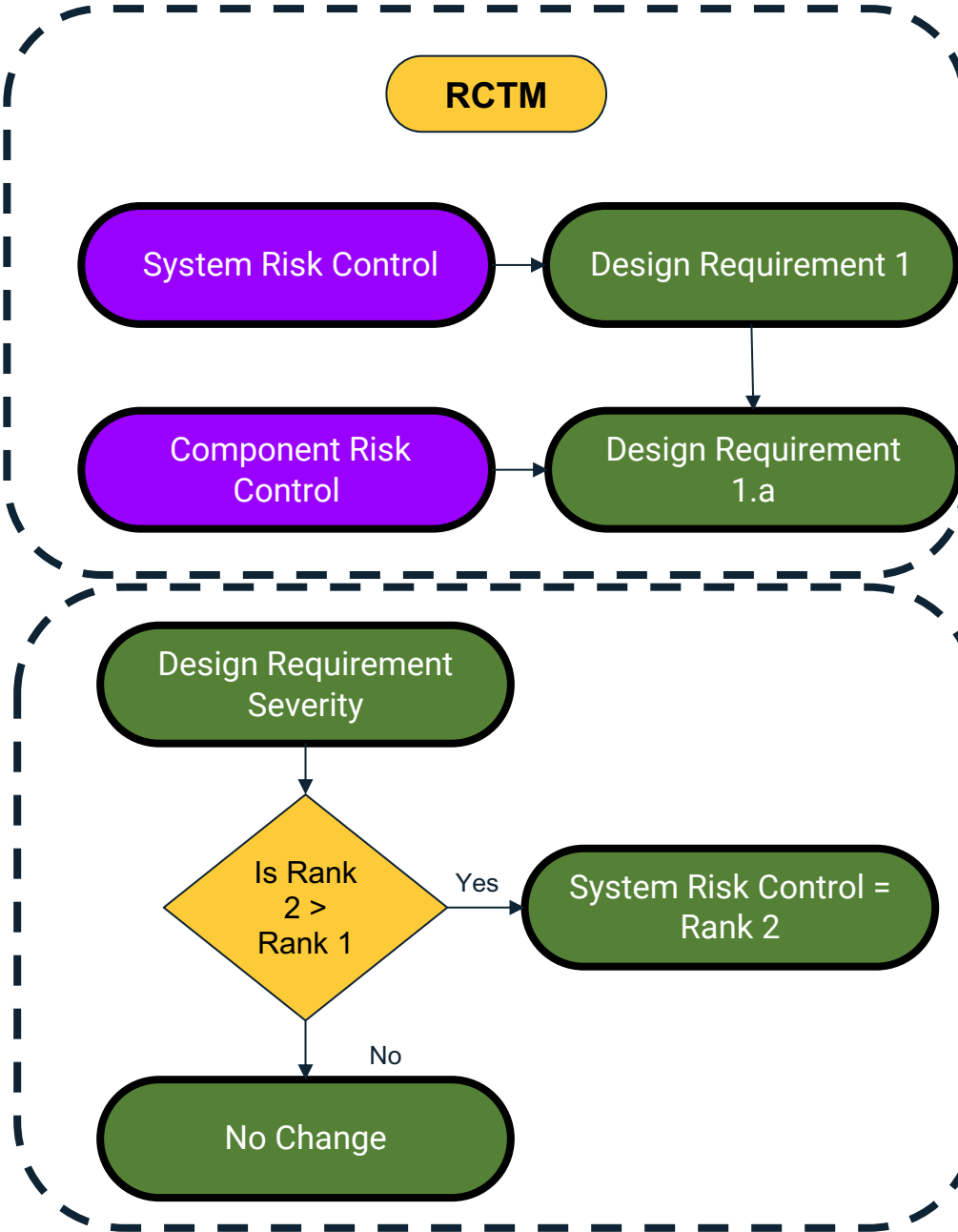
# Integrated DC and RM FrameWork - FDA WaterFall Design Process



# Risk Based FrameWork - Requirement Criticality Assessment



\*RCTM - Risk Control Trace Matrix



# Risk Based FrameWork - Requirement Criticality Estimation Matrix - System Level

\*SOTA - State Of The Art

	Requirement Criticality
Severity 5	Critical
Severity 4 & 3	Essential
Severity 2 and 1	Design Detail

**Note:** At System level we may not have full picture on the relevant verification methods or SOTA, so system level criticality is only a function of severity

**Note:** System criticality inherits the highest risk/severity from sub-system because that is the weakest link in the chain.

**Note:** System Criticality assessment helps to provide areas for focus during overall system integration

Critical	Requirement serves as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement has direct impact to Form, Fit, Function and compromises the safety of the product. Requirement should drive sub system assessment to see if severity can be mitigated/eliminated. Criticality verified during system integration and system verification phases.
Essential	Requirement may serve as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement may impact Form,Fit or Function that could result in a safety issue. Criticality verified during system validation
Design Detail	Requirement is not required to serve as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement has negligible impact to product and safety. Criticality verification on an as-need basis.



# Risk Based FrameWork - Requirement Criticality Estimation Matrix - Sub System and

Lower  
\*SOTA - State Of The Art

	If requirement is new to design and not previously verified and has Limited/No history for SOTA* (NUD Feature)	If requirement has evidence of previously being verified and has some history for SOTA*
Severity 5	Critical	Critical
Severity 4	Critical	Essential
Severity 2 and 3	Essential	Essential
Severity 1	Essential	Design Detail

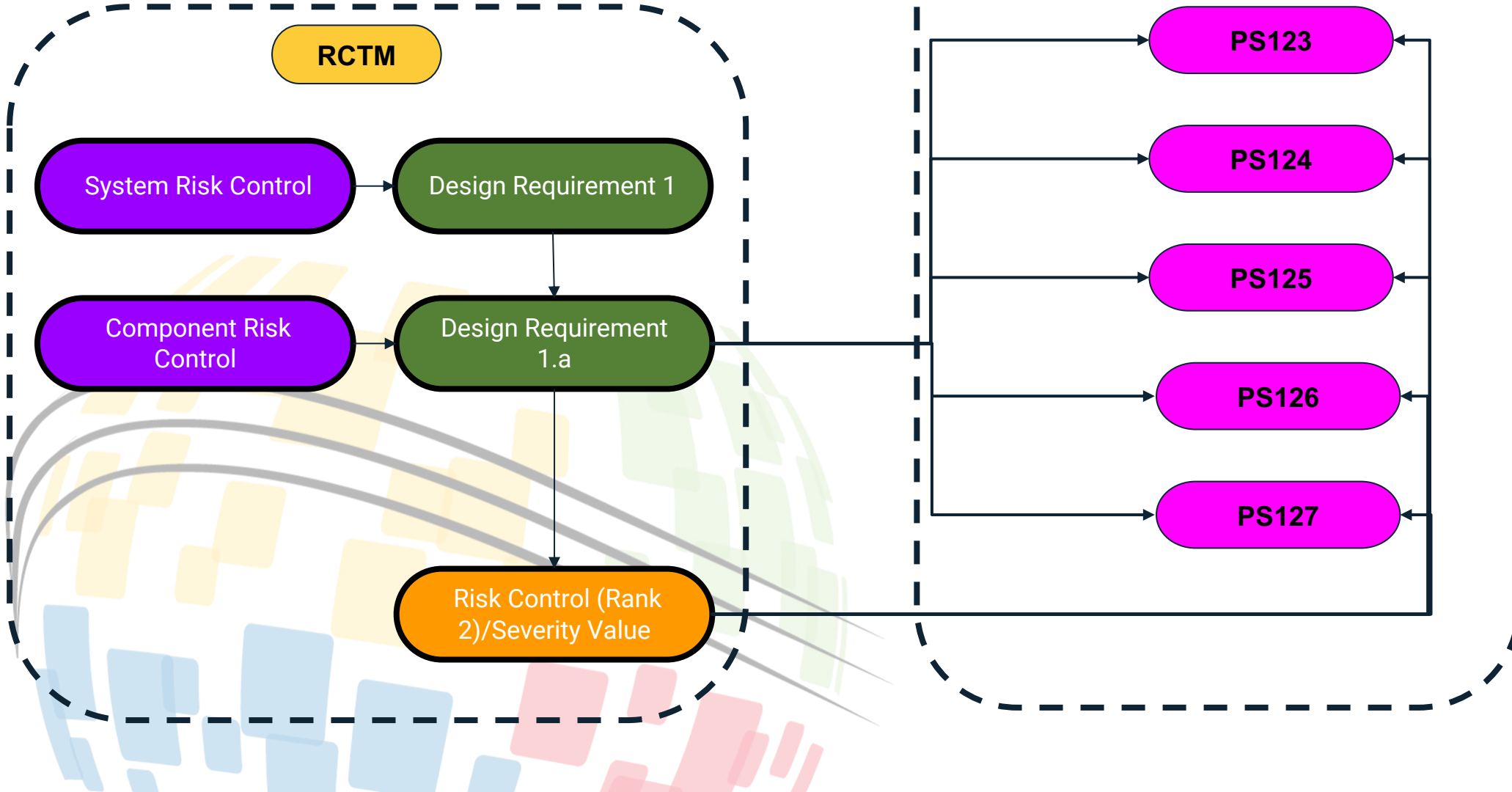
**Note:** System Requirement criticality may differ from sub-system criticality.

<p><b>Note:</b> System Requirement criticality will evolve. Idea is to drive an approach to ensure sub-systems are as safe as possible.</p>	Critical	Requirement serves as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement has direct impact to Form, Fit, Function and compromises the safety of the product.
	Essential	Requirement may serve as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement may impact Form,Fit or Function that could result in a safety issue. Requirement may need additional testing to demonstrative effectiveness.
	Design Detail	Requirement is not required to serve as a Risk Control and compromise of requirement has negligible impact to product and safety. Examples include device aesthetic appearances.



# Risk Based FrameWork - Product Specification Criticality Assessment

This is a component level assessment applied when design specifications are known.



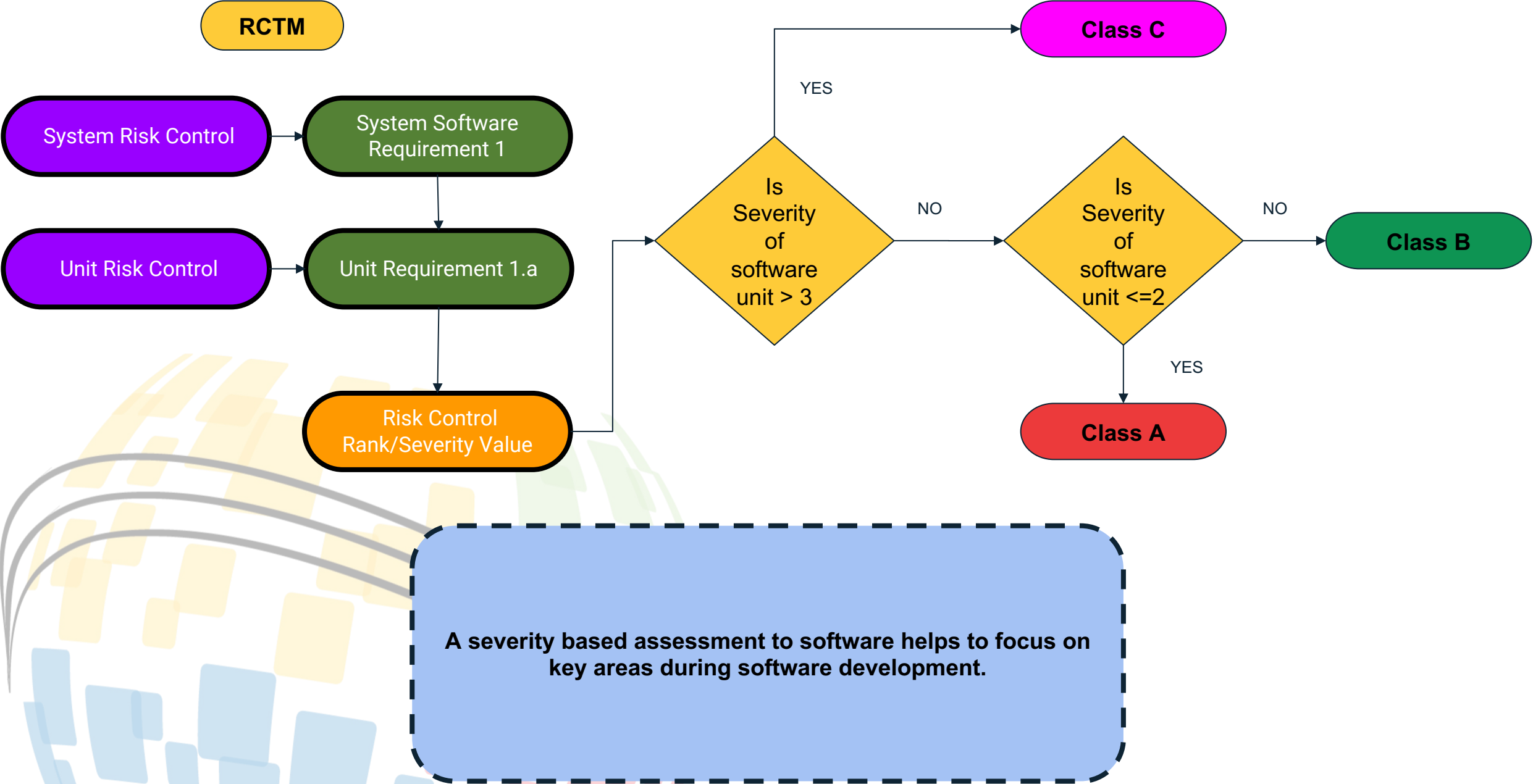
# Risk Based FrameWork - Product Specification Criticality Estimation Matrix

	If Product Specification requires establishment of new process/inspection and has demonstrated only system reliability	If Product Specification can be realized through an already established process and has demonstrated both system and component level reliability
Severity 5	Critical	Critical
Severity 4	Critical	Essential
Severity 2 and 3	Essential	Design Detail
Severity 1	Design Detail	Design Detail

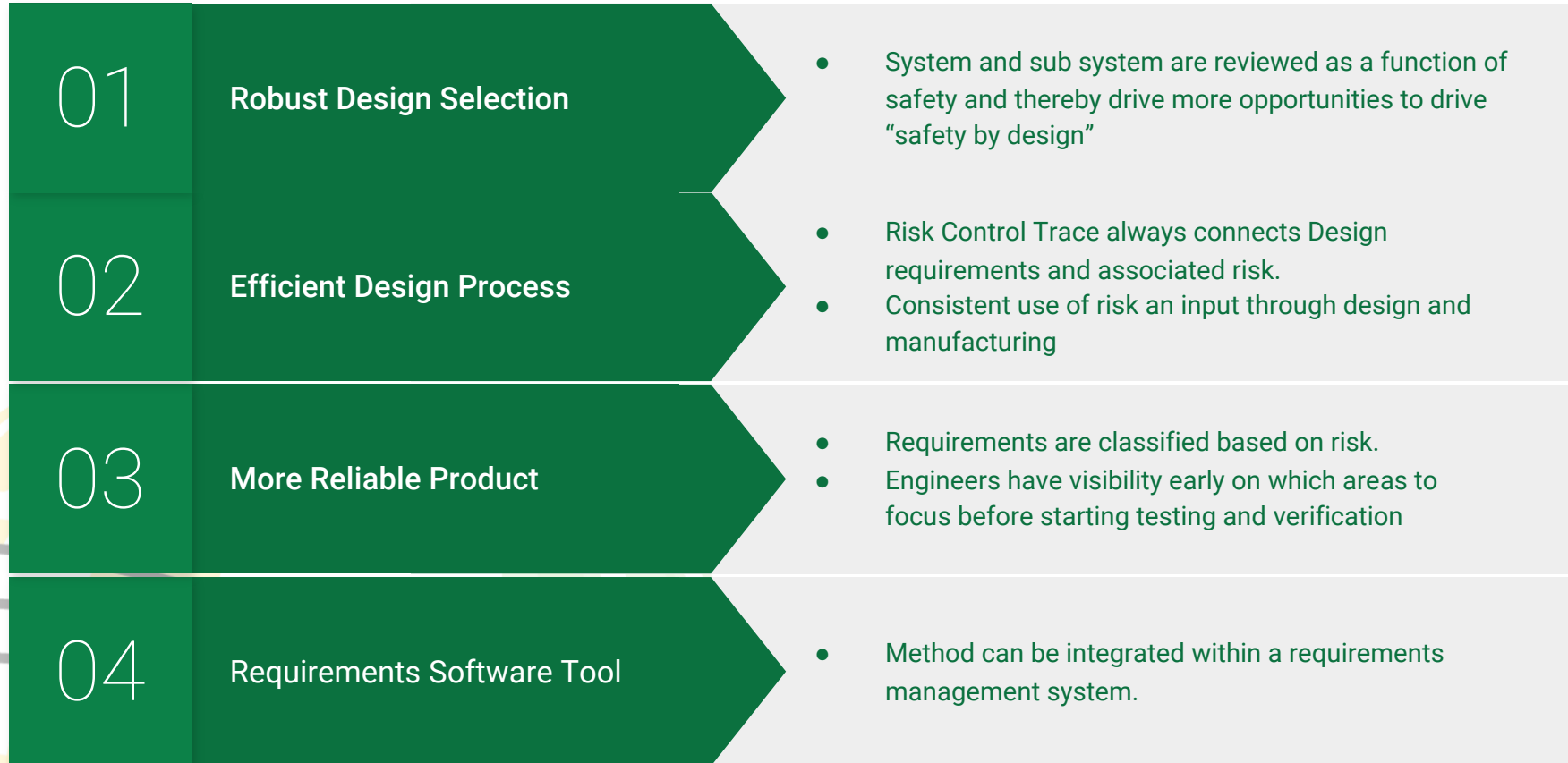
**Note:** This estimation generally occurs during Design Transfer Phase

<p><b>Note:</b> At times requirement criticality can be different from specification criticality.</p>	Critical	Product specification when compromised has an immediate direct impact to form, fit, function and the safety of the product.
	Essential	Product specification when compromised may result in impact to form, fit, function of the product and/or delayed safety impact
	Design Detail	Product specification when compromised usually does not impact form, fit, function or safety. Usually these are cost to business and/or minor user inconvenience

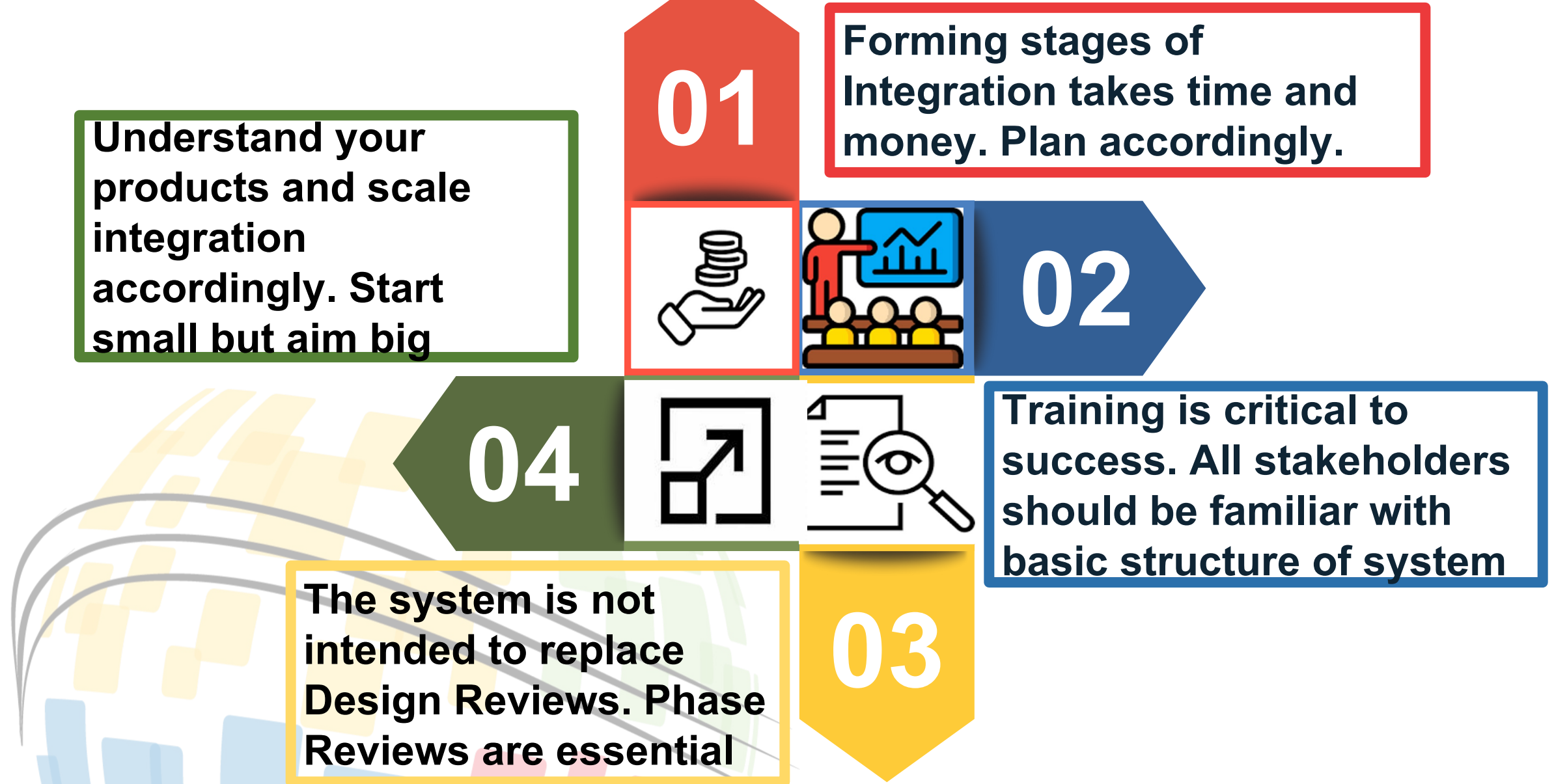
# Risk Based FrameWork - Software System



# How Integration Helps?



# Considerations For Implementing The Framework



# Takeaways



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graph LR; A((Takeaways)) --> B[Start with a risk based mindset. Get alignment cross functionally]; A --> C[Ensure design is continuously evaluated with risk as an input]; A --> D[Establish consistency in assessment across design, risk and manufacturing]; A --> E[Invest in tools that enable integration in design and risk]; A --> F[Monitor Effectiveness of Process at each stage. Adapt and adjust.]
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Start with a risk based mindset.  
Get alignment cross functionally

Ensure design is continuously  
evaluated with risk as an input

Establish consistency in assessment  
across design, risk and manufacturing

Invest in tools that enable  
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Monitor Effectiveness of  
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