

# The Core Flight System (cFS) Community: Providing Low Cost Solutions for Small Spacecraft

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August 9, 2016

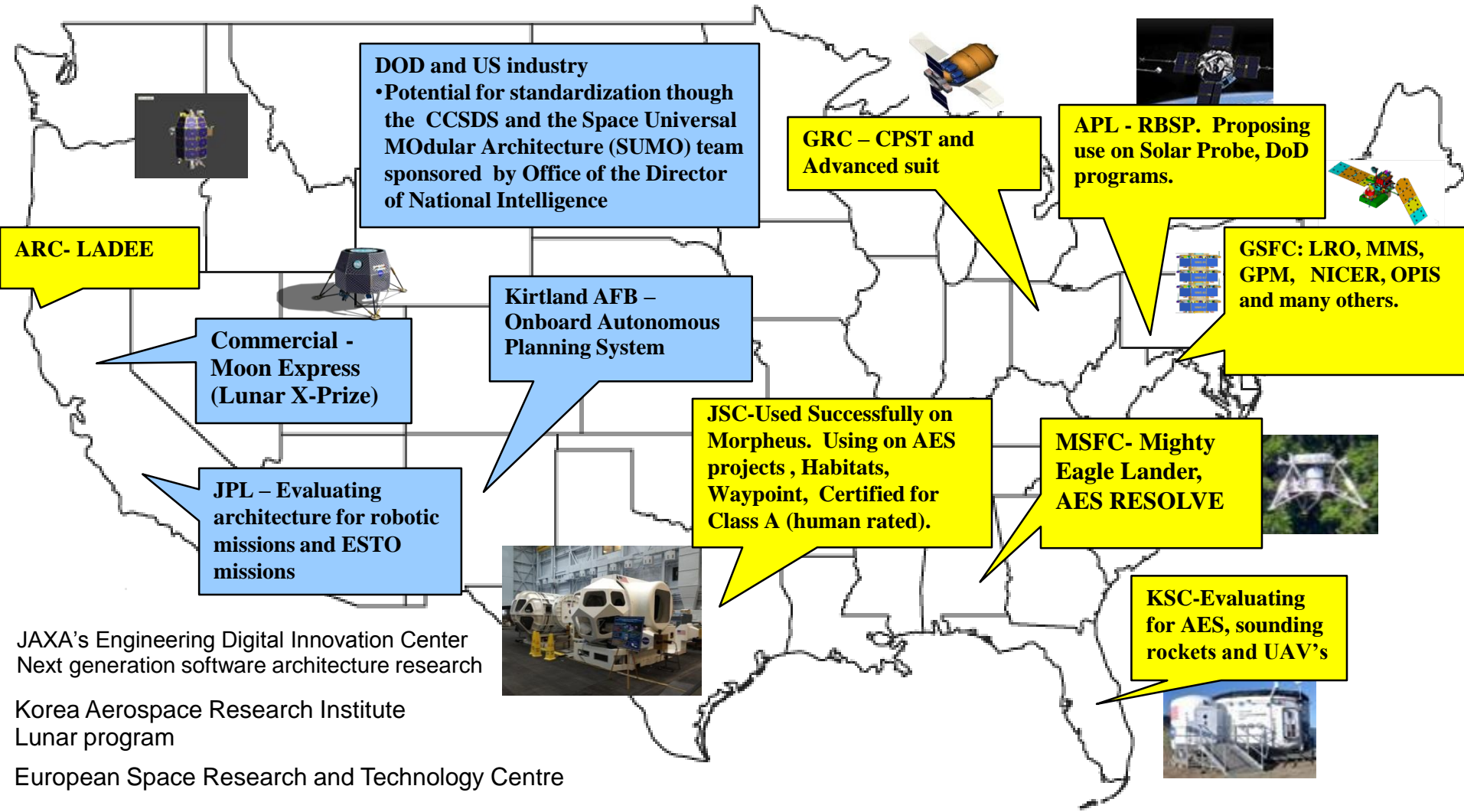
14 Months between receipt of cFS and  
successful tethered flight test



**“The cFS... It just worked.”  
– Morpheus Software Lead**

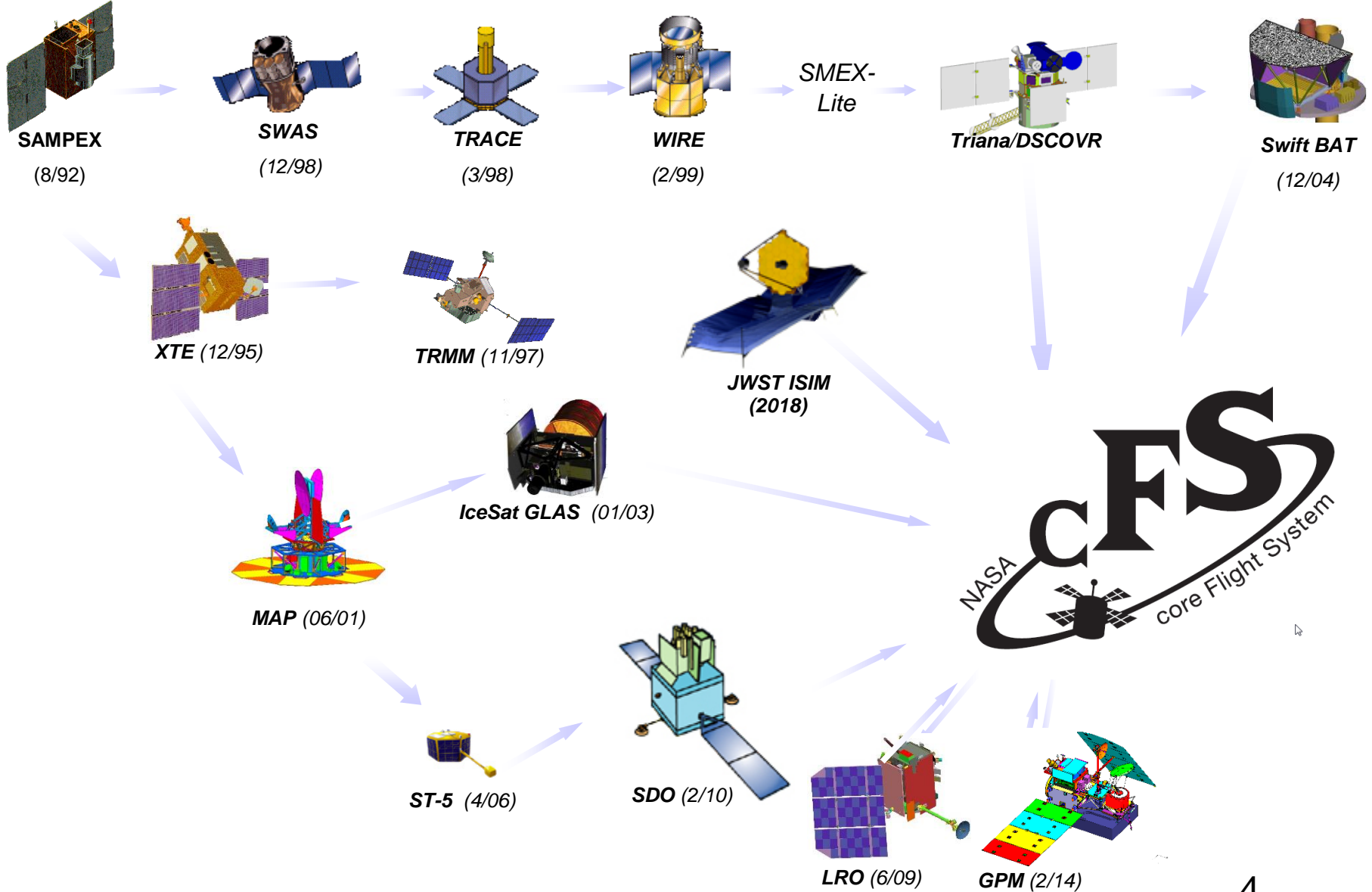


# A NASA Controlled Product Line

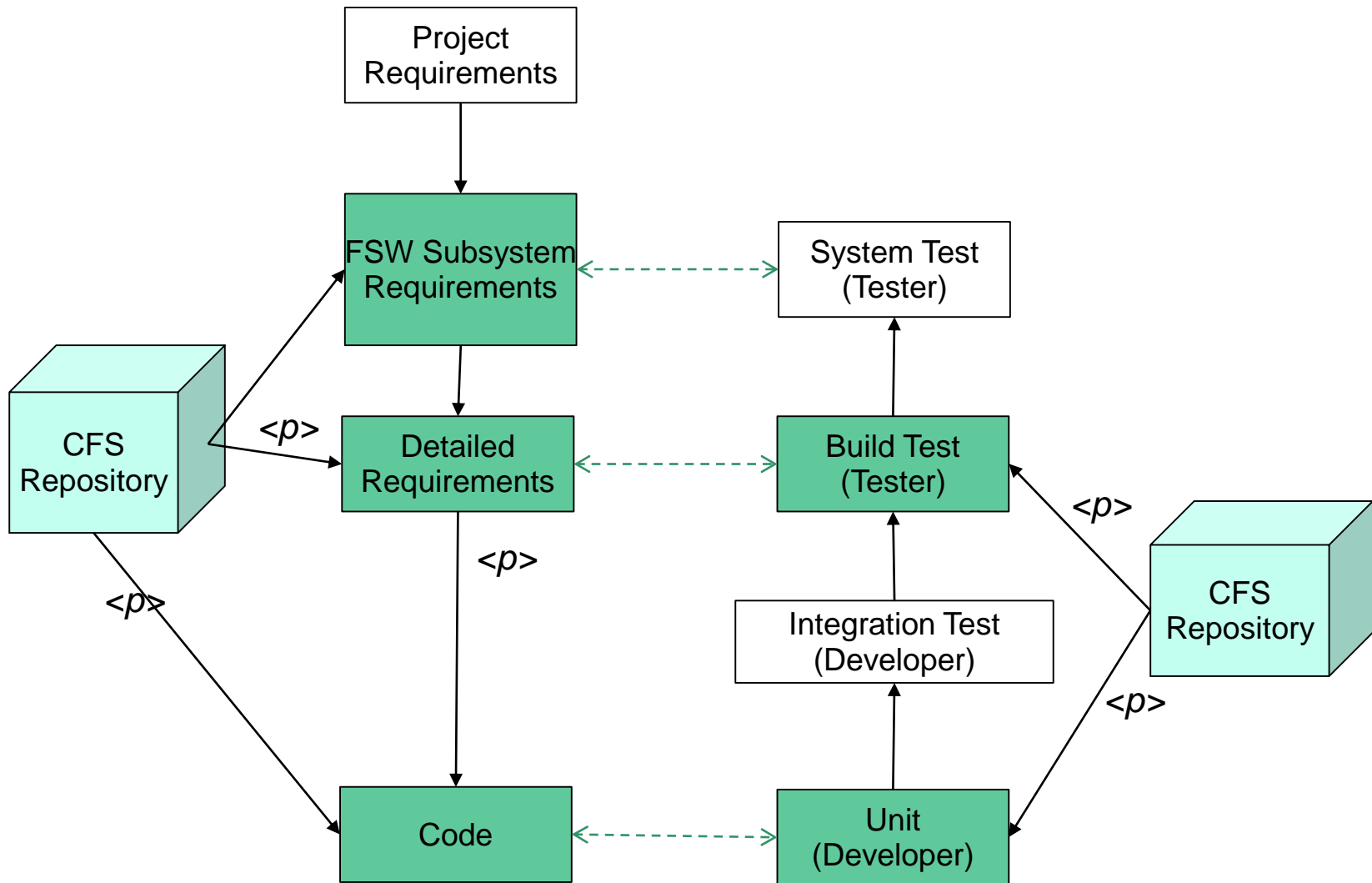




# cFS Heritage

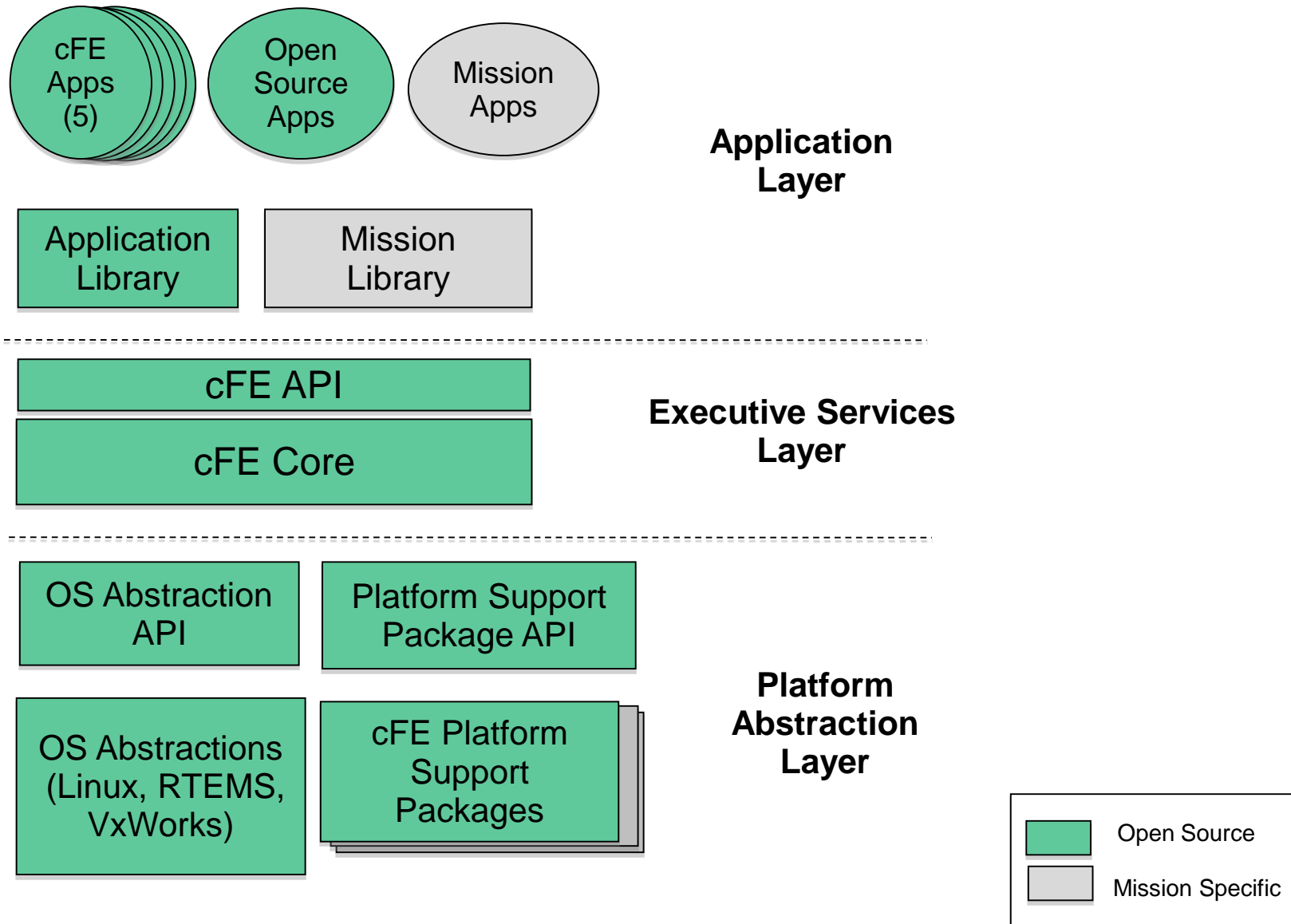








# cFS Layer Architecture





# OS Abstraction Layer Platforms



| Operating System | OSAL Version | Status     | Target  |
|------------------|--------------|------------|---|
| POSIX/Linux      | 4.1.1        | Production | Desktop Dev. use CentOS 6.x/Ubuntu 14.04 32 bit |
| RTEMS            | 4.1.1        | Production | Flying on MMS Mission RTEMS 4.10/Coldfire       |
| VxWorks          | 4.1.1        | Production | Flying on GPM Mission<br>vxWorks 6.4/PowerPC    |
| FreeRTOS         | 4.2.x        | In Dev.    | GSFC Dellinger CubeSat Mission<br>FreeRTOS/Arm  |
| VxWorks 6.x SMP  | 4.3.x        | In Dev.    | vxWorks 6.7 LEON3 Dual Core                     |
| ARINC653         | 4.3.x        | In Dev.    | Green Hills Integrity OS                        |
| RTEMS 4.12+SMP   | Future       | Future     | Future Release                                  |
| Xenomai Linux    | Future       | Future     | Future Release                                  |



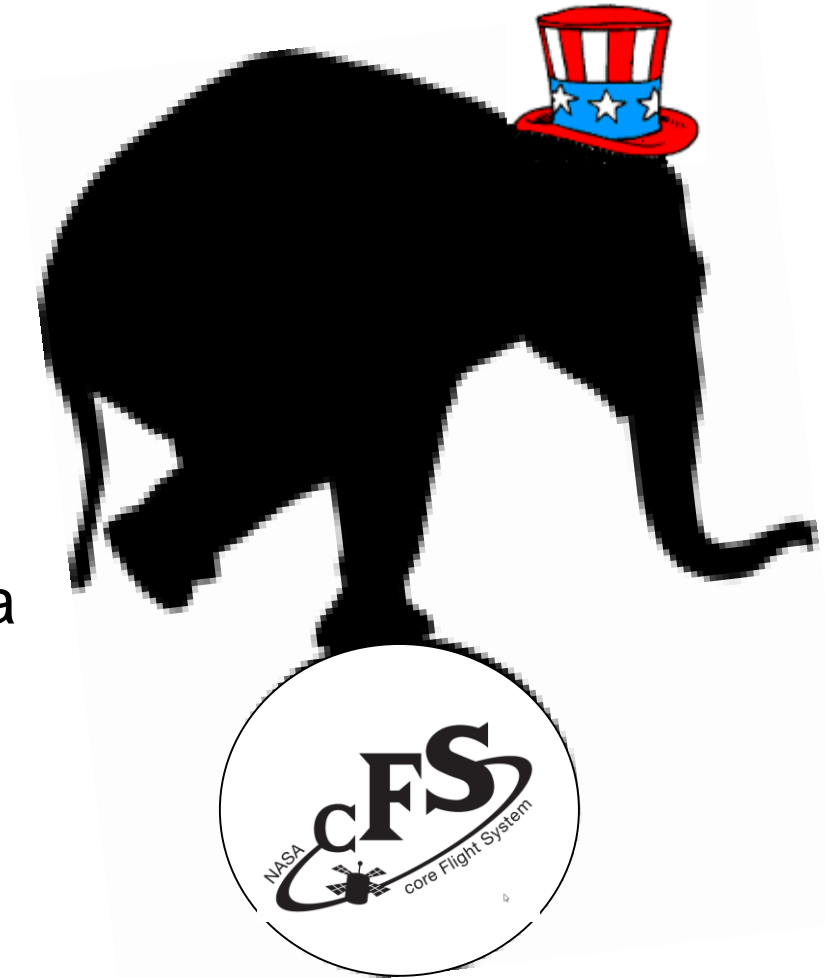
# cFE 6.5 Platform Support Packages



| Board/Platform                | OSAL Operating System | Status   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| CentOS/Ubuntu Linux Desktop   | POSIX/Linux           | Used on a balloon mission<br>Common initial development/test environment |
| MMS Custom C&DH Coldfire      | RTEMS                 | 1 year in flight on MMS Mission  |
| GPM RAD750                    | VxWorks               | 2 years in flight on GPM Mission   |
| Gomspace Nanomind ARM CubeSat | FreeRTOS              | Under development for GSFC Dellingr CubeSat Mission                      |
| GSFC MUSTANG Dual Core LEON3  | VxWorks SMP           | Under development for GSFC MUSTANG Dual Core LEON3 architecture          |



- 1993 - Microsoft releases digital encyclopedia called Encarta
- 2001 - Wikipedia launched
- 2009 - Microsoft terminates Encarta



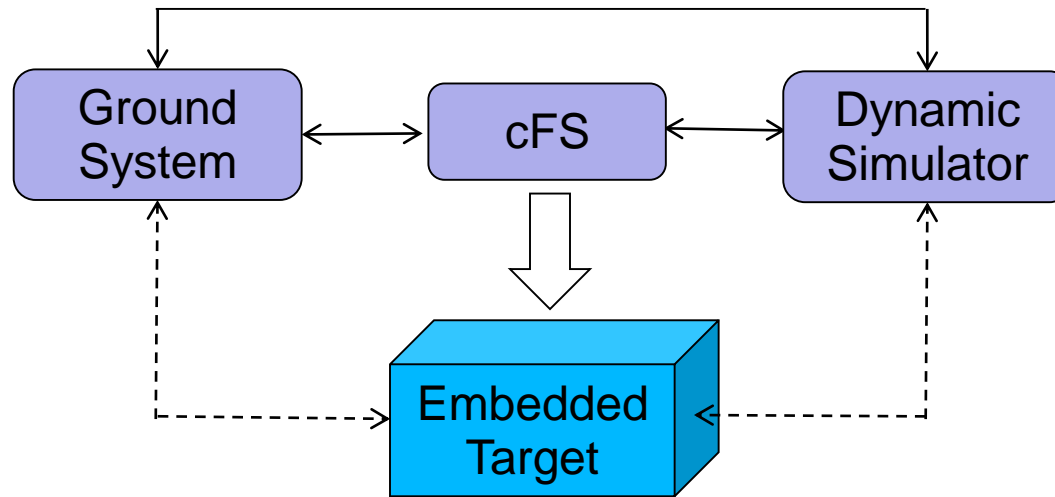


[cfs.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://cfs.gsfc.nasa.gov)

Coming soon...

[coreflightssystem.org](http://coreflightssystem.org)

- News
- Email sign up
- Documentation
- Discussion forums
- Links to software
- Submit trouble tickets
- Software Exchange
- Collaborative projects



- NASA Operational Simulator for Small Satellites (NASA's Independent V&V Facility)
  - Ground System: Ball Aerospace's COSMOS
  - Dynamic Simulator: NASA Goddard's 42
- The Hammers Company
  - Ground System: Hammer's Integrated Test and Operations System (ITOS)
  - Dynamic Simulator: Hammer's VIRTUALSAT®
- NASA Johnson Space Center
  - Ground System: Hammer's ITOS
  - Dynamic Simulator: NASA JSC Trick



# Future Directions



- Model-Based Application Development
  - Simulink Interface Layer (SIL) allows cFS applications to be generated from Matlab Simulink models
- End-user certification
- Hardware vendor supplied device drivers & verification test scripts
- Embedded software school curriculums using cFS kits



# Summary



- The cFS is an open source embedded software solution
- Opening our community: **coreflightssystem.org**
- Starter kits simplify adoption
- Enhancing component architecture for device plug-ins
- FSW Workshop, December 13-15, 2016 in Pasadena, CA
  - Hosted by NASA JPL, Aerospace Corporation, and Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
  - [flightsoftware.jhuapl.edu](http://flightsoftware.jhuapl.edu)
  - cFS Workshop on December 12th, 2016



## Democratizing Space







# Backup Slides



# State of the Community Communication



- Mailing Lists
  - [cfs-community@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:cfs-community@lists.nasa.gov)
    - Contains all members
  - [cfs-community-ccb@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:cfs-community-ccb@lists.nasa.gov)
    - CCB members
- Public Websites
  - <https://cfs.gsfc.nasa.gov/>
    - General information and links to all open source code and documents on Sourceforge
  - <https://sourceforge.net/projects/xxx>
    - Multiple projects for different cFS components
- Restricted access (requires NDC account)
  - <https://nsckn.nasa.gov/Community>
    - NESC hosted server containing discussion forums, documents, meeting notes...
    - Approved for ITAR and Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) material
  - <https://babelfish.arc.nasa.gov/>
    - ARC hosted server used for inter-center collaboration
    - Git and Trac used for source code configuration management and change requests
    - Not approved for ITAR material



# Questions? Contact:



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# Example Mission Code Metrics

## Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM)



- Noteworthy items
  - + cFE was very reliable and stable
  - + Easy rapid prototyping with heritage code that was cFE compliant
  - + Layered architecture has allowed COTS lab to be maintained through all builds
  - Addition of PSP changed build infrastructure midstream
- Lines of Code Percentages:

| Source               | Percentage |
|----------------------|------------|
| BAE                  | 0.3        |
| EEFS                 | 1.7        |
| OSAL                 | 2.1        |
| PSP                  | 1.0        |
| cFE                  | 12.4       |
| GNC Library          | 1.6        |
| CFS Applications     | 23.5       |
| Heritage Clone & Own | 38.9       |
| New Source           | 18.5       |



# cFS Metrics



| cFE/<br>App                               | Logical<br>Lines of Code<br>(non-table) | Config.<br>Parameters   | EEPROM<br>(bytes) |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| cFE                                       | 12,930                                  | General: 17<br>Executive Service: 46<br>Event Service: 5<br>Software Bus: 29<br>Table Service: 10<br>Time Service: 32 | 341,561           |
| CFDP                                      | 8,559                                   | 33  | 85,812            |
| Checksum                                  | 2,873                                   | 15  | 35,242            |
| Data Storage                              | 2,429                                   | 27  | 40,523            |
| File Manager                              | 1,853                                   | 22  | 16,272            |
| Health & Safety                           | 1,531                                   | 45  | 15071             |
| House-Keeping                             | 575                                     | 8   | 8,059             |
| Limit Checker                             | 2,074                                   | 13  | 31,026            |
| Memory Dwell                              | 1,035                                   | 8   | 8,617             |
| Memory Manager                            | 1,958                                   | 25  | 15,840            |
| Scheduler                                 | 1,164                                   | 19  | 35,809            |
| Stored Command<br>(124 command sequences) | 2,314                                   | 26  | 104,960           |





# cFS Applications



| Application          | Function   |
|----------------------|--|
| CFDP                 | Transfers/receives file data to/from the ground  |
| Checksum             | Performs data integrity checking of memory, tables and files   |
| Command Ingest Lab   | Accepts CCSDS telecommand packets over a UDP/IP port   |
| Data Storage         | Records housekeeping, engineering and science data onboard for downlink                                      |
| File Manager         | Interfaces to the ground for managing files  |
| Housekeeping         | Collects and re-packages telemetry from other applications.  |
| Health and Safety    | Ensures that critical tasks check-in, services watchdog, detects CPU hogging, and calculates CPU utilization |
| Limit Checker        | Provides the capability to monitor values and take action when exceed threshold                              |
| Memory Dwell         | Allows ground to telemeter the contents of memory locations. Useful for debugging                            |
| Memory Manager       | Provides the ability to load and dump memory.  |
| Software Bus Network | Passes Software Bus messages over Ethernet   |
| Scheduler            | Schedules onboard activities via (e.g. HK requests)  |
| Scheduler Lab        | Simple activity scheduler with a one second resolution   |
| Stored Command       | Onboard Commands Sequencer (absolute and relative).  |
| Telemetry Output Lab | Sends CCSDS telemetry packets over a UDP/IP port   |



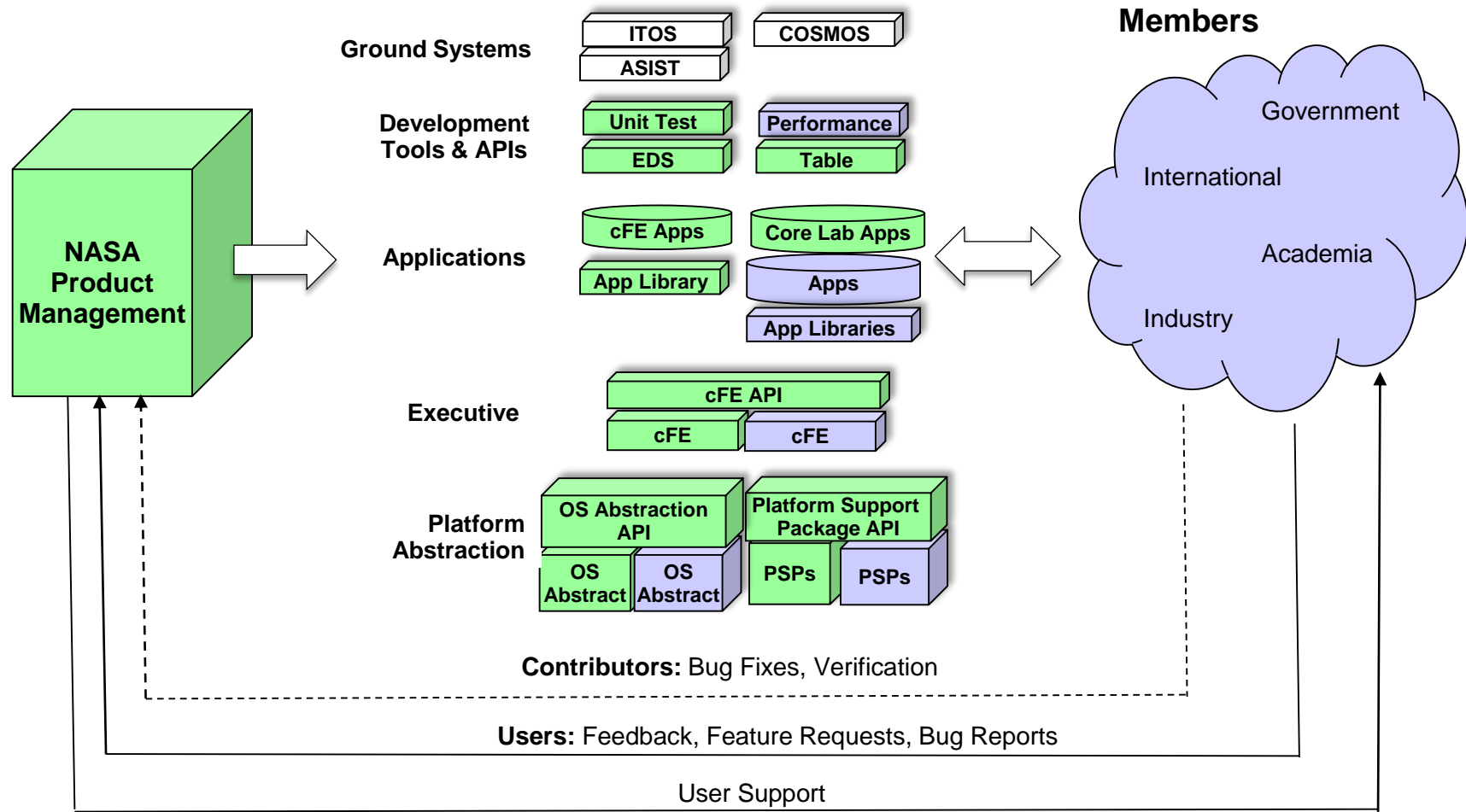
# cFS Community Purpose

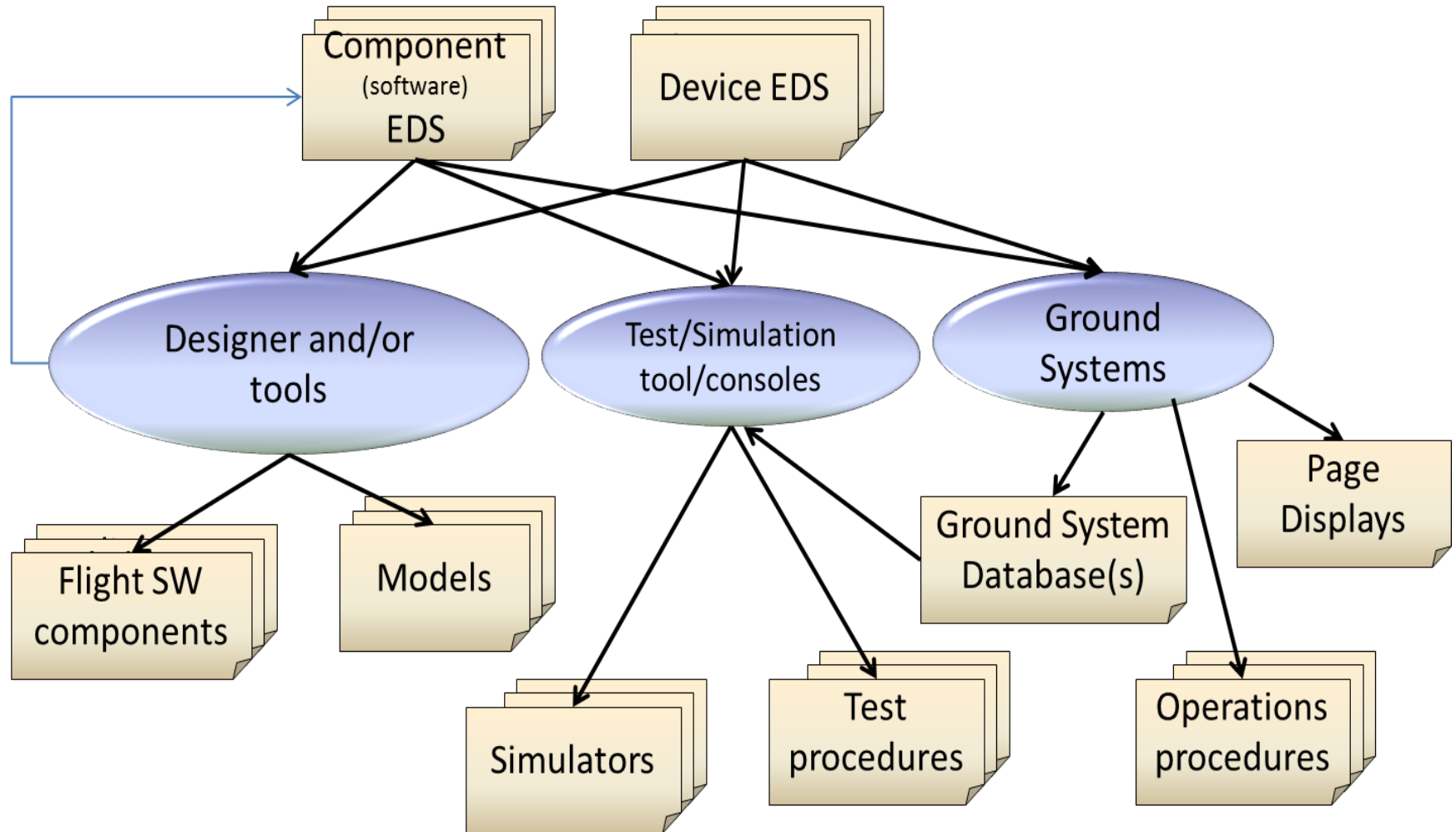


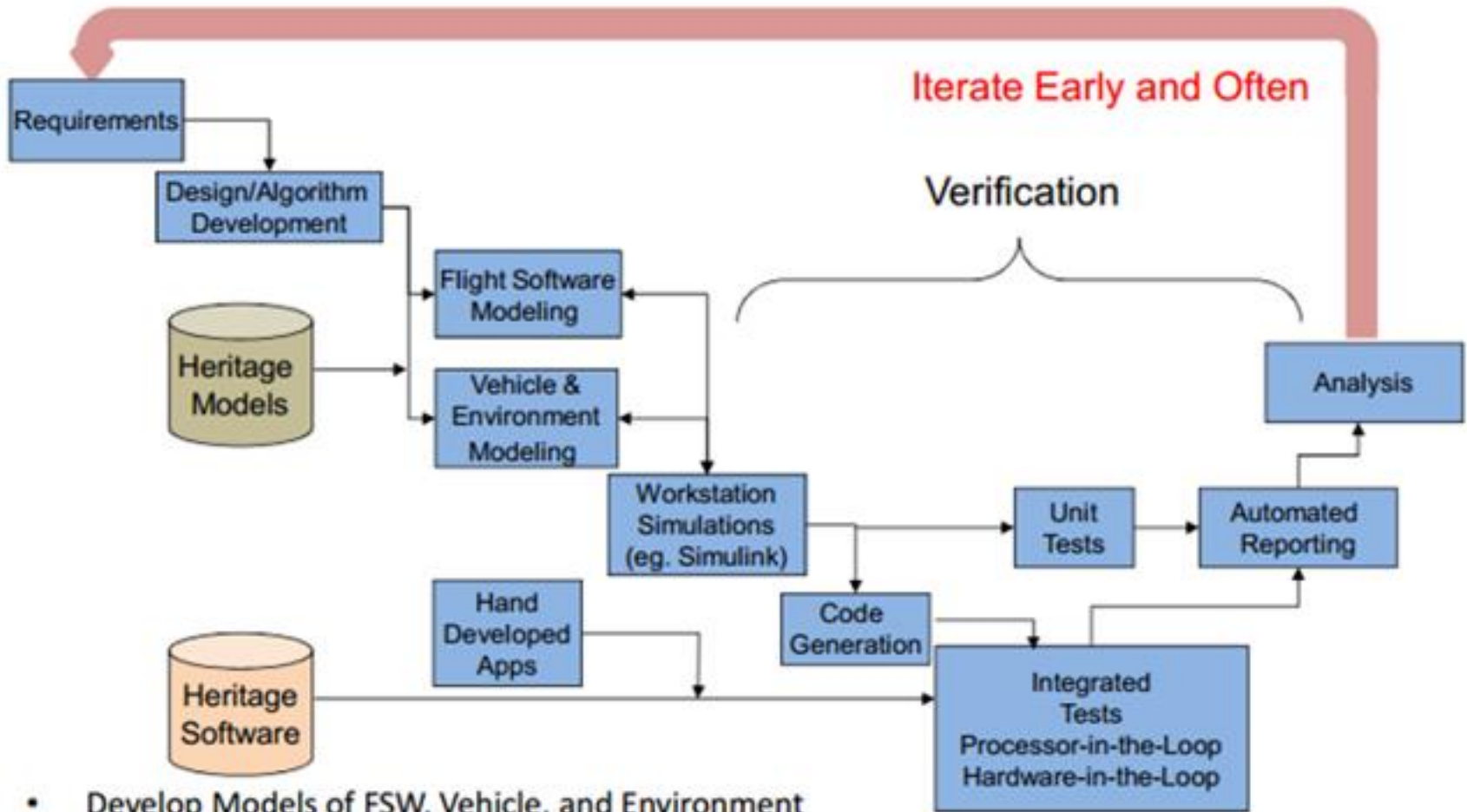
- Advance the creation, evolution, promotion, and support of a NASA Class B flight software system
  - Important we stay focused on our domain
- Cultivate both an open source community and an ecosystem of complementary products, capabilities, and services.
  - All inclusive in terms of organizations
  - No constraints on complementary products



# cFS Community







- Develop Models of FSW, Vehicle, and Environment
- Automatically generate High-Level Control Software
- Integrate with hand-written and heritage software.
- Iterate while increasing fidelity of tests – Workstation Sim (WSIM), Processor-In-The-Loop (PIL), Hardware-in-the-Loop (HIL)
- Automated self-documenting tests providing traceability to requirements



