

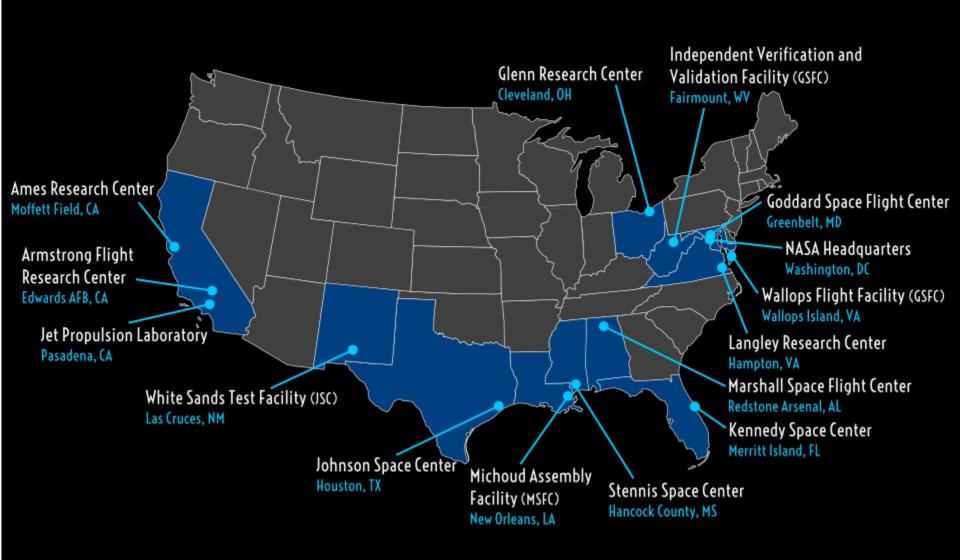
UX Usability Methods for Enterprise/Expert Systems

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NASA Ames Research Center Human Computer Interaction Group October 2015



NASA Centers





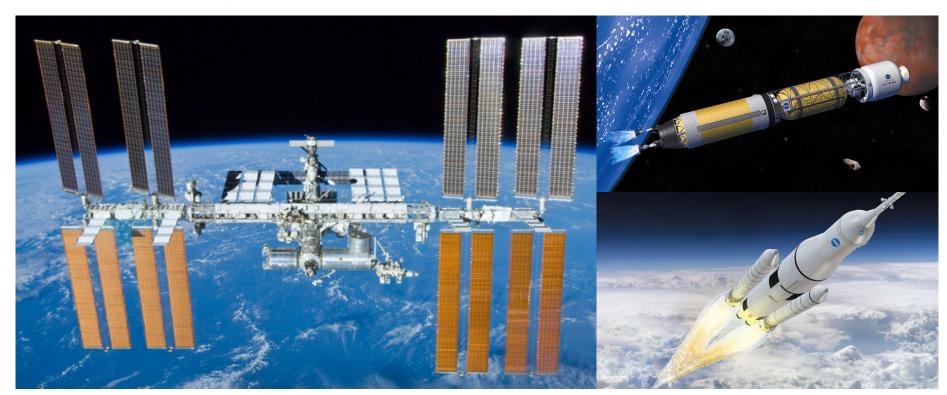
NASA Ames Research Center





The HCI Group

- We are an applied HCI group.
 - 18 production systems
 - 19 production integrations
- We build engineering data systems and integrations:
 - Web systems
 - Mobile applications
 - Data integrations





Expert Users





Representative System Example

Operations Task: find all analyses related to an anomaly.

Historical Process: With no search capabilities, analysts used prior knowledge/trial and error to browse through the available flight folders (48 total) to find when the affected hardware flew to ISS. Once the flight is found where the analysis is located, open each MS Word document in the folder and scan through to find the applicable analysis (one document in particular was 1719 pages long).

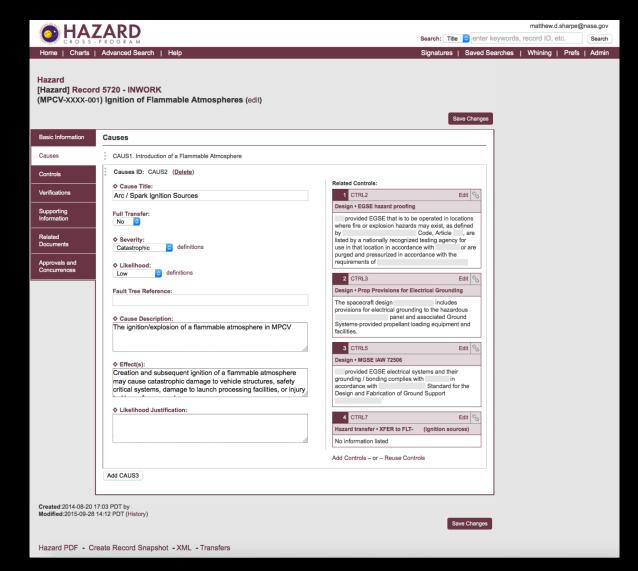
Operations estimated this process took ~3 days.

"Spent a lot of time collecting data, and spent little time analyzing it"

"Got a lot of data, but very little information"

"If the [legacy] system had the searching capability that the [new] system did, this would've taken a few hours"







System Benefits

- Streamlined, consistent data entry provides in context training and help documentation for process compliance.
- Structured searching reduces search time and ensures that engineers find the complete set of records efficiently.
- One consolidated system reduce overhead/maintenance and ensures configuration control while providing a single entry point for Ops use.
- Full change history provides tracking of updates to individual aspects of a report (e.g. severity changed from moderate to catastrophic).
- Complete version tracking ensures that each version has the full analysis available in one place.
- Robust security model supports participation of International Partners,
 Universities, etc while protecting proprietary and ITAR data.



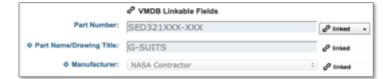
Representative Data Integration Example (1)

Historical Process



23% Completion

Current/Improved Process

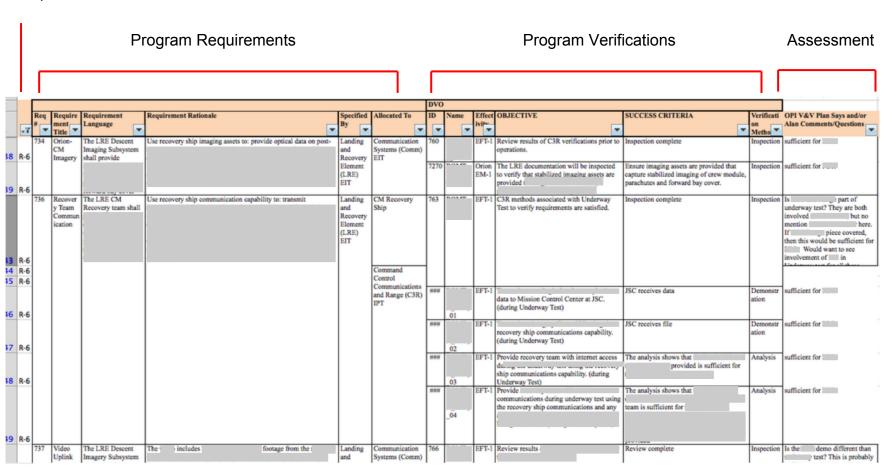


86% Completion

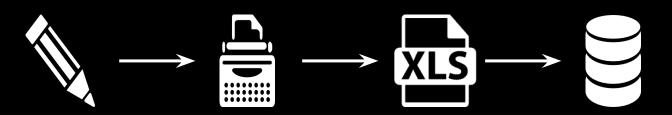


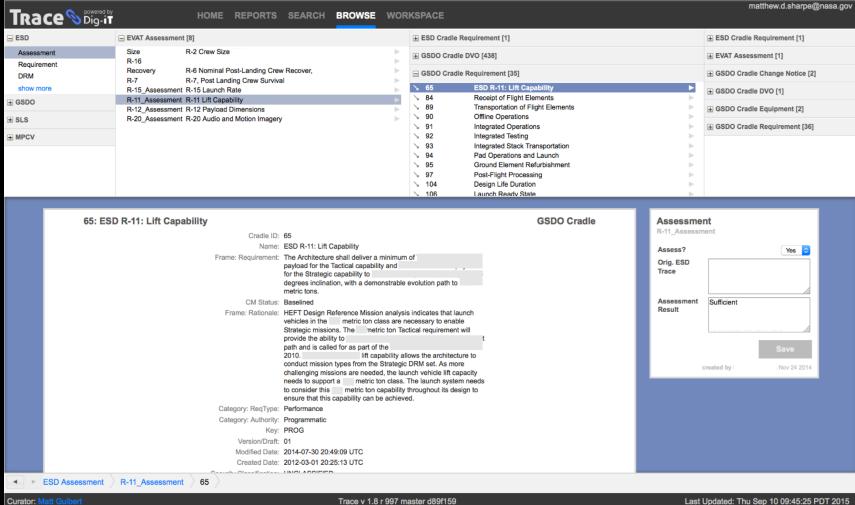
Representative Data Integration Example (2)

ESD Requirements











Integration Benefits

- Structured searching reduces search time and ensures that engineers find the complete set of records efficiently.
- Improved efficiency in record creation reduce overhead/maintenance in validation of information through baselining.
- Automatically trigger notifications provides notifications to individual aspects of a report.
- Quick reference to integrated information ensures that each reference goes to authoritative piece of information in other system.

Integrated question: If a failure occurs on a piece of hardware, what similar problems have occurred in the past?



Design Process and Methods

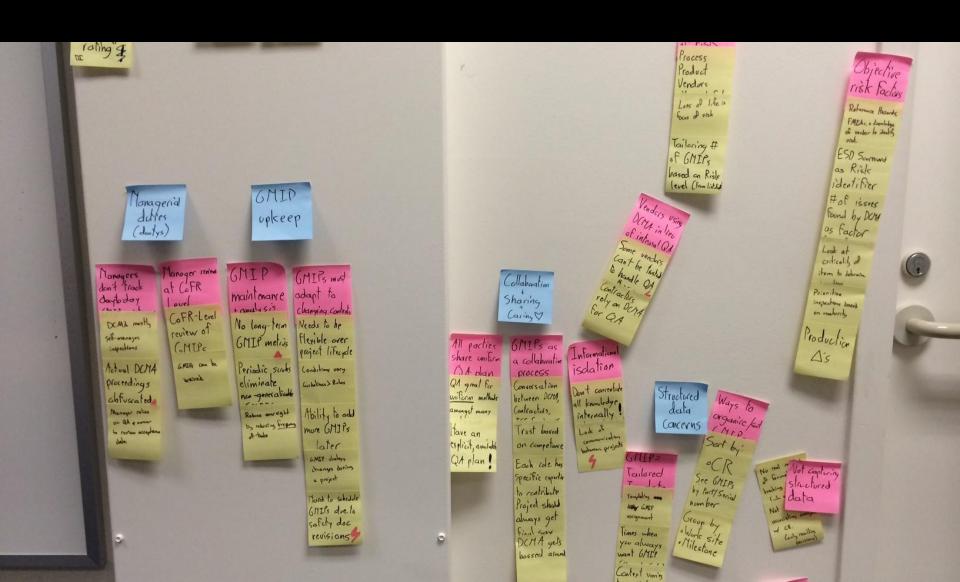


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Affinity Diagrams



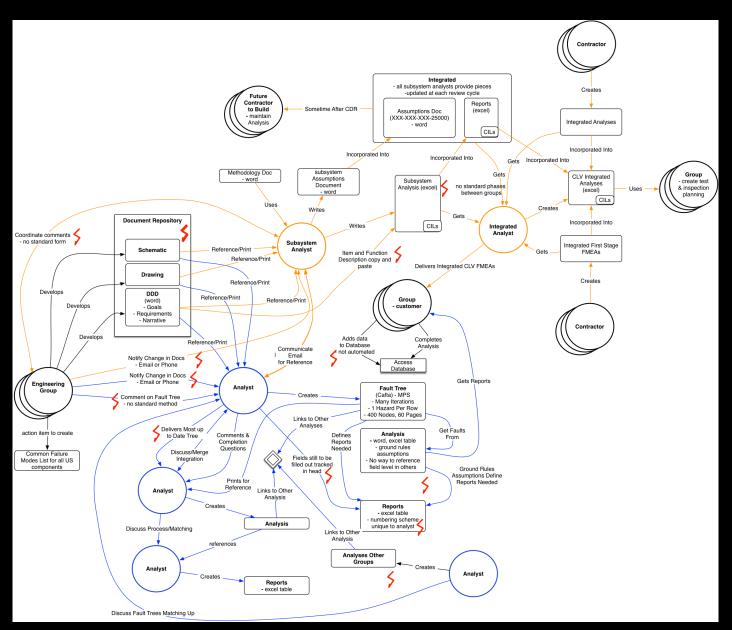


Contextual Inquiry



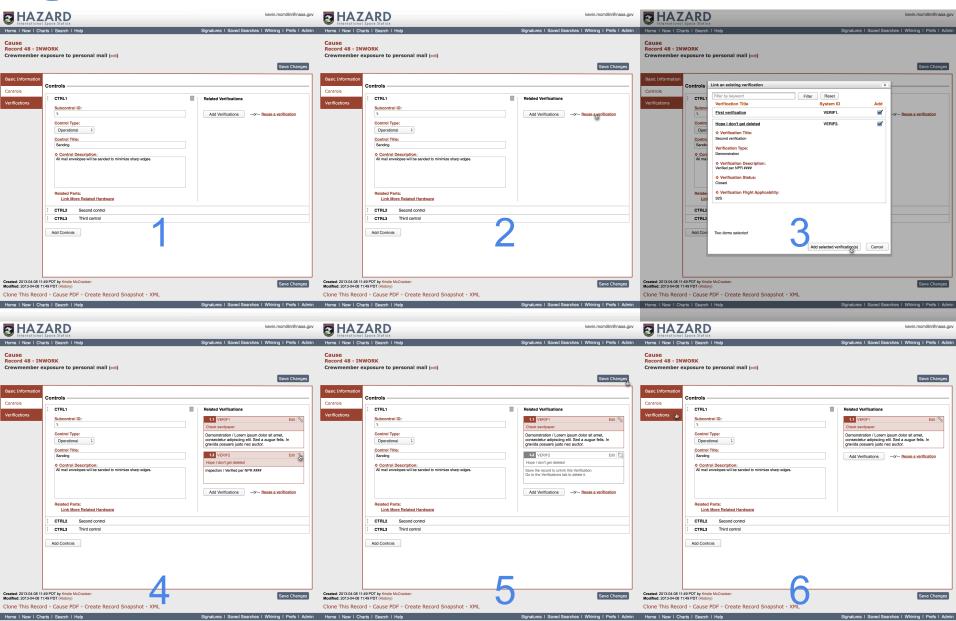


Models



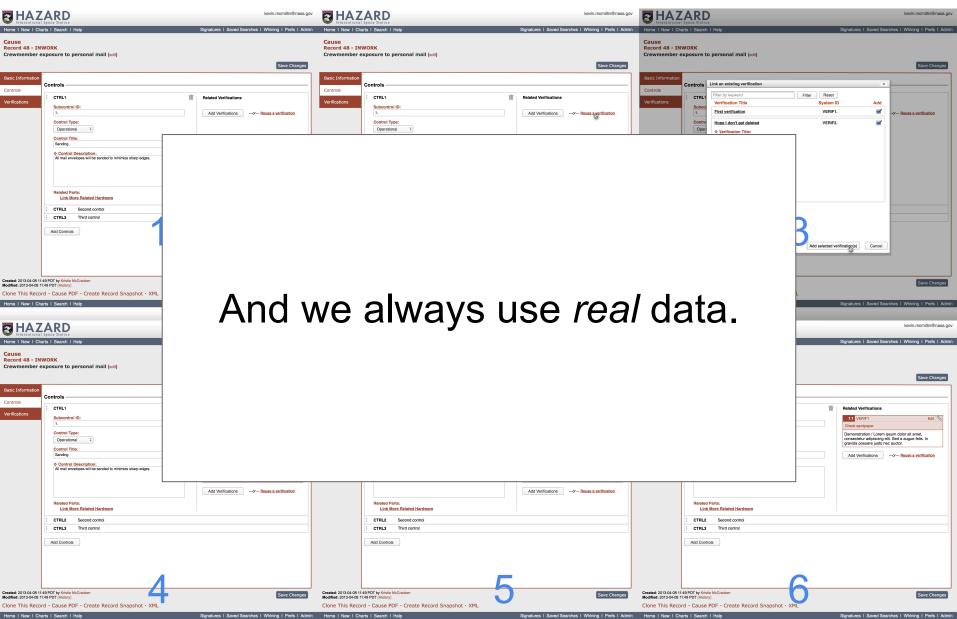


Wireframing/Storyboards





Wireframing/Storyboards





Usability Testing

- Informal, no usability lab.
- Scenarios need to be detailed and incredibly accurate



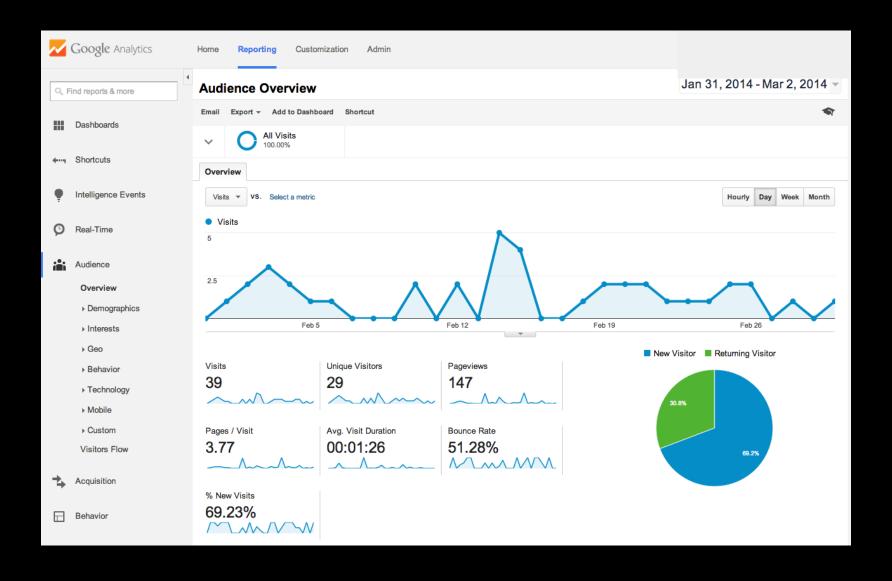
Personas

Typical persona:

- "Angelline is a safety engineer who loves books about the beach."
- "Bob is a flight controller who watches a movie every Saturday."



Web Analytics and A/B Testing

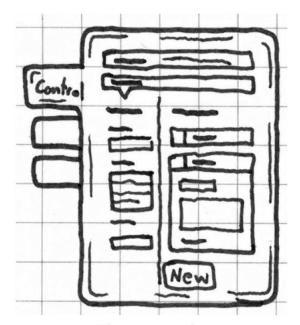




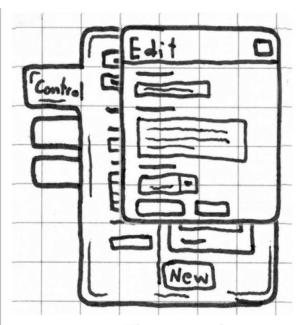
Speed Dating

Status Transition and Control

Have you ever had another author edit a cause that you had previously baselined?



Changes to the Cause record are indicated visually. You can also view the old and new versions



Changes to the Cause record are indicated visually. You can also view the old and new versions



Other Methods

- Heuristic Evaluation
- Fitts Law Modeling
- Surveys



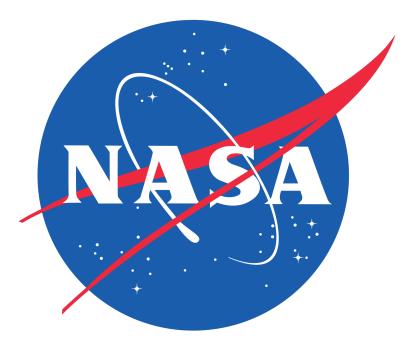
Design(er) thoughts

Our designers:

- Write the initial test case
- Are first to run the test case
- Often double as software testers



Technology should conform to the process, and never a process to technology.



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