



# Reliability: Managing Emerging Challenges and Risks

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- Operations and support costs represent 60% or more of total weapon life cycle costs
  - Reliability drives much of that cost (maintenance and spares)
- Reliability is a common contributor to the schedule delays for our biggest weapon system programs
- 10% improvement in reliability for a major defense program can equate to billions of dollars in savings over the life cycle
- Failure puts soldiers in harms way



### Designing something that won't break when used is easy....Right?







### Five Areas Essential for Successfully Managing Challenges and Risk



- Designing reliability in up-front
- Developing contracts that promote emphasis on Reliability and Maintainability (RAM) design practices
- Leveraging data and information to the maximum extent possible
- Establishing solid reliability growth (improvement) strategies
- Linking maintenance data to product support strategies



## **Designing Reliability in Up-front**





- Mitigate potential sources of failure
- Quickly develop solutions for failures
- Positively impact design

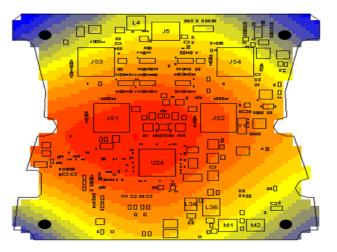
Full-system Dynamics Modeling provides tremendous insights that reduce testing and eliminate failures



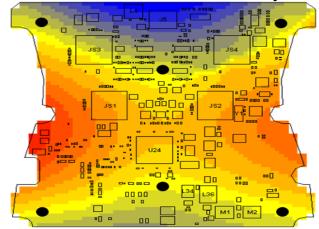


#### **Electronics in an Army Hand Held Device**

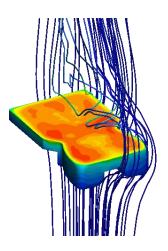
**Initial Design** 



Design after Physics-of-Failure Vibrations Analysis



Thermal Analysis Provided Additional Insights



This Circuit Board Fails Due to Vibration

This Circuit Board Does Not (just by adding two screws)

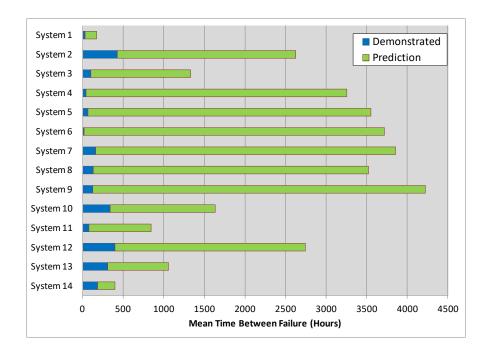
Design modification costing almost nothing changes product from being unreliable to reliable



### **Developing Contracts that Promote Emphasis on RAM Design Practices**



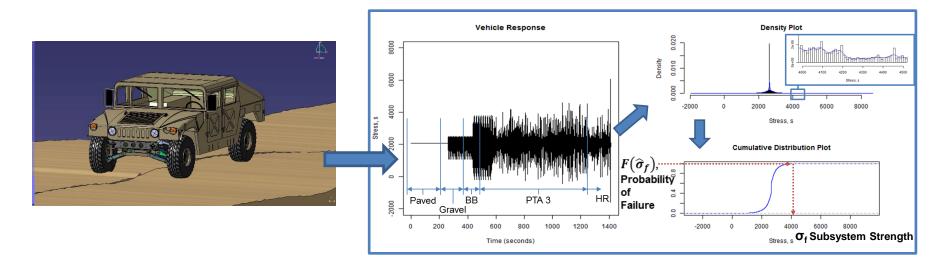
- In some cases, we contract for little more than a specification target and ask for a reliability prediction... and maybe a FMEA
- Need to incorporate language that provides focus on reliability engineering activities
  - Thermal/Vibrations/Shock analyses
  - HALT
  - Solid FRACAS linked to design changes
- Contract is the most important document for ensuring that developers have the proper incentives for applying their best reliability and design engineering teams

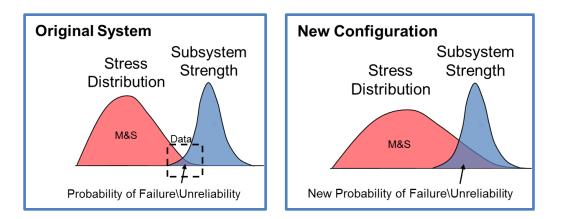


- Reliability contract language developed by AMSAA, OSD, and others
- Scorecards also available to evaluate reliability risk



### Leveraging Data and Information to the Maximum Extent Possible





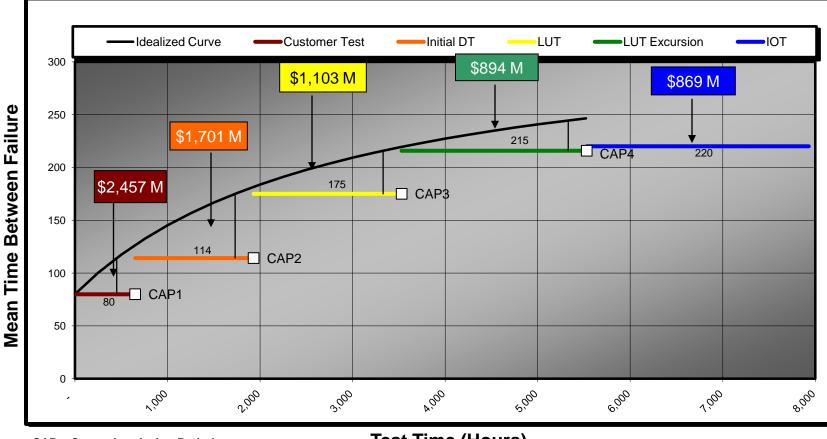
Using Physics-Based-Reliability methodology to determine impacts of weight or mission changes for ground systems

→ Field data from existing systems combined with engineering modeling



### Reliability Growth and its Impact On Support Costs





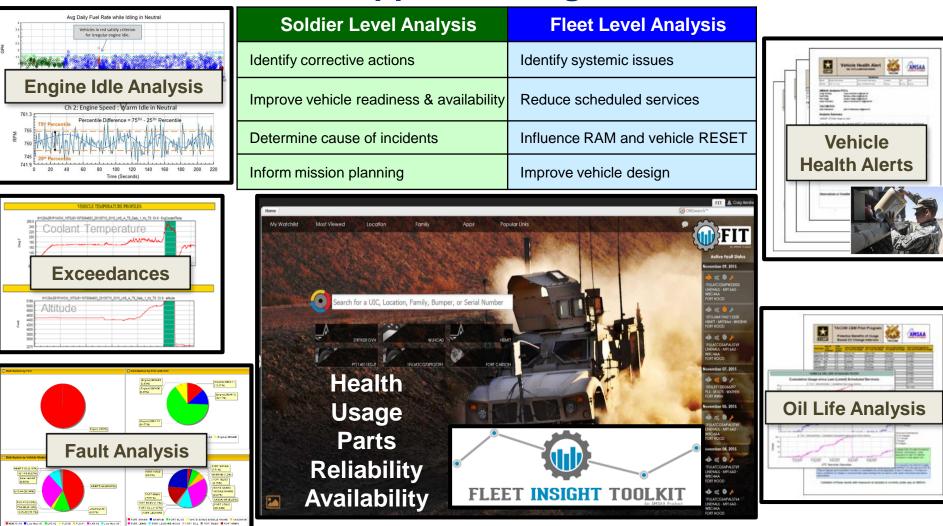
**CAP – Corrective Action Period** 





### Linking Maintenance Data to Product Support Strategies





Developing business intelligence analytics to inform reliability and readiness decisions