

# AFLCMC

## A-10 ASIP Adaptation to Digital Maintenance Data

(Tactical Advantages, Lessons Learned  
and Future Plans)



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**U.S. AIR FORCE**



# Acknowledgements

- **Mark L. Thomsen, Ph.D. A-10 ASIP Manager**
- **A-10 PLM implementation team**
  - **Jeff Howell – A-10 SPO AFLCMC/WWAEJ**
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- **A-10 ASIP Organic Analysis Team**
- **NLign Analytics - Etegent Technologies, Ltd.**
- **Rick Mendoza – ESTA**





# Outline



- **Background**
- **Owning the technical baseline**
- **Operating the technical baseline organically**
- **A-10 ASIP needed tools and qualifications**
- **A-10 PLM Implementation**
- **Technical data package benefits**
- **Tactical advantage examples**
- **PLM interaction tool (NLign)**
- **Data capture at the point of maintenance**
- **Lessons learned**
- **Future efforts**



# Background

- **Planned retirement**
  - Funding pulled, not retired, no funds put back in POM
- **Lost contractor support for configuration control**
  - Multiple EOs against drawings, 50 page EOs for modifications
- **SPO moved from Sacramento to HAFB – lost physical files**
- **A-10 ASIP support group created 2003**
  - Establishing a technical baseline
  - Organic capability to operate the baseline
  - Model Based Definition (MBD) for the New Wing
  - PLM implementation for configuration control of baseline data
  - MBD for the entire aircraft







# Owning the Technical Baseline



VS.



Owning the baseline

OWNING and OPERATING the baseline!

## ■ *Configuration control & change management*

- *Qualified individuals!*
- *Applicable tools!*
- *Focused team work!*
- *Can do attitude!*



# Operating the Technical Baseline Organically



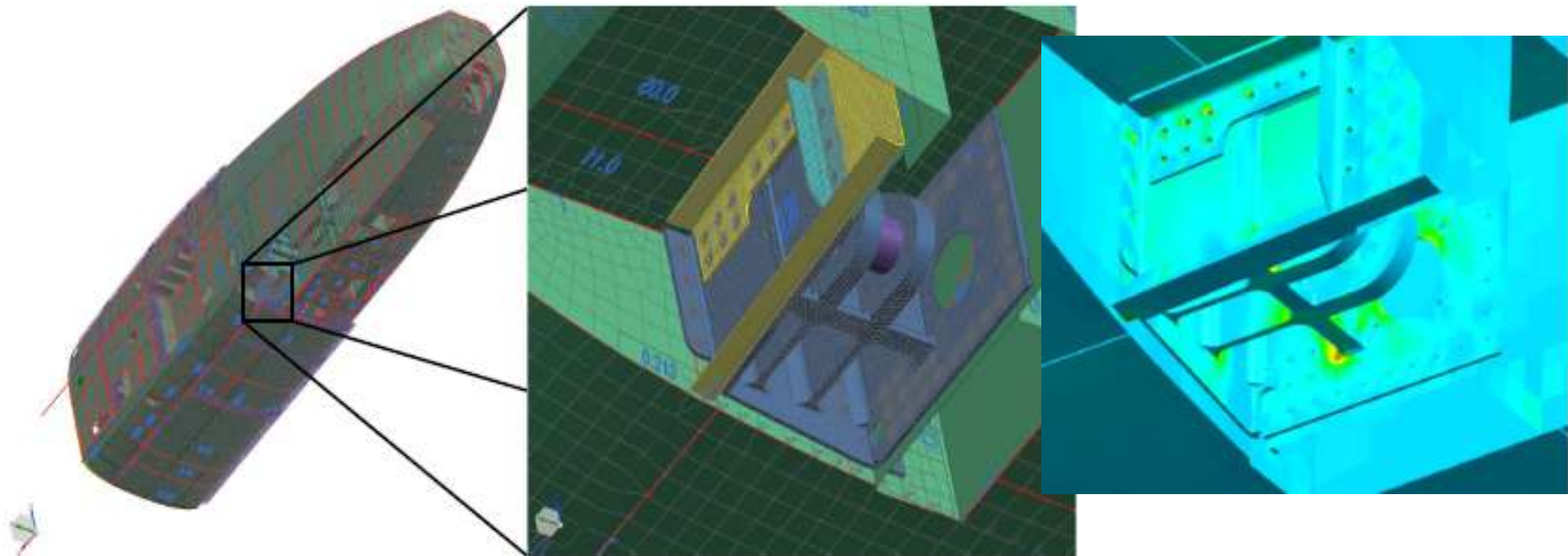
- **Key components:**
  - **MBD & 2D drawing configuration control is the foundation**
    - **No hanging EOs**
  - **Personnel expertise and applicable tools to manage the baseline**
- **Required ASIP responsibilities: MIL-STD-1530D ASIP**
  - **Damage Tolerance Analysis (DTA) updates**
  - **Structural inspection requirements**
  - **Analyses for depot/field repairs (Static & DTA)**
  - **Risk analyses for fleet cracking observations**
  - **Risk based induction**
  - **Damage database**
  - **ASIP contracts (Testing, Teardowns, Repairs, Analysis, Drawing/Spec Updates)**



# A-10 ASIP Needed Tools and Qualifications



- 3D CAD NX & Teamcenter
- Finite Element Analysis (FEA)
  - Detailed Finite Element Model (FEM) inserted into a global loads FEM
    - Boundary conditions more accurately simulated
    - Strain gauge validated



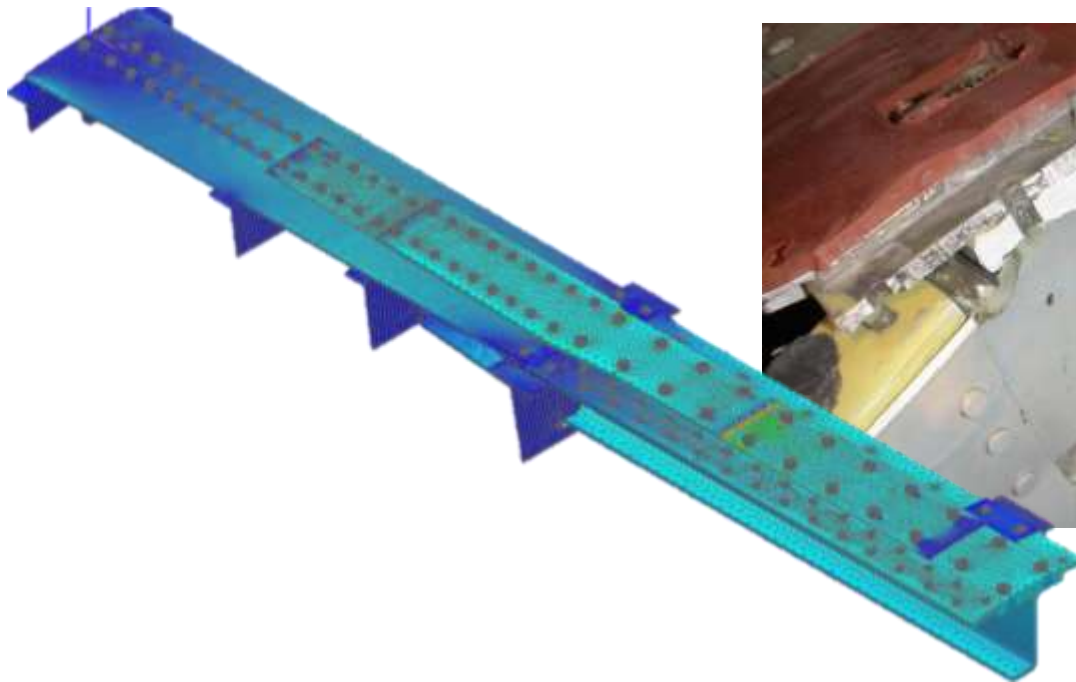


# A-10 ASIP Needed Tools and Qualifications



## ■ FEA load distribution

- Baseline structure and repair configuration
- Fastener loads
- Contact surfaces
- Load re-distribution with crack propagation



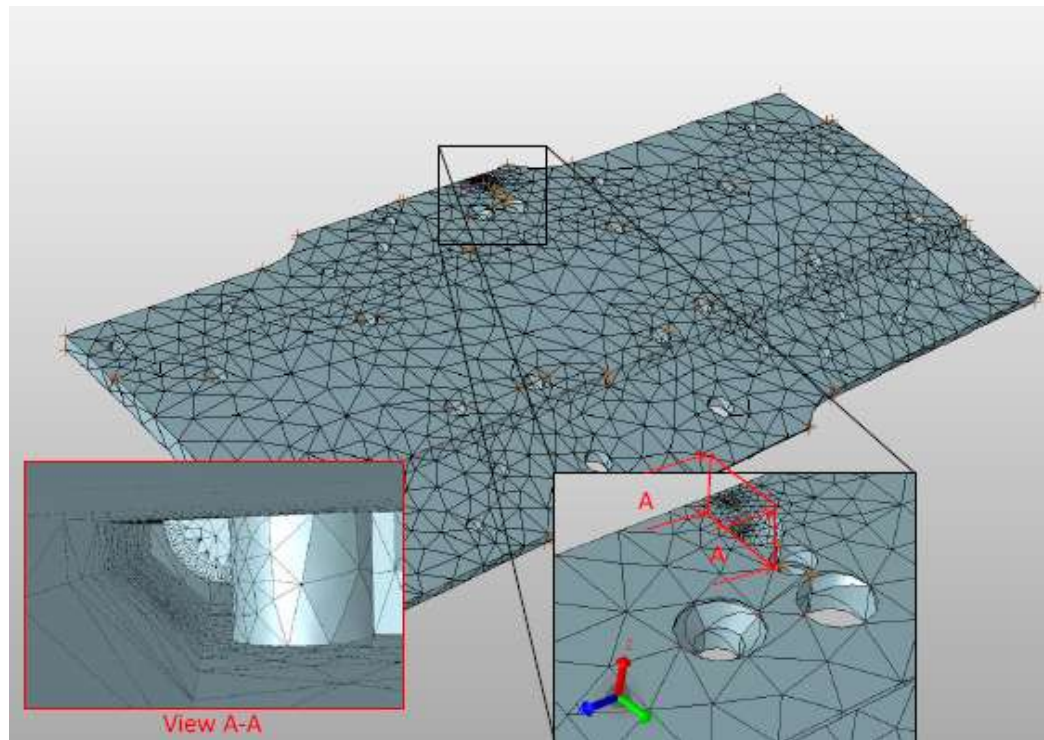




# A-10 ASIP Needed Tools and Qualifications



- Stress intensity solution – StressCheck
  - Unique Geometry/Loading not represented by standard solutions

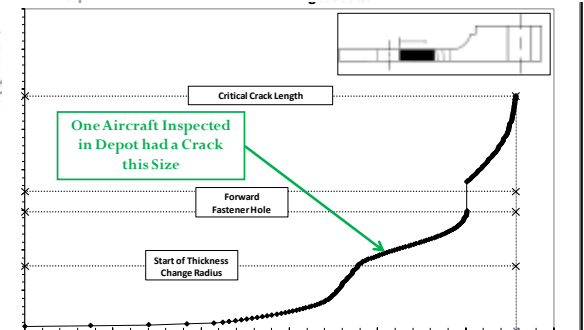
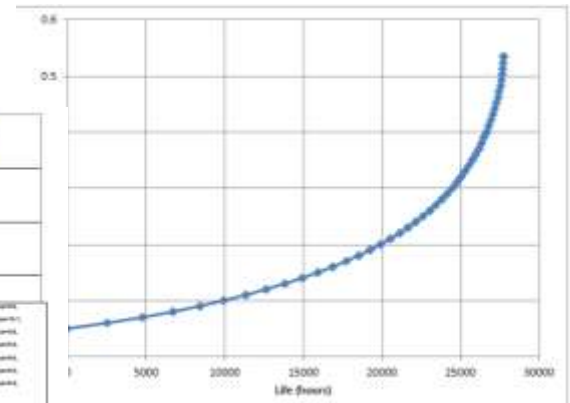
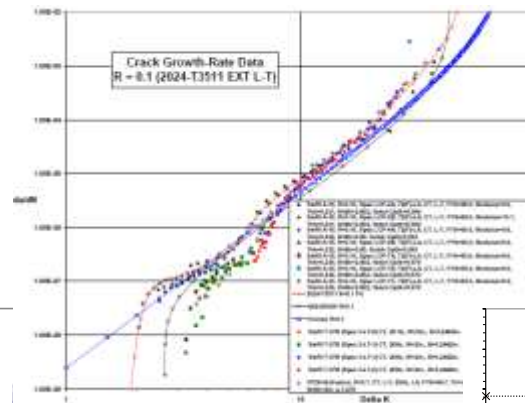
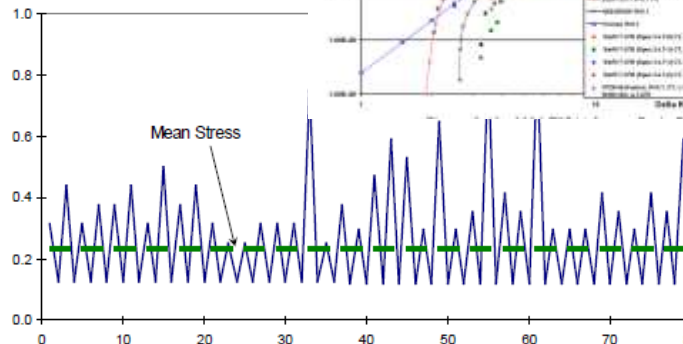
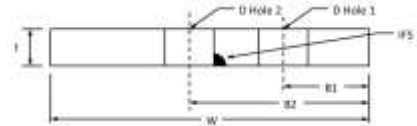




# A-10 ASIP Needed Tools and Qualifications



- **Damage Tolerance Analysis (DTA)**
  - AFGROW, StressCheck, BAMF
- **Technical data required for organic DTA**
  - Usage Data / Loads / Stress Analysis → Stress Spectra
  - Material Data
    - Crack Growth Rate Data
    - Spectrum Testing



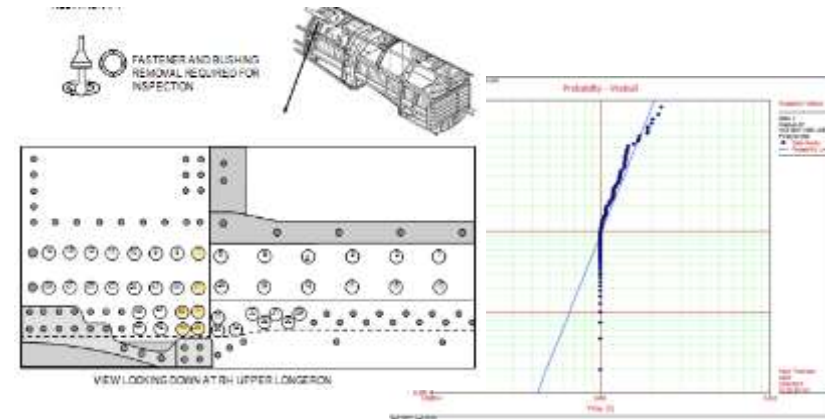
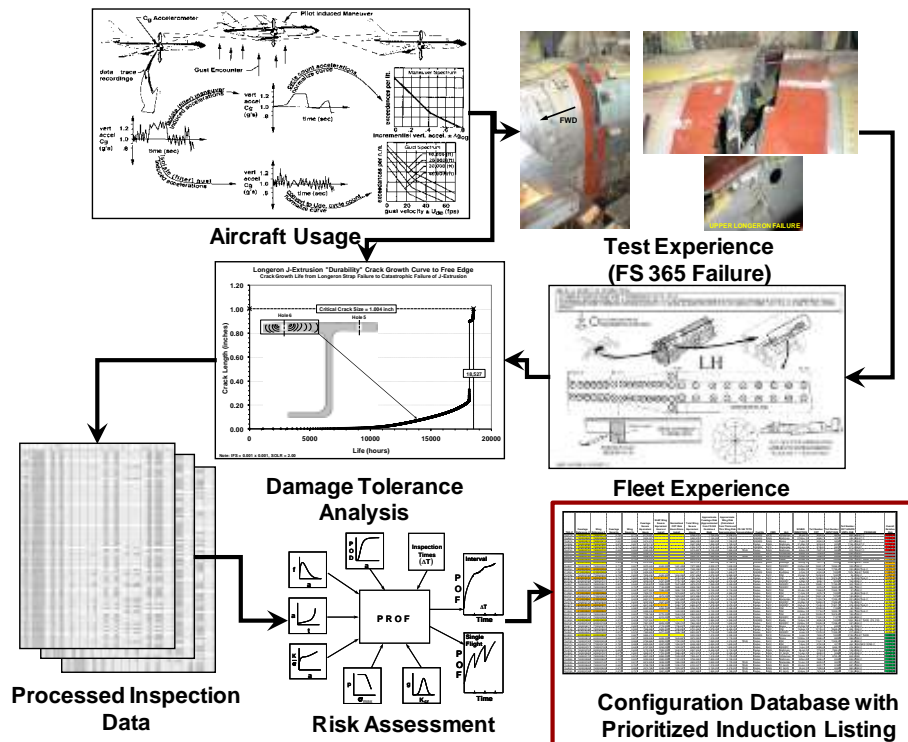


# A-10 ASIP Needed Tools and Qualifications



- Fleet health – P<sub>RoF</sub>
  - Update 11/2015
- Risk based induction
  - Condition and need

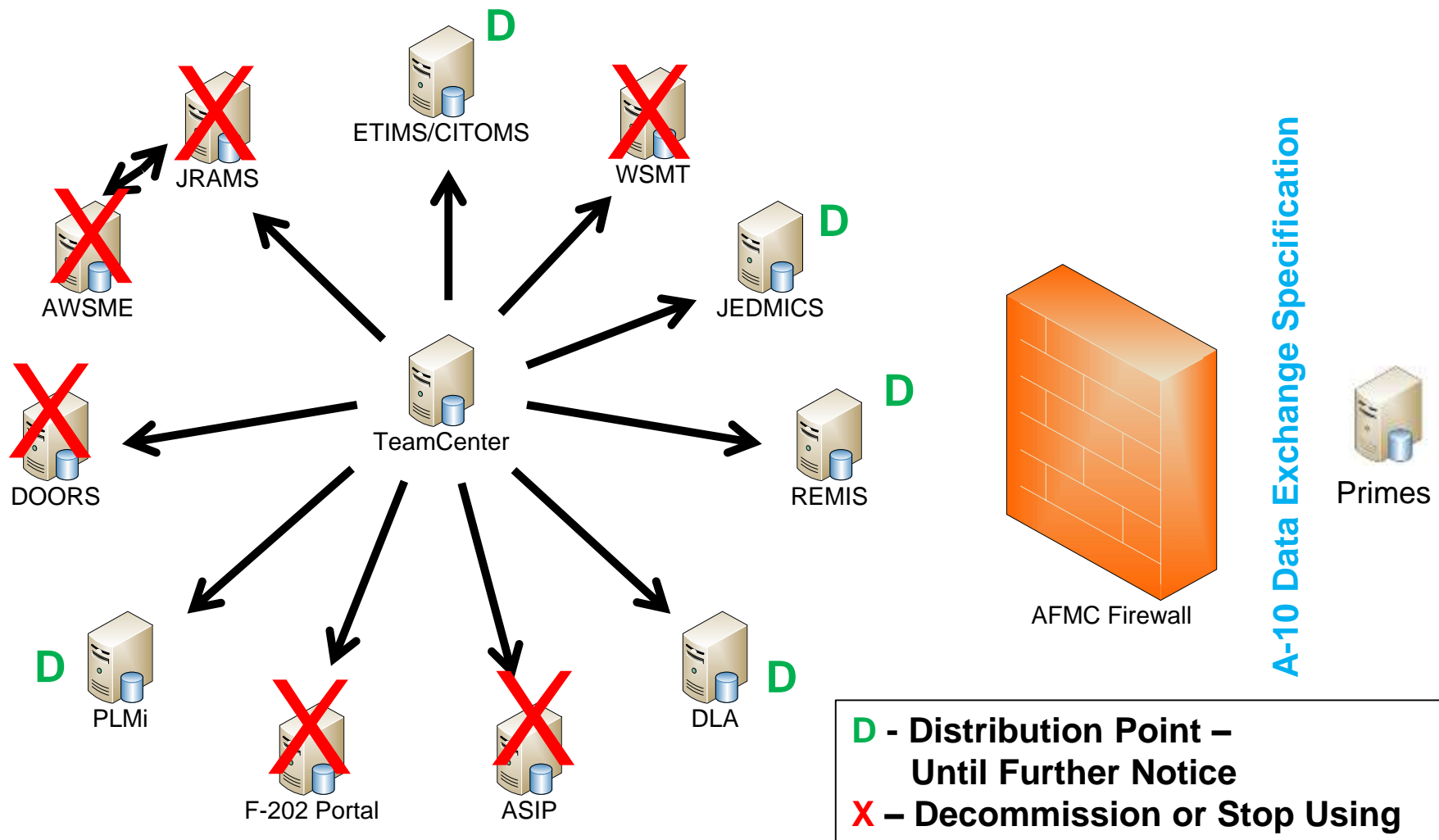
## ■ Fleet risk assessments



A/C	SBR	COT	EPH	LH/RH	Wing Hole ID	Hole number	Holes Checked	CHANGES	CRACK SIZE
79-0157	Jun-02	3409.90					2	repaired	0.0158
90-0144	Mar-03	7027.50					2	repaired	0.0188
90-0155	Mar-03	8965.20					2	repaired	0.0158
79-0044	Feb-04	7189.20		LH			2	repaired	0.01
90-0215	Aug-04	8416.50					1	1st repair	0.008
90-0140	Mar-05	9045.90					1		0.0158
90-0180	Apr-06	7267.80		RH			1	2nd repair	0.008
79-0097	Nov-06	8283.20					3	1st repair	0.0158
90-0140	Jun-06	9103.90					1		0.0158
79-0130	Feb-06	8582.50		RH			2		0.0158
79-0130	Feb-06	8582.50		LH			2		0.0158
90-0211	Apr-06	9029.90		RH	0.1075		5	1st repair	0.0075
90-0211	Apr-06	9029.90		RH	0.1075		1	2nd repair	0.0158
90-0263	Jan-08	7883.80		LH	0.1075		4	1st repair	0.0175
90-0263	Jan-08	7883.80		LH	0.1075		1		0.008
90-0272	Jul-07	9195.10		RH	0.1075		6	1st repair	0.0075
90-0272	Jul-07	9195.10		LH	0.1075		1	1st repair	0.0075
90-0278	Oct-07	8746.30		RH	0.1075		2	1st repair	0.0075
90-0279	Oct-07	8746.30		RH	0.25		1	1st repair	0.0075
90-0180	Nov-08	7912.10		RH	0.25		2	2nd repair	0.0158
90-0180	Nov-08	7912.10		RH	0.1075		6	2nd repair	0.0158
90-0180	Nov-08	7912.10		LH	0.1075		5	1st repair	0.008



# A-10 PLM Implementation







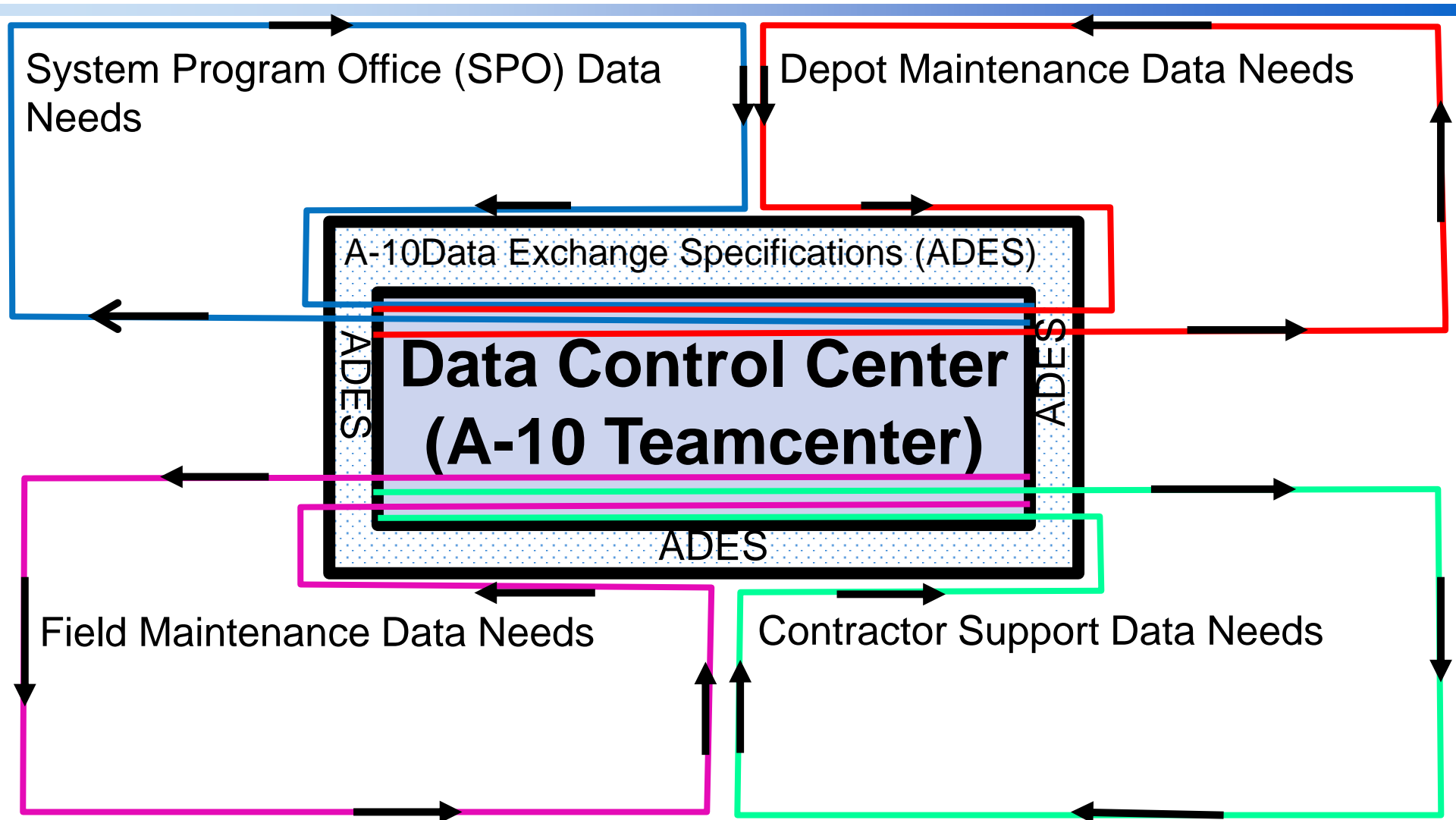
# A-10 PLM Implementation



**Teamcenter  
as  
Single Source  
of Truth**

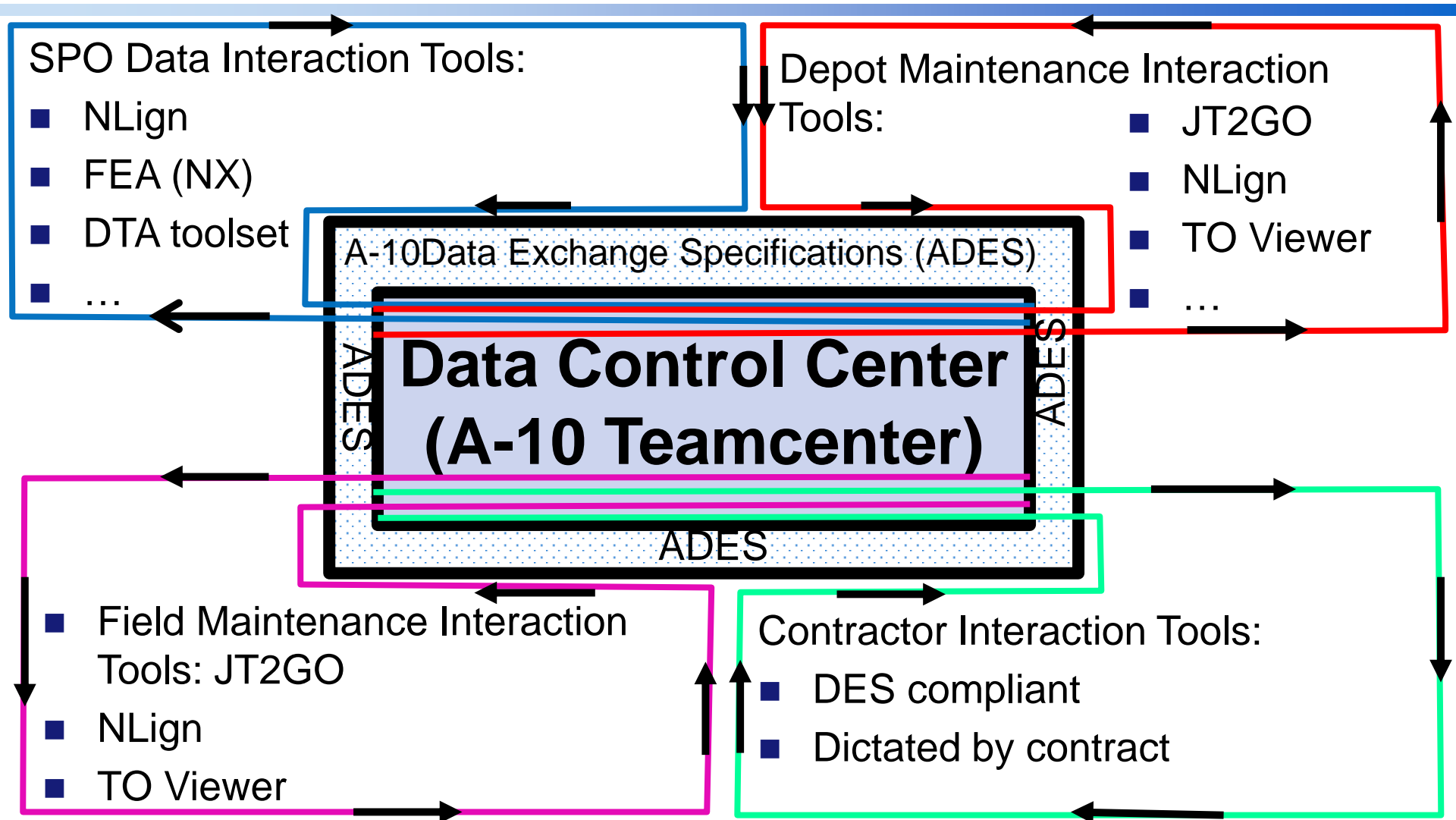


# A-10 PLM Implementation





# A-10 PLM Implementation





# A-10 PLM Implementation

- Current state of the A-10 PLM effort – Are we there yet?

## ■ MBD

- Work Flows
- Data Architecture
- Master tooling 3D Cad
- Legacy 2D Drawings
- Non-Conformance  
Production Data





# A-10 PLM Implementation

- Data migrating from other systems – Currently testing





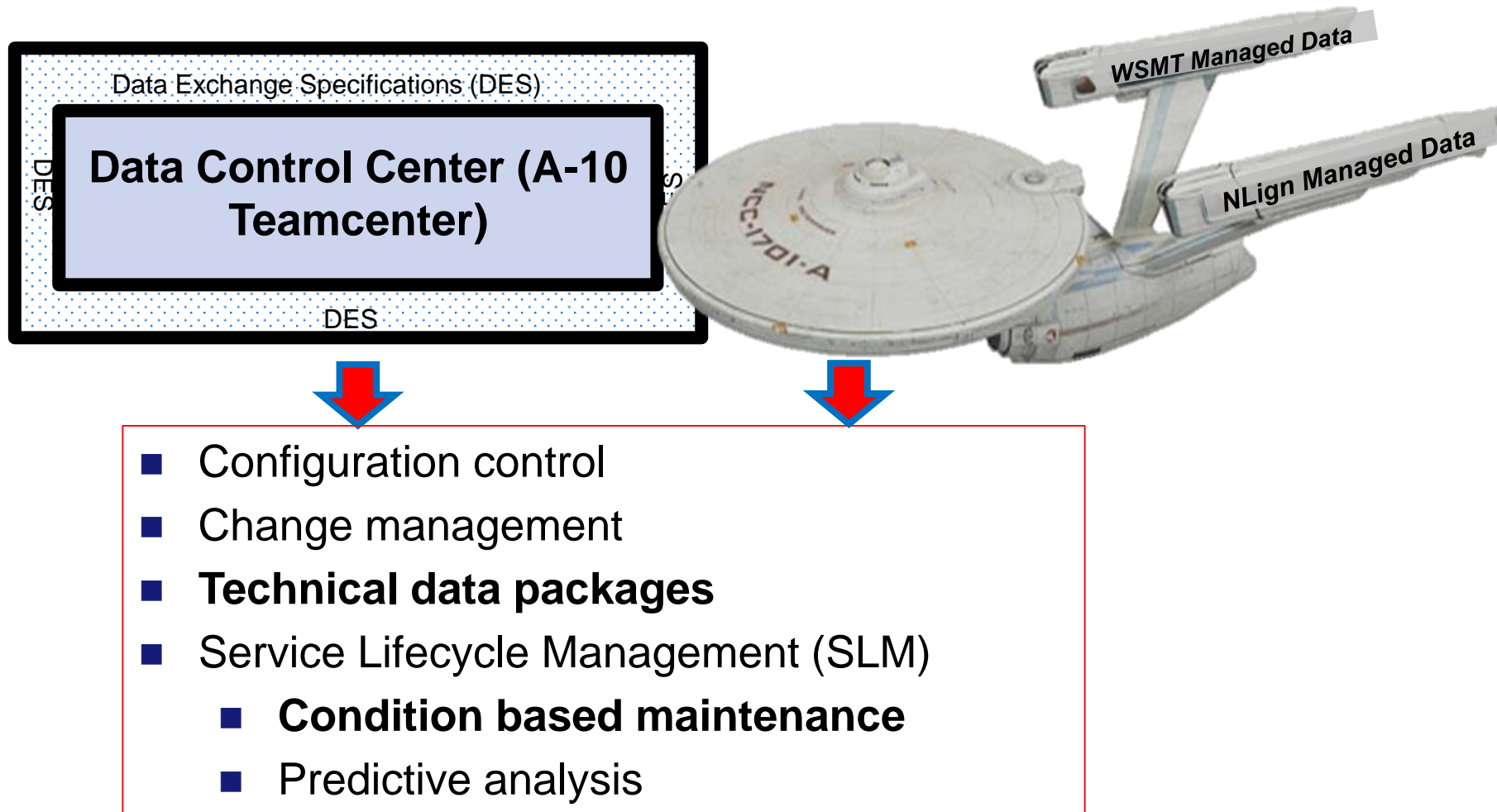
# A-10 PLM Implementation



## The Death-Star-Trek



# Adaption to the Current Digital Data Environment

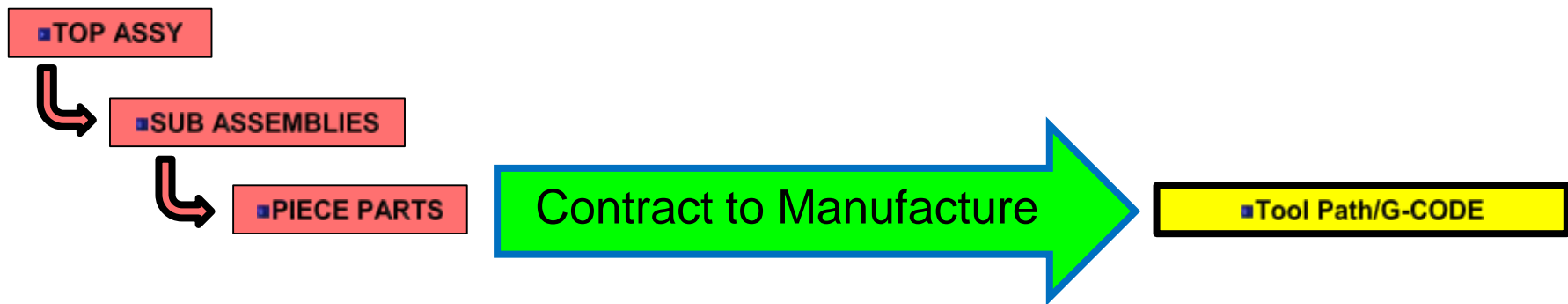




# Technical Data Package Benefits

## Modifications and Part Procurements

- How do we save \$\$ by controlling the 2D & 3D part data?



- Risk factors
  - Was the Government Furnished Information (GFI) correct?
    - Were there any Engineering Orders (EO) to change the drawing/definition in process when the data package was released?
  - Was the GFI to produce the part from a 2D drawing or 3D part Definition?
    - Who developed the manufacturing tool path code?

\*Rick Mendoza F-18, PLM Brief

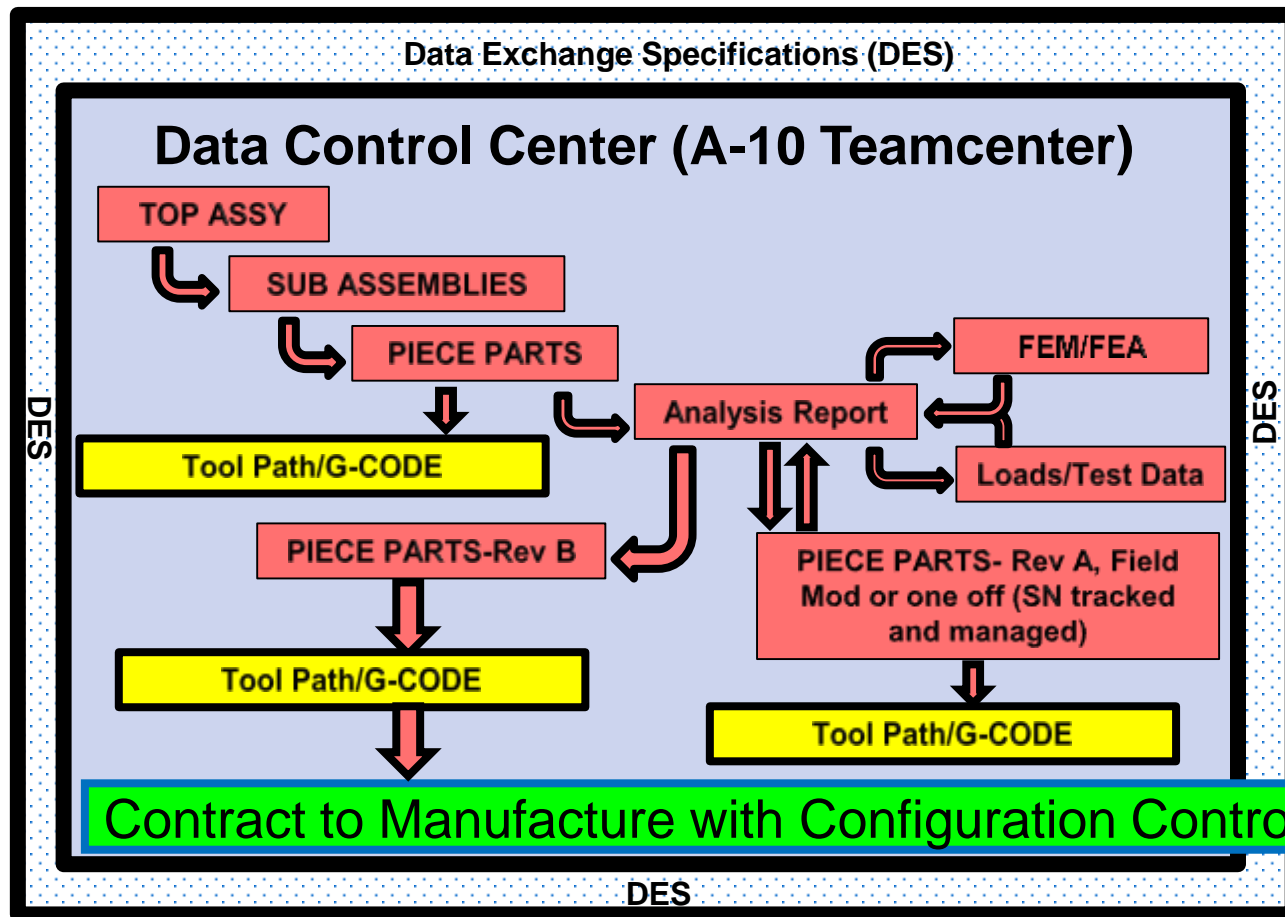




# Technical Data Package Benefits

## Modifications and Part Procurements

■ How do we save \$\$ and time by controlling the 2D & 3D part data?



- Eliminate multiple geometry interpretations
  - No EO overlay or interpretation
- Eliminate modeling costs on future contracts
- Quicker delivery of Spare Part contracts



# Tactical Advantages

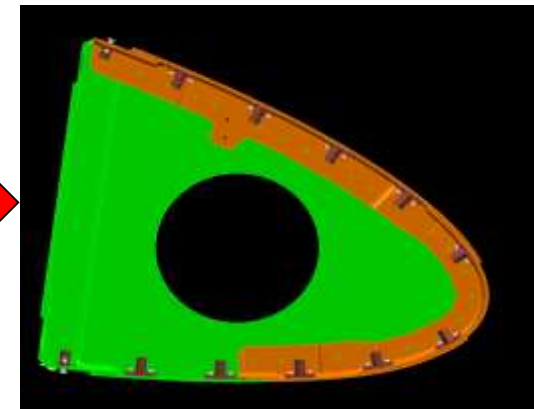
## Rapid Field Support (Bird Strike)



Bird Strike Area



Damage to Leading Edge



CAD Model of Repair



Final Installed Repair



CNC Milling of Repair Part



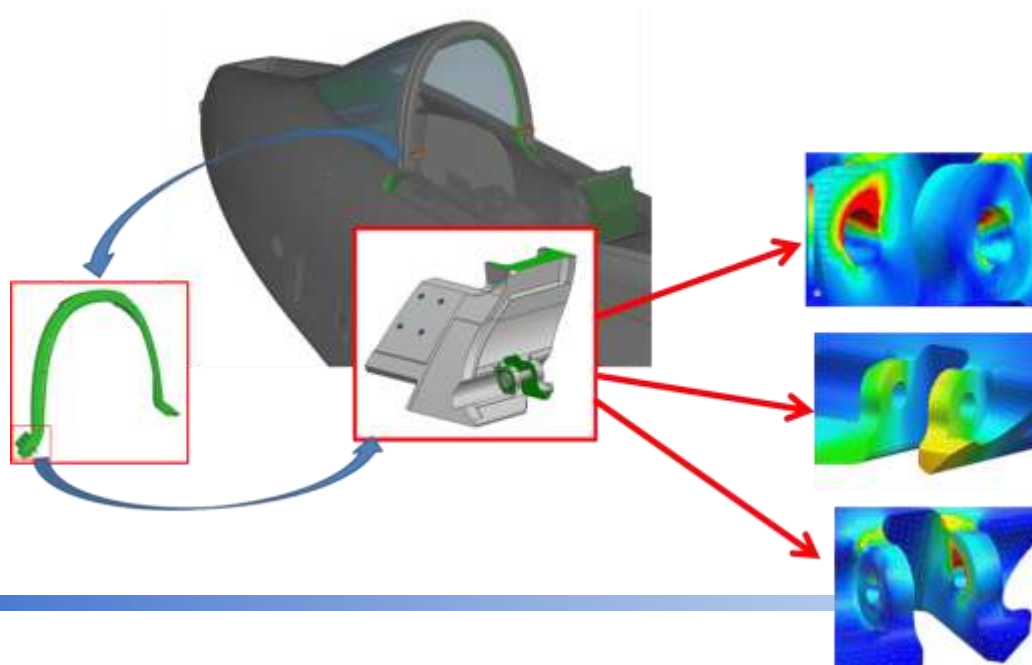
Test fit of 3D Printed Repair Part



# Tactical Advantages

## Rapid ASIP Support (Canopy Lug)

- 29 Feb 2016 – A-10 aircraft mishap at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea
- 2 Mar 2016 – A-10 Division made aware of mishap
- Utilized 'In-House' analytical expertise and provided Osan support within 48 hrs
  - Leveraged A-10 Model Based Definition (MBD)
  - Comparison of simple lug Finite Element Model (FEM) & a FEM with the actual lug geometry
    - Identified appropriate analytical approach to support the situation
  - Provided procedures and analytical support to inspect the remaining AC Osan jets.





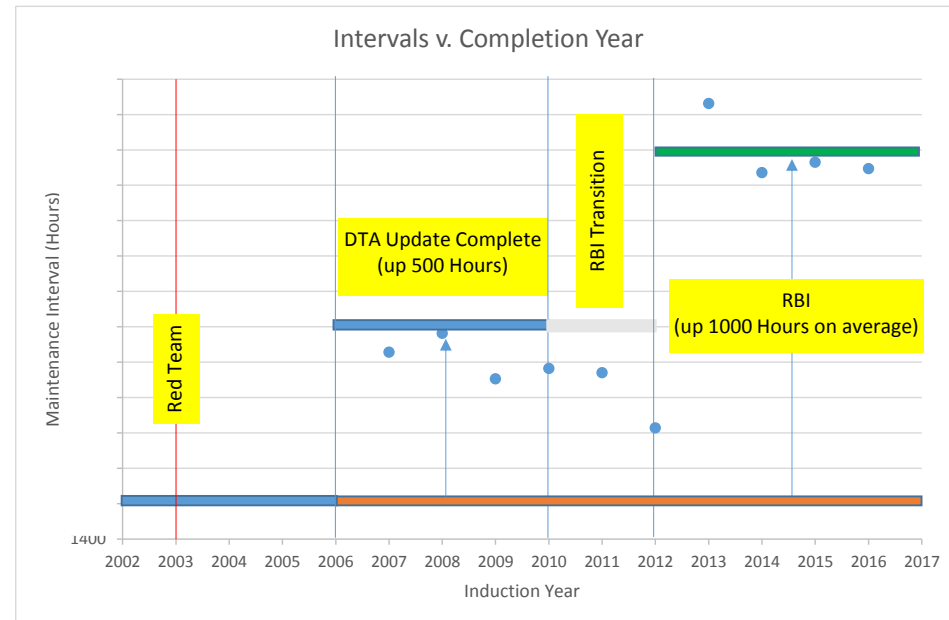
# Tactical Advantages

## Fleet Management



### Risk-Based Induction

- Previously – One Size Fits all approach to aircraft depot maintenance
  - Based on 2000 hour flight induction
- Now – Visibility of individual aircraft configuration including damage and flight condition
  - Aircraft now inducted based on **condition and need** instead of calendar or flight hour threshold
- Benefits
  - \$100M savings to date based on reduced depot maintenance needs
  - Maintaining aircraft availability beyond 1.5X the original design service objective







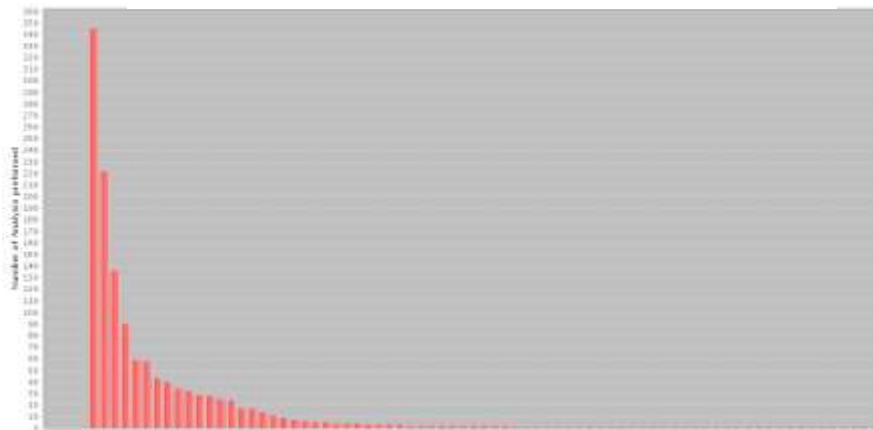


# PLM Interaction Tool (NLign)

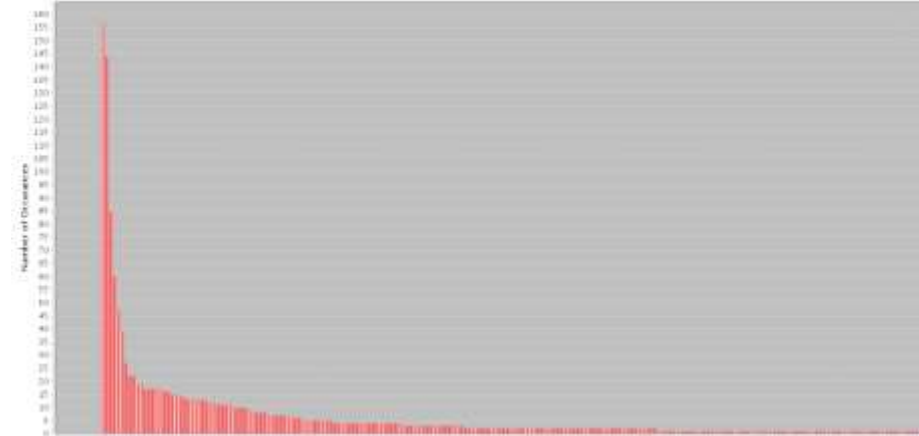
## Trend Analysis



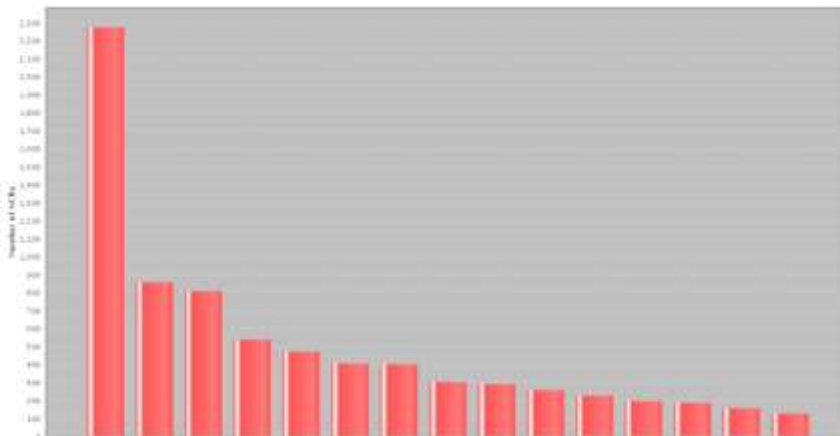
202/107 Analysis Support Reasons



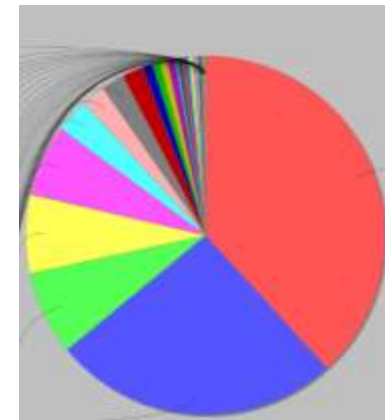
Test and Teardown Cracking by Location



EWA NCR Defect Description (Top 15)

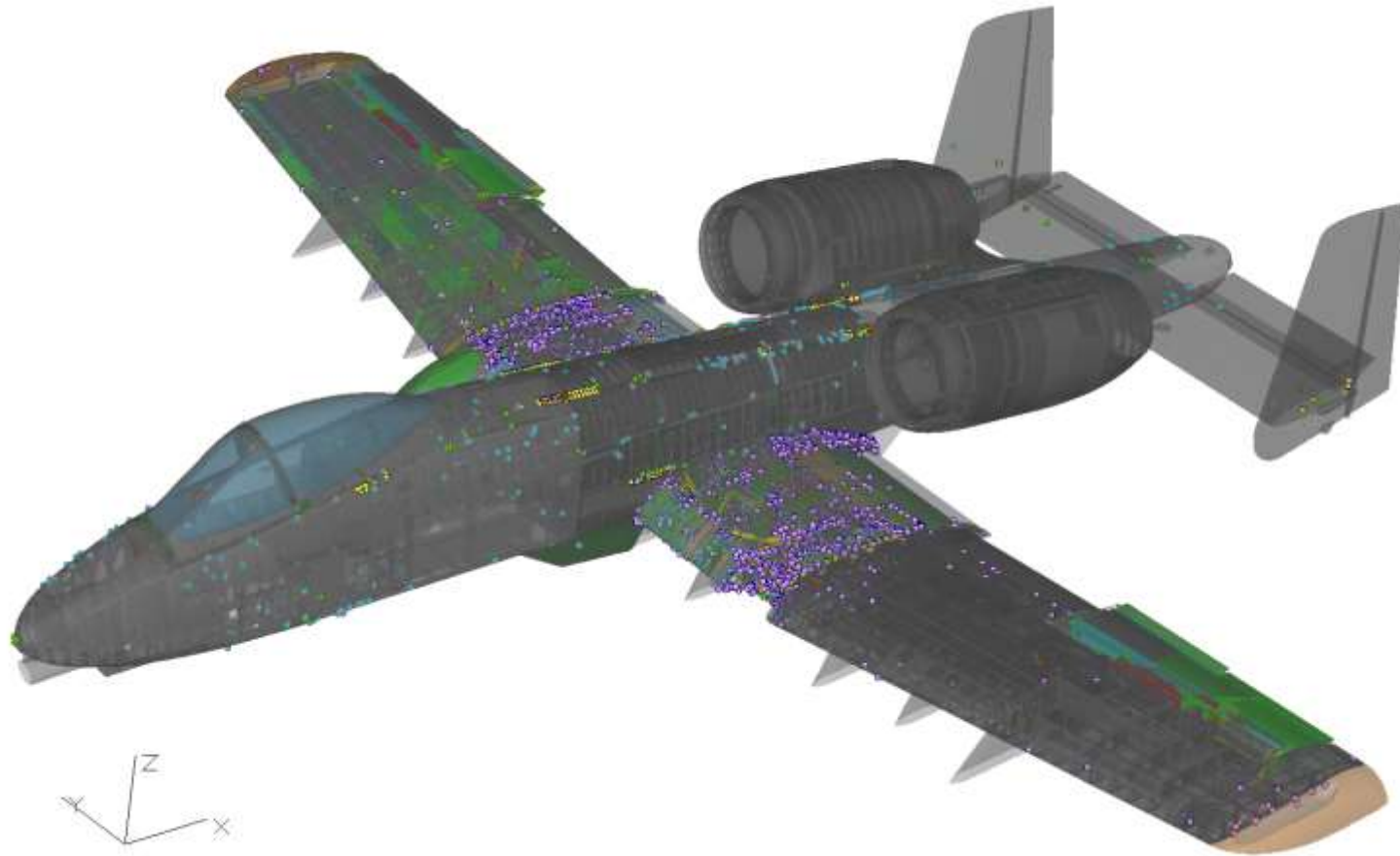


SSI Finding Damage Type





# PLM Interaction Tool (NLign)





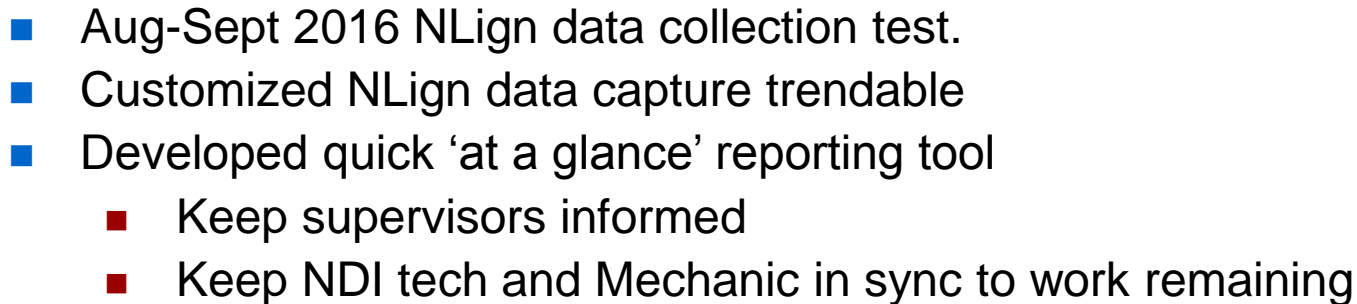
# Data Capture at the Point of Maintenance



- A-10 Scheduled Structural Inspection (SSI) program.
  - Historically it takes 7-9 months from the asset induction date before Engineering sees SSI data
    - ⑩ Low quality
  - No ability for engineering to address data issues while the asset is open and accessible
    - ⑩ Usually asset is back on an aircraft and ready for service when the maintenance data is received
  - Engineer Tech required to manually input data into database





[illegible]

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	HW WCP Serial No.	HW WCP Serial No.	HW Name	HW number	SS Status	Creation Date	Date Status Change
1							
2		0066300027	W09 LH	1	Complete	8/6/2018 12:23	8/6/2018
3		0066300027	W03R LH	SS Web	Complete	8/6/2018 9:22	8/6/2018
4		0066300027	W54 W542.5 LH	1	Complete	8/6/2018 9:22	8/6/2018
5		0066300027	W54 W542.5 LH	1	Complete	8/6/2018 9:22	8/6/2018
6		0066300027	W28 LH	SS	Complete	8/6/2018 9:01	8/6/2018
7		0066300027	W29 LH	SS	Complete	8/6/2018 9:01	8/6/2018
8		0066300027	W25(1) SS2 RH	3	Complete	8/13/2018 10:27	8/13/2018
9		0066300027	W23(2) LH	1	Complete	8/13/2018 9:01	8/13/2018
10		0066300027	W25(2) OS13 LH	3	Complete	8/13/2018 9:01	8/13/2018
11		0066300027	W34(1) OS7 LH	2	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
12		0066300027	W34(3) LHCU Center Spier	7	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
13		0066300027	W34(1) LHCU Center Spier	5	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
14		0066300027	W34(3) LHCU Center Spier	4	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
15		0066300027	W34(1) OS7 LH	7	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
16		0066300027	W34(3) OS7 LH	8	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
17		0066300027	W34(1) OS7 LH	1	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
18		0066300027	W34(3) LHCU Rear Spier	1	Complete	8/30/2018 13:24	8/30/2018
19		0066300027	W34(1) OS15 RH	7	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
20		0066300027	W34(2) OS15 RH	7	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
21		0066300027	W34(1) OS15 RH	7	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
22		0066300027	W34(2) OS15 RH	7	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
23		0066300027	W34(2) OS12 LH	2	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
24		0066300027	W34(2) OS14 LH	1	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
25		0066300027	W35 LH	1	Complete	8/30/2018 10:44	8/30/2018
26		0066300027	W35W20 LH	11	Complete	8/30/2018 9:40	8/30/2018





# Data Capture at the Point of Maintenance



## Historic SSI Data Capture Process

7 - 9 Months

=



Low Quality

VS.

## NLign Data Capture Test Case

3 Weeks

=

- Data delivered ~800% faster
- 3 Weeks from the day of induction till the final inspection was complete
- Data available the moment it was captured
- High Quality data!



# Lessons Learned



- NLign was easy to understand and use by the Maintainers
- Most data is input by the NDI tech
  - Mechanic is required for dimensional data
- Keeping NDI techs trained to use NLign could be challenging
  - NDI techs rotate between weapon systems and shops monthly
    - Specific data capture software just being used by the A-10
- MX tough-books are still 32 bit not the required 64 bit system required for NLign
  - Different IT organization with conflicting views on upgrading tough books
- Engineering tech was present for support
  - Not a true 'hands off' test of the system
- MX Process Engineering is needed to develop the official procedures
- A-10 Wing Shop is eager to start a second round of testing
  - The first test allowed the shop to sell the asset sooner
  - Two more assets are ready to test the NLign tool



# Lessons Learned



- Data control and communication is Key!
  - PLM data exchange specification
  - Data is controlled at one source
  - Data flow is not just 'one way'
- PLM solution must be tailored to the weapon system
  - A-10 new wing MBD vs Legacy MBD/part report/2D drawing hybrid
  - Needed interaction tools for analysis and communication to contractors/OEM
- ***Qualified individuals!***
- ***Applicable tools!***
- ***Focused team work!***
- ***Can do attitude!***





# Future Plans



- Complete the data migrating legacy systems to Teamcenter
  - MBD/part number is the base structure for data to be related to
- Continue development on NLign to enable seamless communication of the data being managed in Teamcenter
  - Identify other data interaction tools that need to integrate with Teamcenter.
- Refine workflow processes within Teamcenter for data control
- Continue NLign testing with maintenance
  - Enhancement of smart fields for data input
  - Maintainer version of NLign with only applicable functionality to the job



# Questions?

