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EUROPE

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15-17 JUNE 2021



# IHE & IHE Catalyst: Advancing Interoperable MedTec Solutions with "Regulatory Submission Ready" Conformity Assessment



**Dr. Stefan Schlichting**  
IHE Devices Co-Chair  
Unity Consulting & Innovation



**Todd Cooper**  
Lead, IHE-HL7 Gemini Device Interoperability Program  
Board, IHE International  
Executive Director, Trusted Solutions Foundry



## Dr.-Ing. Stefan Schlichting

IHE Devices Co-Chair  
Expert, Unity Consulting & Innovation  
Over 10 years of experience with innovation,  
technology & product development & systems  
engineering



## Todd Cooper

Lead, IHE-HL7 Gemini Device Interoperability Program  
Board, IHE International  
Executive Director, Trusted Solutions Foundry  
Over 30 years experience in open standards-based medical  
device interoperability



## OR.NET<sub>e.v.</sub>

IHE International sponsor of the  
IHE Devices Domain / Device Point-of-care  
Interoperability (DPI) Program

A non-profit organization with more than 50  
international partners.

## **IHE International & IHE Catalyst:**

**Advancing Interoperable MedTec Solutions with  
*"Regulatory Submission Ready" Conformity Assessment***

- ❖ **The MedTech Device Interoperability Challenge**
- ❖ **New Generation of MDI Standards & Profiles + Communities**
- ❖ **Addressing MedTech Regulatory Realities**
- ❖ **Big Ideas! enabling "Regulatory Submission Ready" IHE CA**

# The MedTech Device Interoperability Challenge

For some the challenge is “We’ve heard about this for decades! Why should we think that history will NOT repeat itself ... again?!”

For others, “Medical device interoperability? What’s the ‘big deal’ ... we’ve solved device interoperability challenges in many other industries?!”



# Medical Device Interoperability Journey

40+ Year *Promise* of  
Medical Device Interoperability:



As we ponder the NEXT 40 ...

*Why do we think it will be  
any different?!*



**Does it have to be this hard?**

***Life-critical MedTech is HARD!***

**Is it a technology problem?**

***Not in the last 40 years!***

**Why such a challenge?**

***#1 Misaligned Business Drivers***

***#2 Incomplete Standards Solutions***



Consider some exemplary MDI use cases:

- ❖ **Endoscopic/Laparoscopic Surgery** (OR focused)
- ❖ **Silent Bed** (ICU/ER focused)
- ❖ **Isolation Point-of-Care** (from Hospital to Home!)
- ❖ **MDIRA / Autonomous Medical Systems** (from OR to trauma site)

Compendium of MDI Oriented Use Cases  
compiled by IHE Devices co-Chair Ken Fuchs ...

Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise

# IHE

**IHE Patient Care Devices (PCD)**  
Compendium of Medical Device  
Oriented Use Cases

**Companion to the “Service-oriented Device  
Point-of-Care Interoperability (SDPi)”  
White Paper**  
*Device-to-Device Connectivity in High-Acuity Healthcare  
Environments using Web Services Technology*

**Revision 1.0**

Date: August 1, 2019  
Author: IHE PCD Technical Committee  
Email: [pcd@ihe.net](mailto:pcd@ihe.net)

[https://wiki.ihe.net/index.php/SDC@IHE\\_White\\_Paper](https://wiki.ihe.net/index.php/SDC@IHE_White_Paper)



# MedTech Customer Need: Surgery Augmented Reality

## The Customer Need – Information Availability



The ability to view settings of surgical devices like HF surgical devices or laparoscopic light sources as overlay on the laparoscopic view.



HF Device



Light Source



Camera System

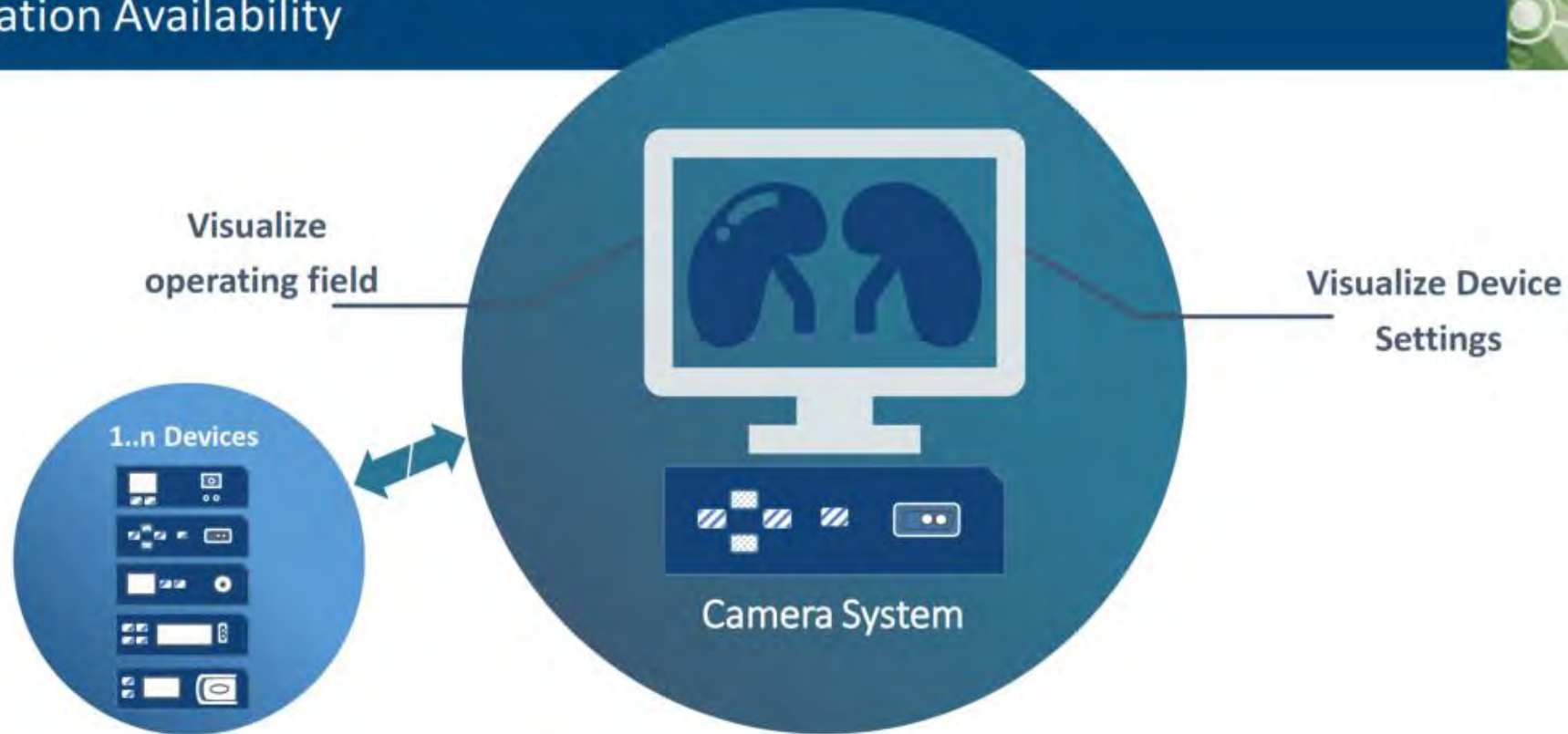
Source: <https://www.drbillhefley.com/the-importance-of-minimally-invasive-surgery/>

Interoperable Medical Device System for information awareness without distracting the surgeon from the procedure.



# MedTech Customer Need: Surgery Augmented Reality

## Addressing the Customer Need Information Availability



Laparoscopic camera system to visualize the operating field with overlaid device settings information of connected surgical equipment.



## The Customer Need – Isolation Room Remote Control



*„Ingenuity.. this is one of MANY things that make me proud to be part of a great group of Respiratory Therapists! Removing the control monitor of Hamilton G5 ventilator and linking outside a closed door. RTs effectively limiting exposure and conservation of PPE!“ – A. Smith BS, RRT-ACCS on LinkedIn*

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The ability to view patient data as well as device settings and control devices from outside the patient's room, as well as be informed about the alarm status.



Ventilators



Infusion Pumps



Patient Monitor



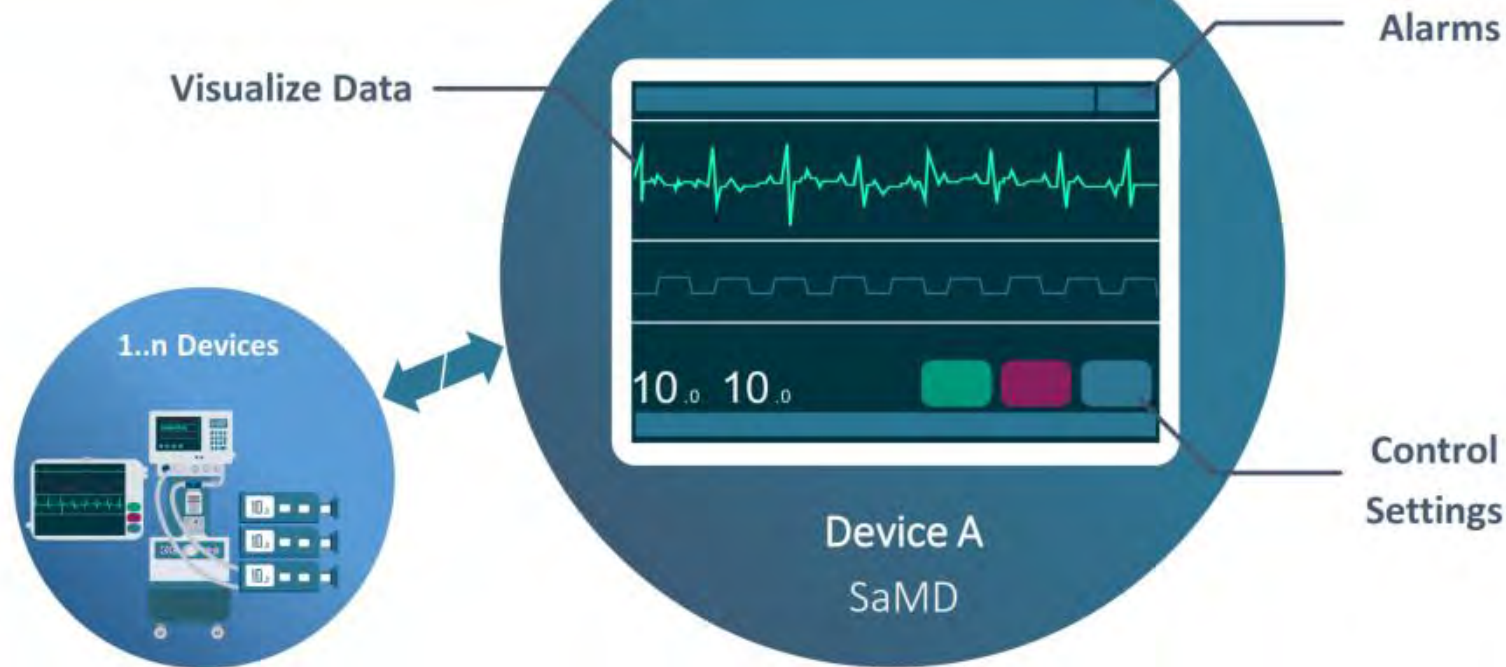
Isolation Room  
Controller

Interoperable Medical Device System for information awareness and control that **limits staff exposure.**



# MedTech Customer Need: Isolation Room Remote Control

## Addressing the Customer Need Information & control from the outside



Limiting staff exposure by a Software as a Medical Device allows the medical staff to view the aggregated patient's status, alarms and to control the patient's devices.

## Interoperability Applications



### Data-Driven Clinical Application

... “Real-time” patient status, Remote supervisor support, Remote Control, Isolation Rooms



### Automated Documentation

... for Data Analytics, Forensic Documentation, Reimbursement



### Care Automation

...OR Planning, OR Setup Assistance, Device Setting Recommender, Physiological Closed-Loop Controller



There exists a customer need for applications that would benefit from interoperability!



## Interoperability Challenges



### Conventional Medical Devices

Generate a lot of data about the patient, the current workflow, and about their configuration.



### Limited Data Availability

Devices have either no digital export interface or proprietary protocols that have to be manually integrated.



### Limited External Control

Devices have either no or limited external control interface.



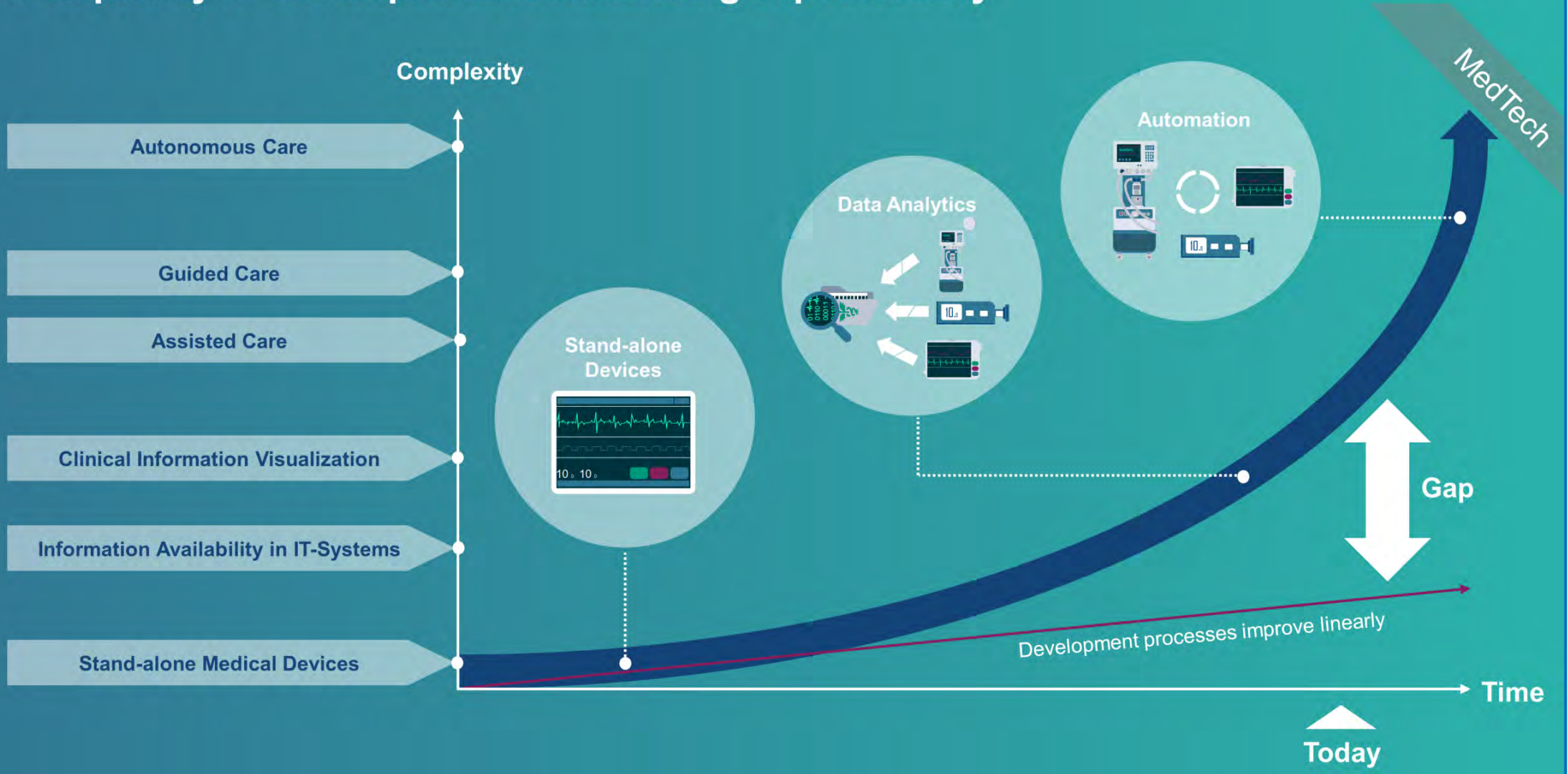
„Interoperability<sup>1</sup> is an almost nonexistent feature of medical devices“

- Lesh et al 2007

<sup>1</sup>Based on FDA Interoperability Guidance (2017) see

# MedTech Challenges – Complexity!

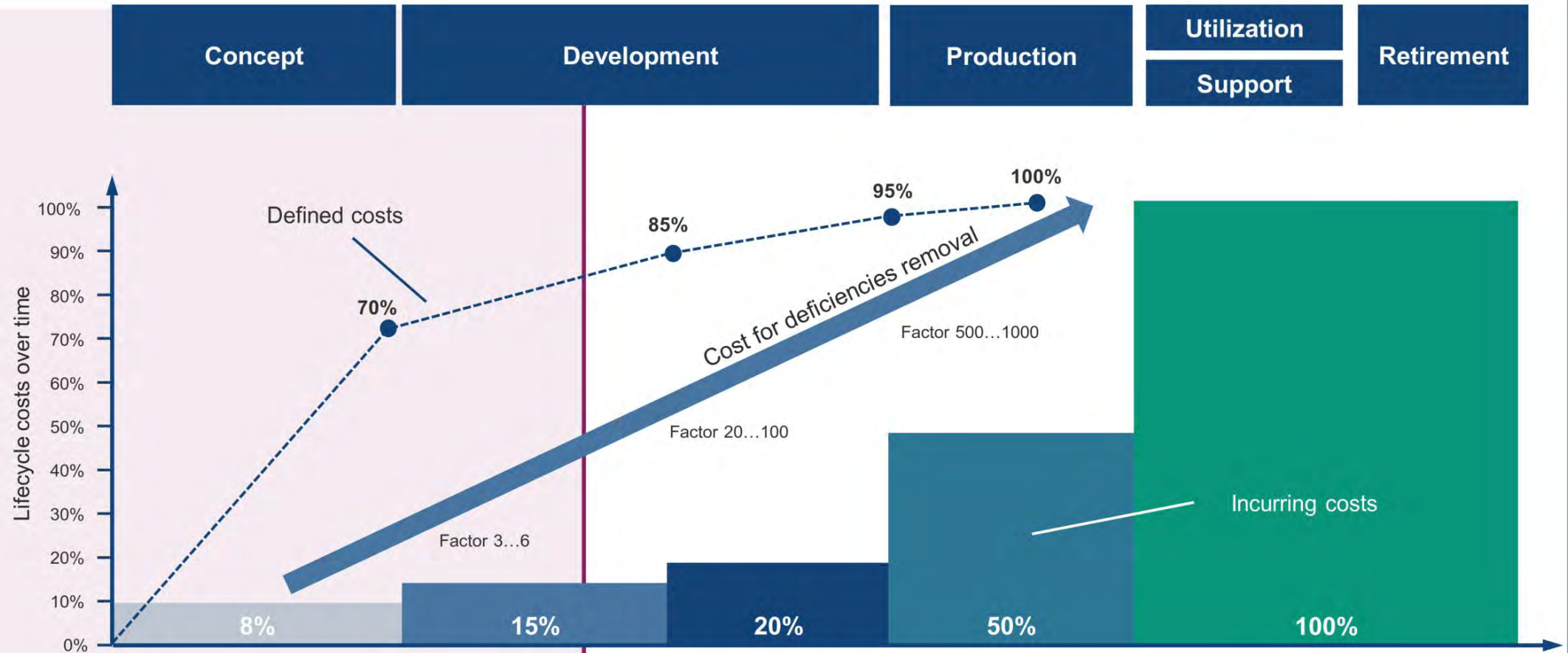
The Need for Systems Engineering  
 Complexity of development is increasing exponentially





# MedTech Challenges – Total Product Lifecycle Cost

## Defined Costs vs. Incurring Costs during the Life Cycle



The 1st phase is of utmost importance! →

Not shown: *Legal / Regulatory "Cost" Contributors*

## MedTech Interoperability Challenges and Open Questions abound ...

- ❖ Technology constantly evolves but *MedTech product life cycles are loooooong!*
- ❖ What is a medical device? “SaMD” and *Medical “Apps”?!*
- ❖ Implementing mostly non-regulated health ICT in a *regulated device ecosystem*
- ❖ *Risk management* of “component products” in a *decoupled ecosystem*
- ❖ Integrating standards-based requirements and specifications in a *MedTech product development management tool chain*
- ❖ ...

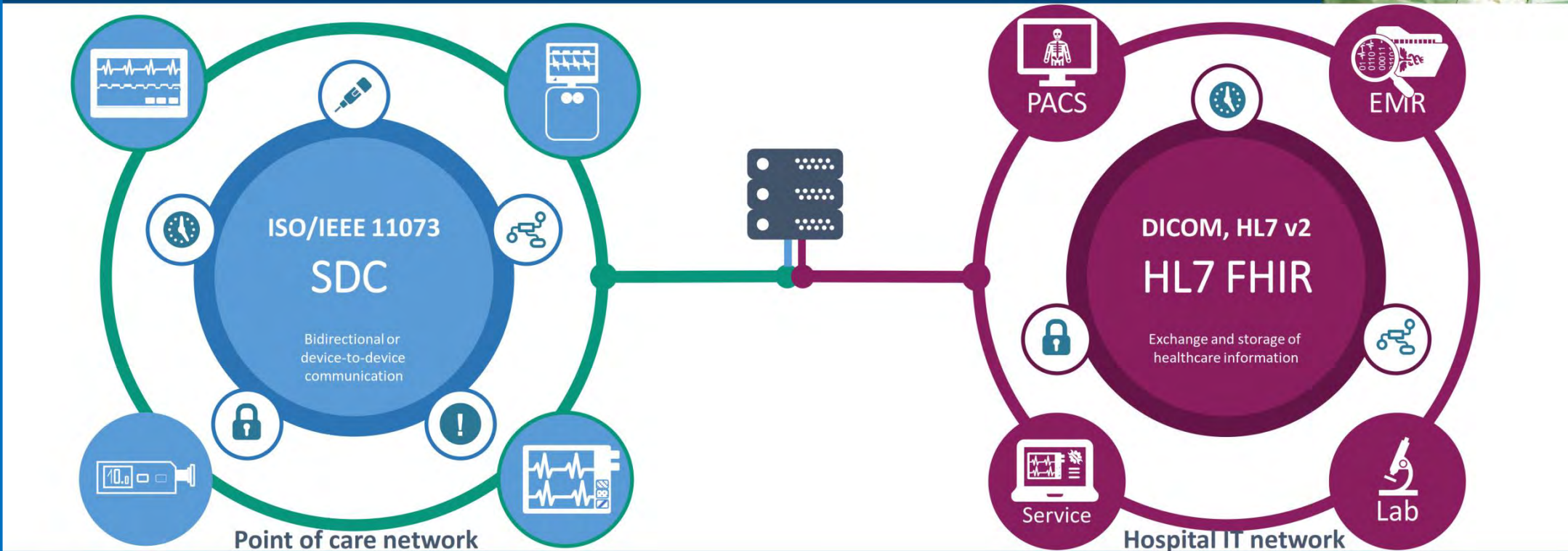
**Conclusion:** *To break out of the “40 year wander” cycle, we have to do differently and do better – enabling significant implementer value chain improvements*



# New Generation of MDI Standards & Profiles + Communities

The stage is set for finally breaking through to realizing open standards-based medical device interoperability due to a new generation of ISO/IEEE 11073 standards, IHE profiles of those standards and a broad international community that has embraced and is advancing real-world implementations ...

## The Interoperability Standards Landscape



▶ **IEEE 11073 SDC & HL7 FHIR – Complementary Standards**



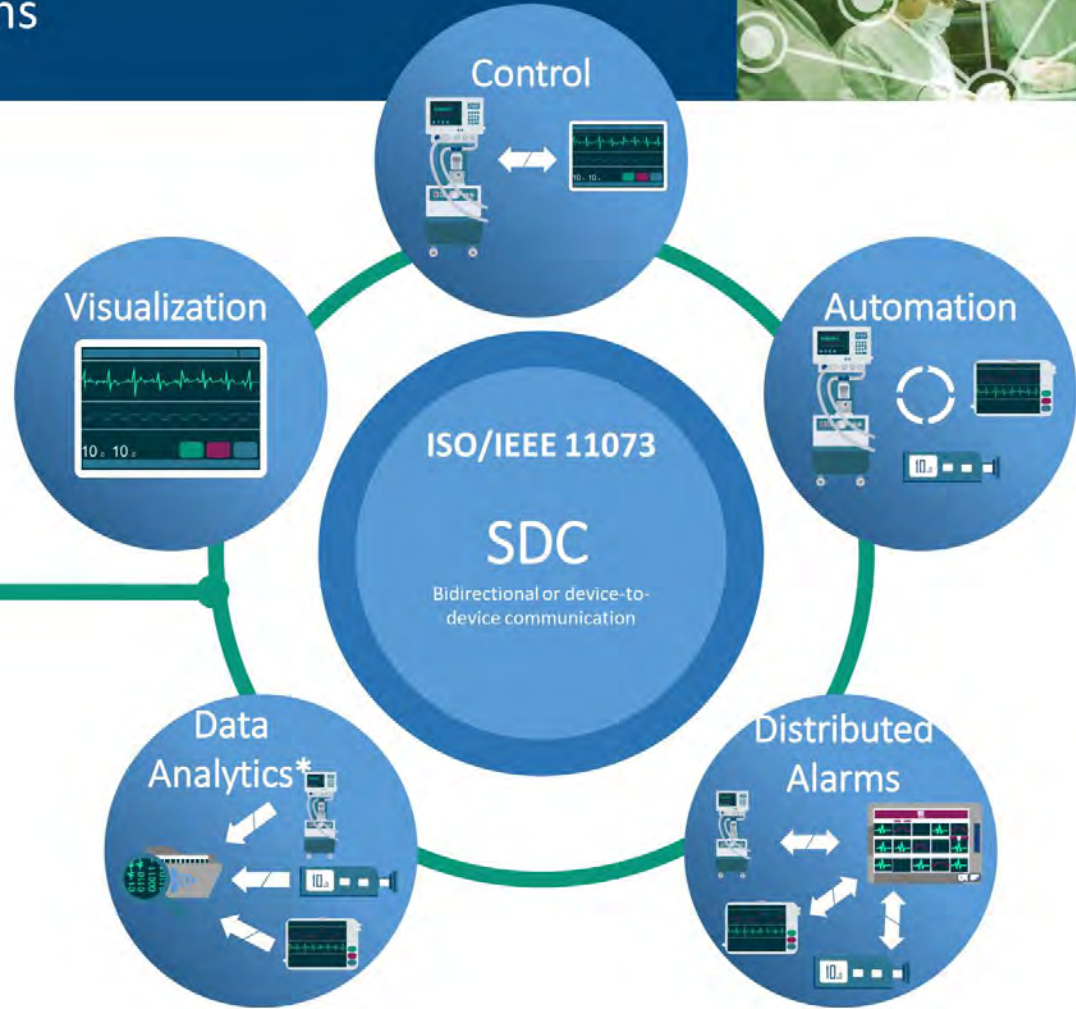
## Interoperable Medical Device System Functions



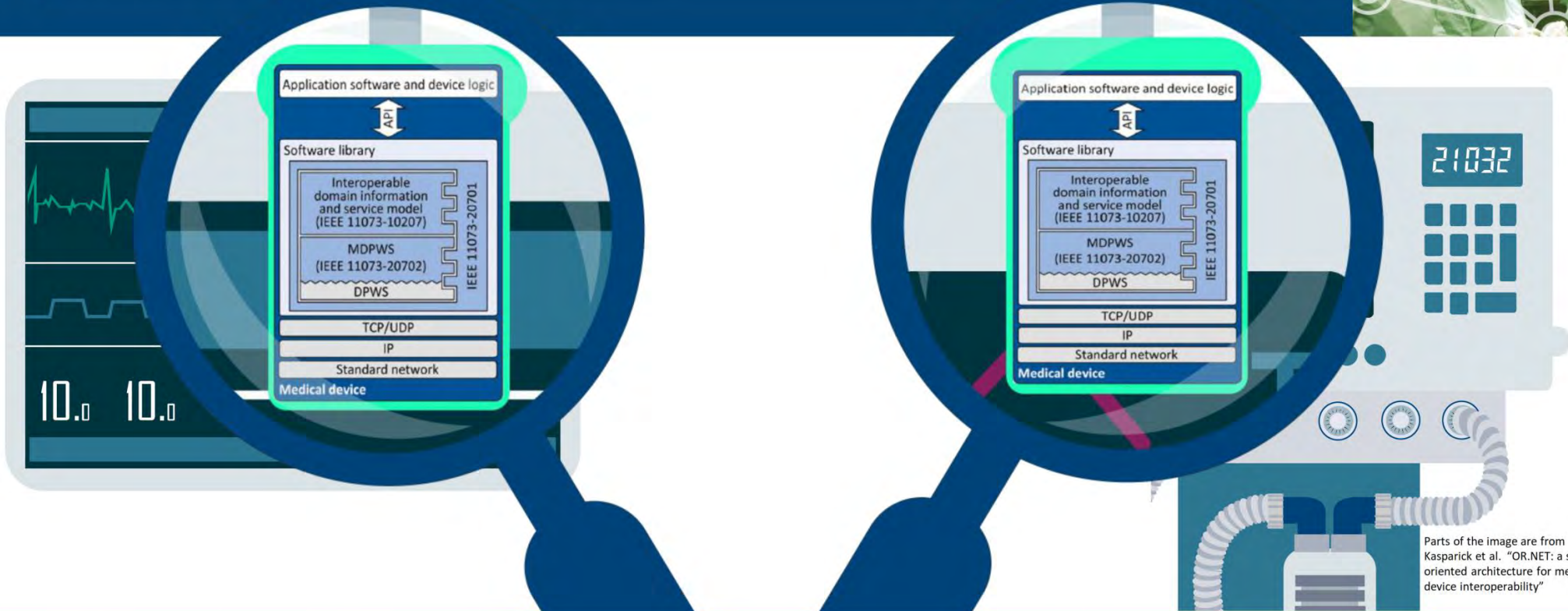
International standard for safe, secure and dynamic interoperability of medical devices for enabling clinical applications in highly acute environments

**OR.NET** e.v.

Concept and development of the standard driven by the non-profit organization, OR.NET, with more than 50 international partners.



## Service-oriented Device Connectivity



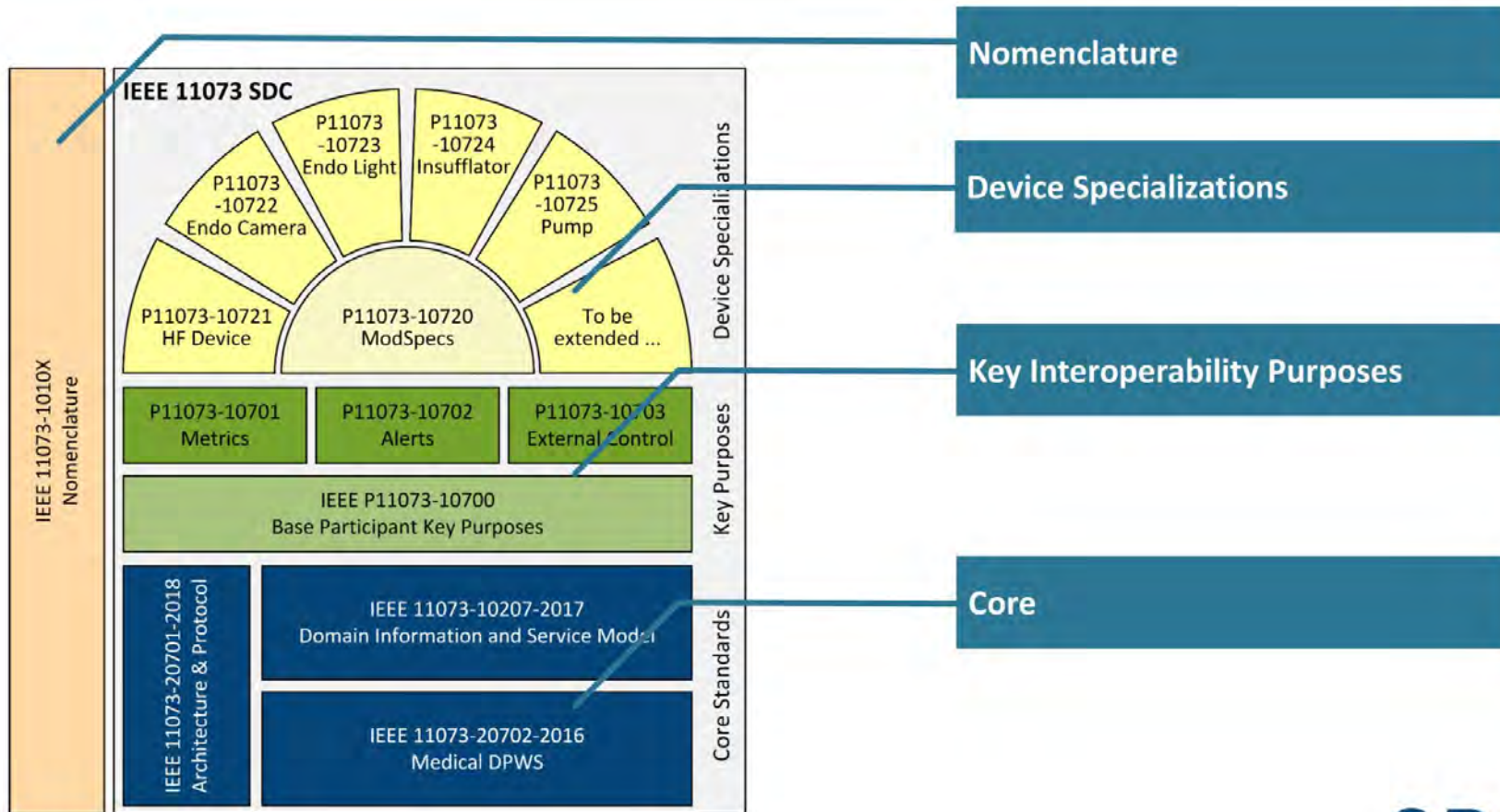
ISO/IEEE 11073 SDC – An international standard for interoperable **exchange of real time information** between medical devices and external systems in dynamic IP networks



## The SDC Standards Family



“Cathedral”  
 Model



## Service-oriented Device Point-of-care Interoperability (SDPi)

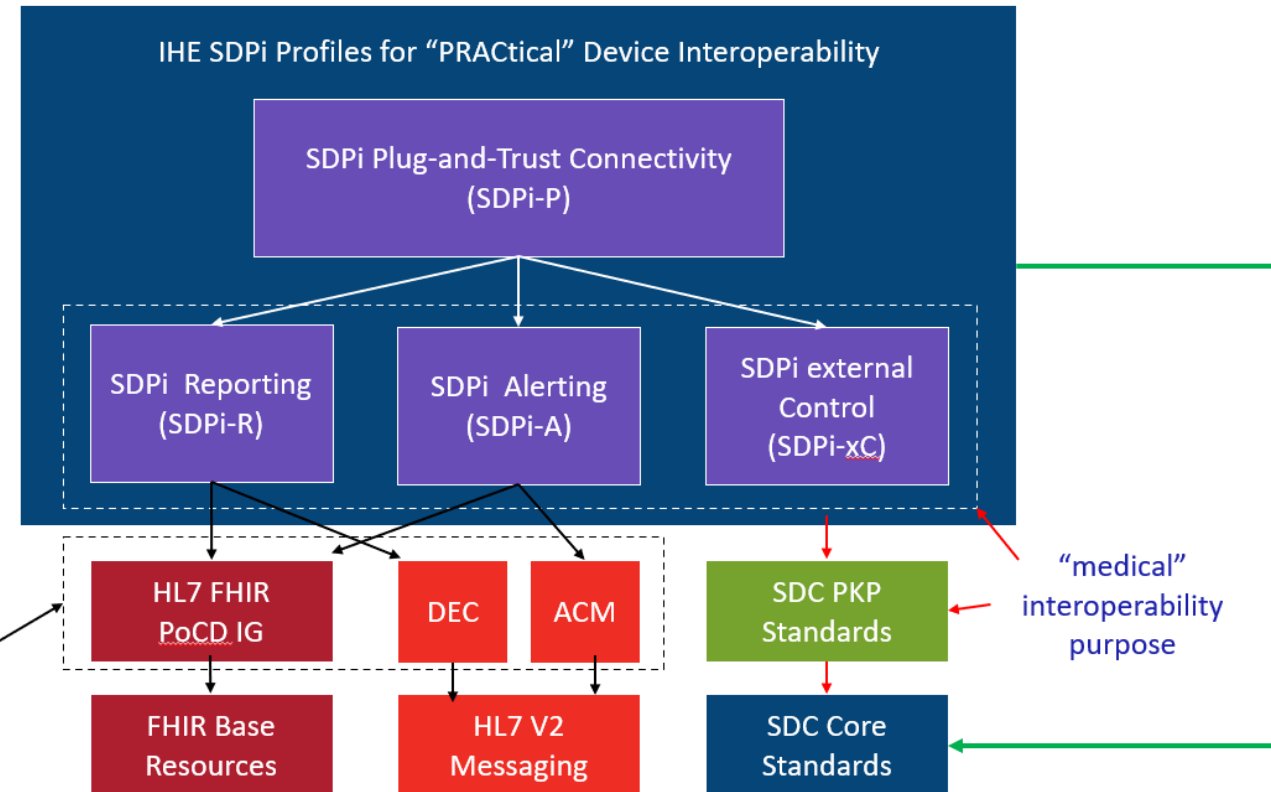
### ✓ Four profile specifications:

- SDPi-P for Plug-and-Trust Interoperability
- SDPi-R for Reporting Medical Information
- SDPi-A for Alerting
- SDPi-xC for External Controlling

### ✓ Three IHE DEV TF Volumes:

- TF-1 Profiles / use cases / actors / ...
- TF-2 Transactions / MDPWS messaging
- TF-3 BICEPS content modules / device specializations

IHE "Gateway" Actors Defined



See draft SDPi Supplement Word Document for additional content detail & outline  
<https://github.com/IHE/sdpi-fhir/tree/master/SDPi%20%20Supplement/SDPi%20Rev%201.0>





## IHE-HL7 Gemini MDI SDPi+FHIR – *Project Update*

*for*

**Joint IEEE / HL7 / IHE Working Group Meetings**

**2021.01.27 (Finalized 2021.02.19)**



FHIR is a trademark of Health Level 7, International.

SDC is a registered trademark of OR.NET

**OR.NET**<sub>e.V.</sub>


**Year 3 Update** @  
<https://confluence.hl7.org/x/Xzf9Aw>

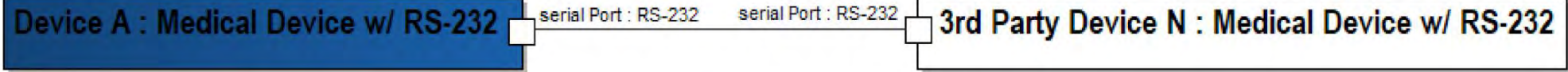
# Addressing MedTech Regulatory Realities

For all MedTech products, getting to the market includes having to navigate regulatory requirements and challenges – interoperability standards communities have not provided a cohesive, integrated approach for applying their standards, leaving the burden largely on the backs of product developers – we must do better!

## Established approach today



ibd [  Proprietary System w/ Serial Connection ]

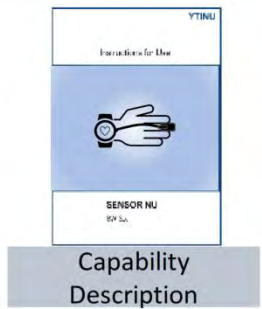


Risk Management	Verification	Validation	Labelling
Responsibility for risk management for claimed system function for specific devices	System functions with specific device combinations 1:n (100%) but only a	New relevant risks out of the system functionality	Additional information for system functionality

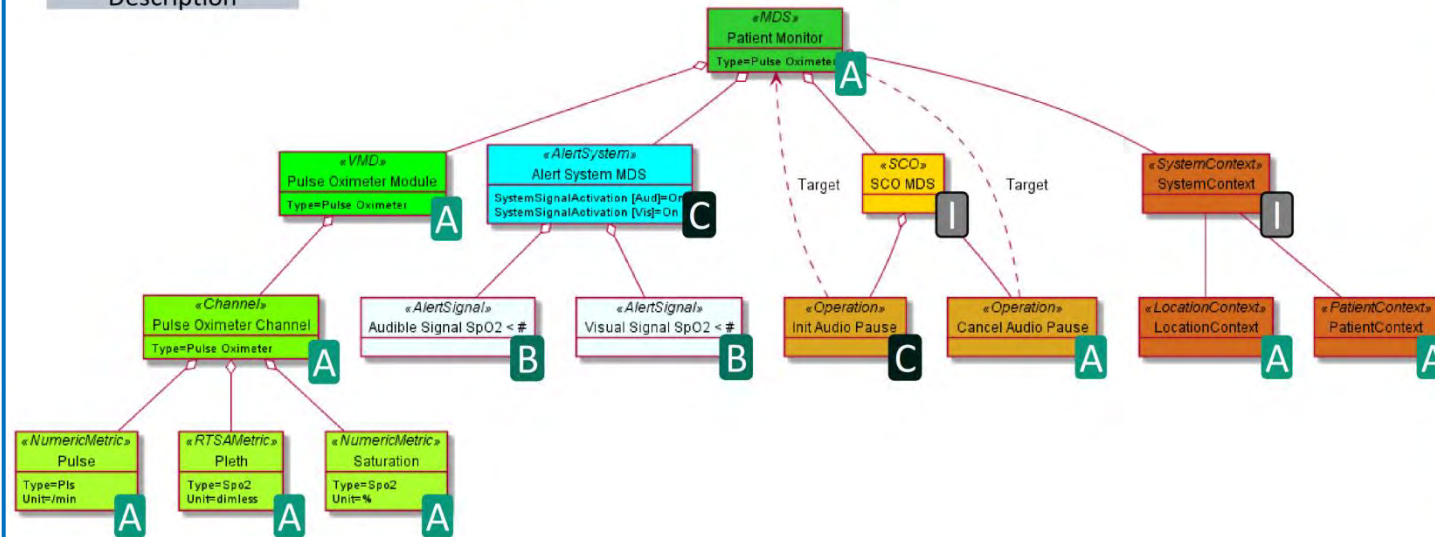
▶ Manufacturer of “Device A” performs Risk Management, V&V and Labelling for the System Function of the combined proprietary system.



## Safety Classification Concept



ISO/IEEE 11073-10207  
Information Model integrates  
Safety Classification Semantics



### Safety Classification

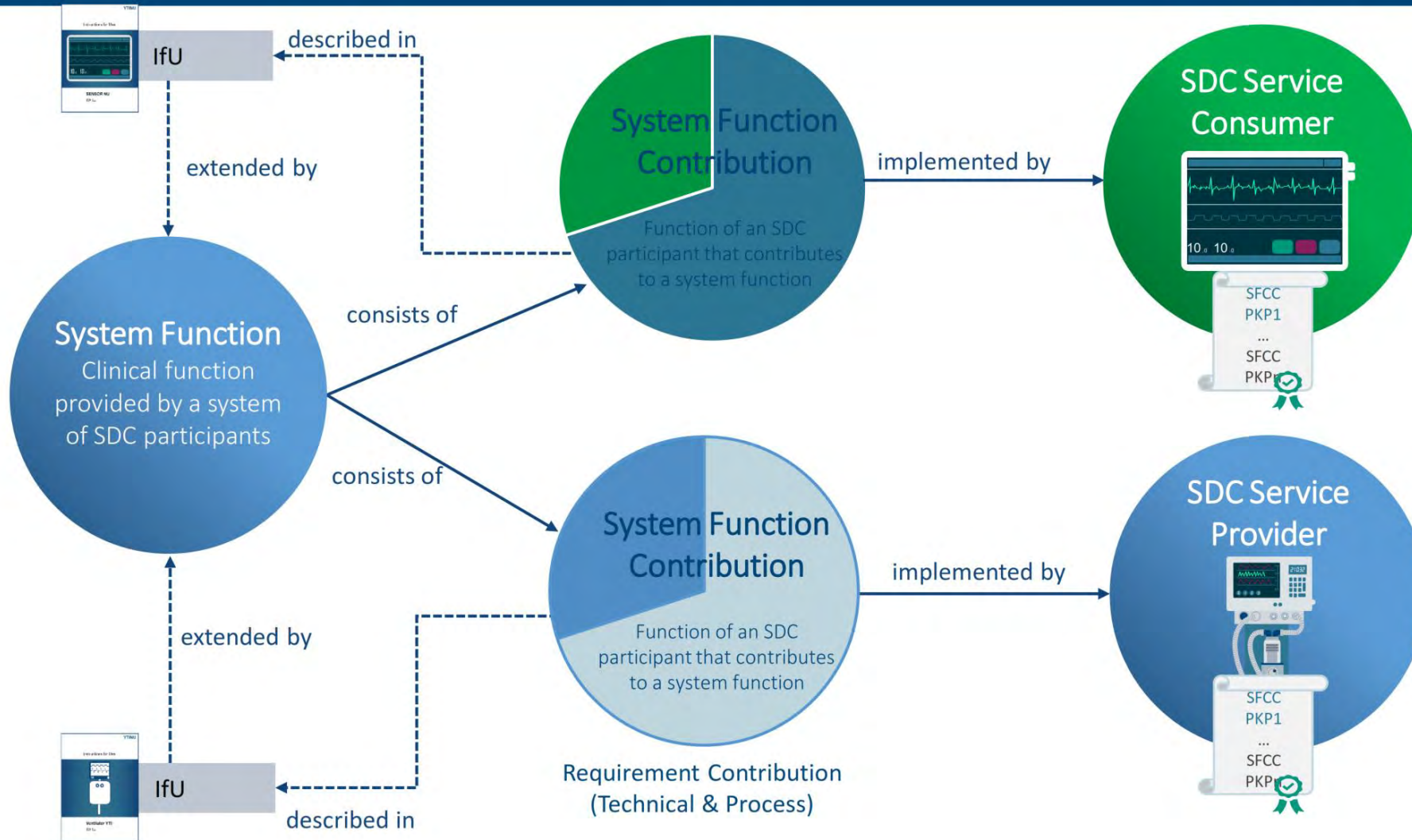
The **Capability Description** of an SDC Service Provider comprises a Safety Classification attribute.

Indicator from the SDC Service Provider to the SDC Service Consumer on how the Manufacturer of the SDC Service Provider has considered the intended use of the Containment Tree Entry in its Risk Management.

- 4 Safety Classes exist:
- Informational,
  - Medical Class A, Medical Class B, Medical Class C

It should be noted that the classes are not equal to the safety classes from IEC 62304.

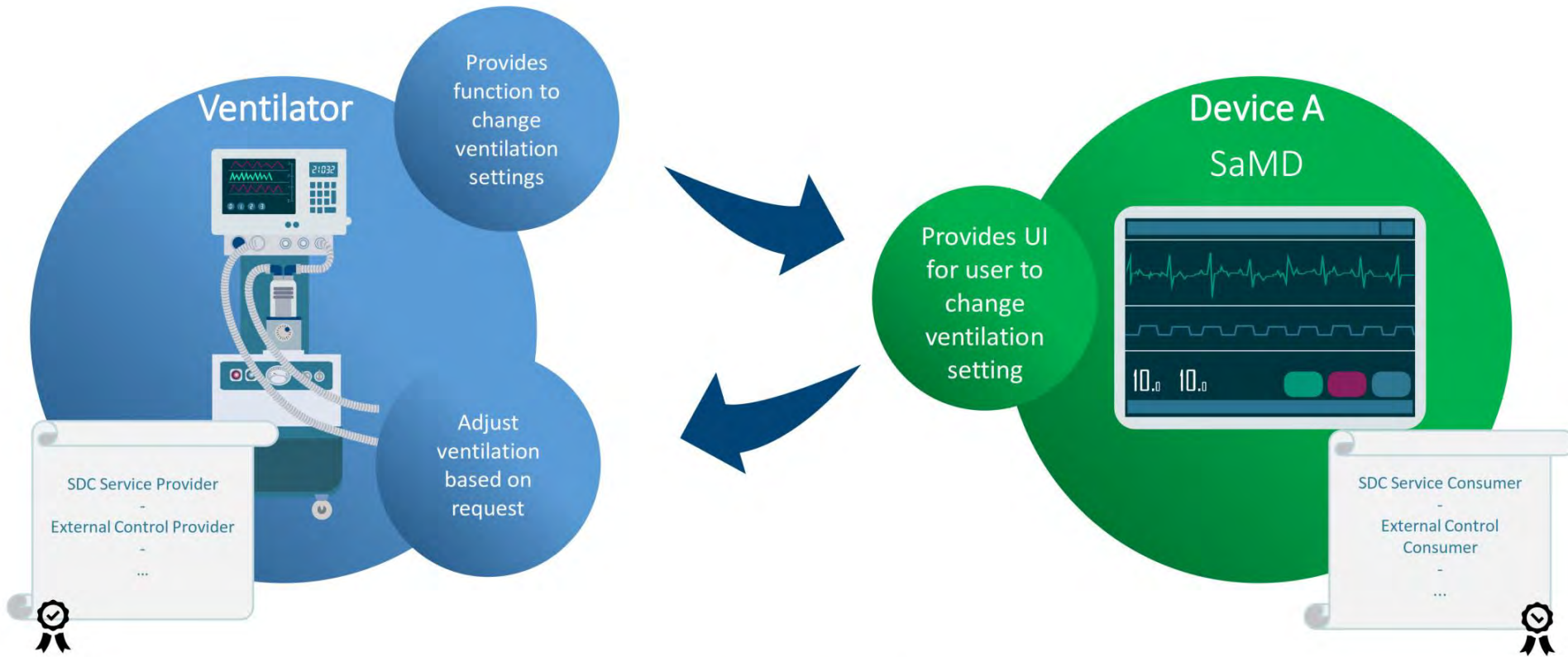
## System Functions & System Function Contributions



See [or.net.org/en/download/](http://or.net.org/en/download/) for “SDC Conformance Principles” & Approval documents



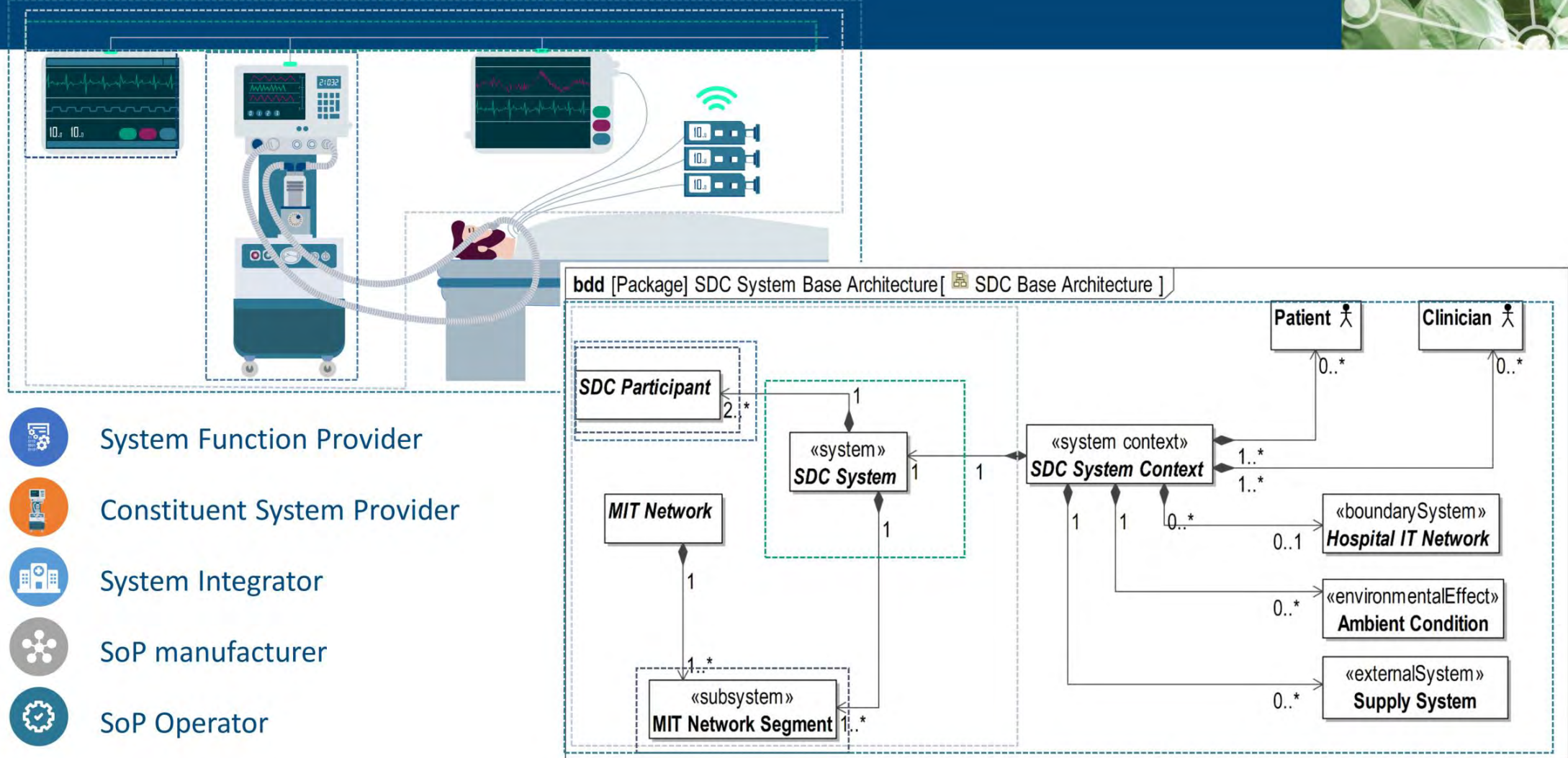
## Example: External Control of Ventilator using Device A



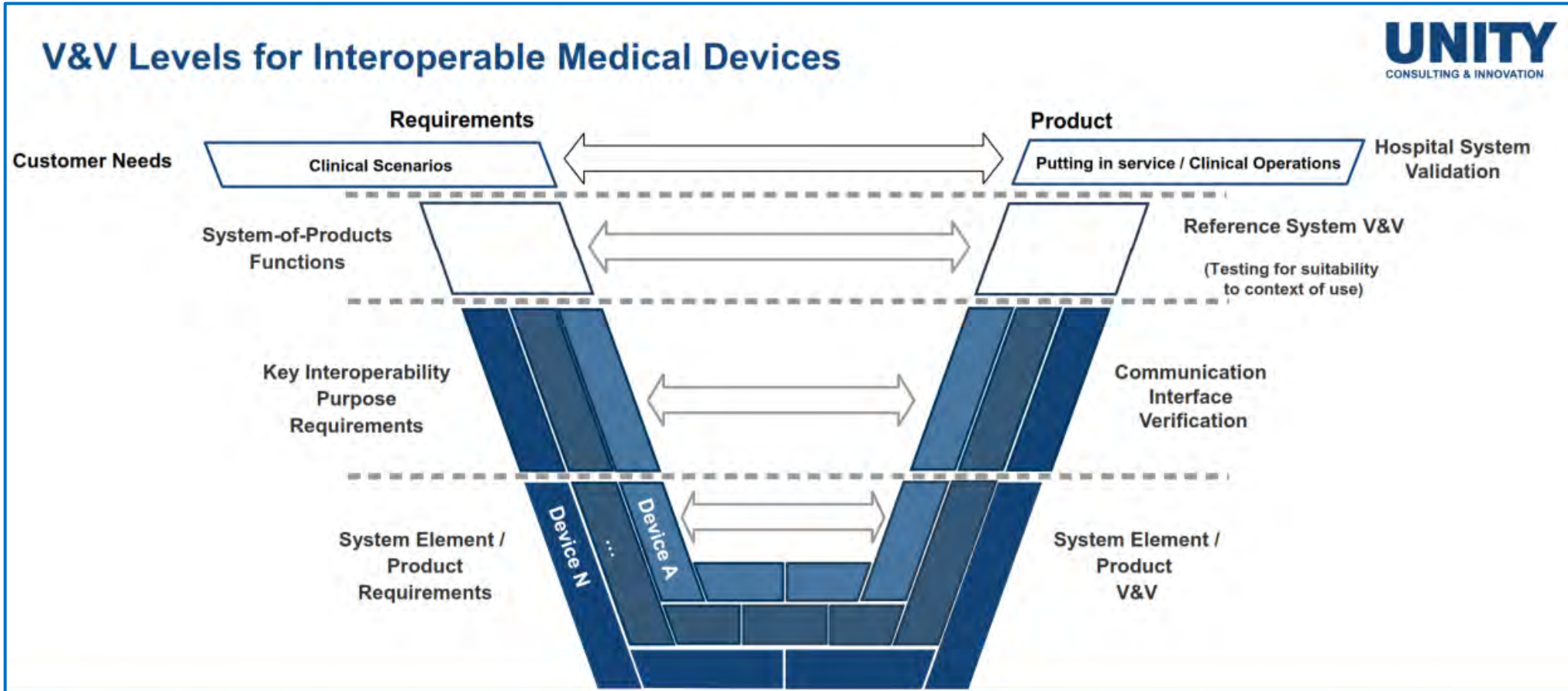
Decoupled Plug'n'Trust



## Medical device SoP & its context



-  System Function Provider
-  Constituent System Provider
-  System Integrator
-  SoP manufacturer
-  SoP Operator

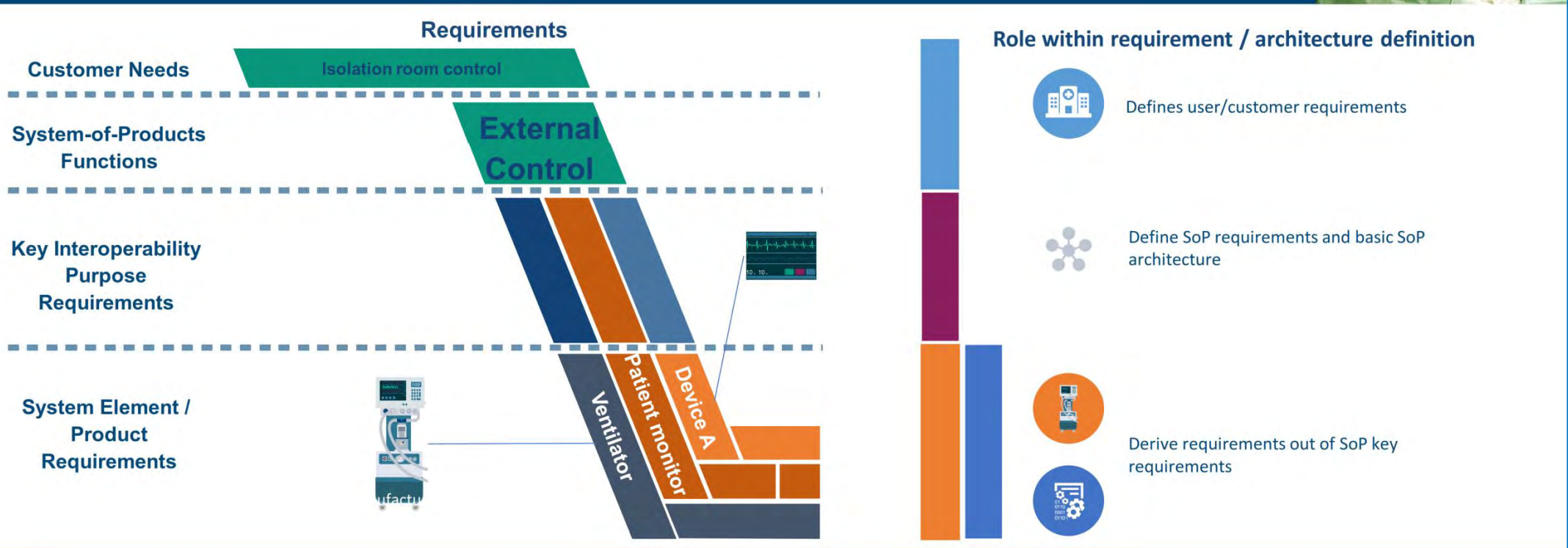


▶ Product V&V + Interface Verification + Reference System V&V + Hospital System Validation = Objective Evidence



## Implication of interoperable SoP on Requirement / Architecture

Traditional SE approach cannot fulfill the requirements



Using the traditional SE approach leads to a lack of responsibility between the User requirements of the system-of-product and the system requirements / architecture of the constituent systems and functions



## Responsibility and Validation Challenges

Verification and validation responsibilities



V & V for integration into surrounding SoP (e.g. hospital network)



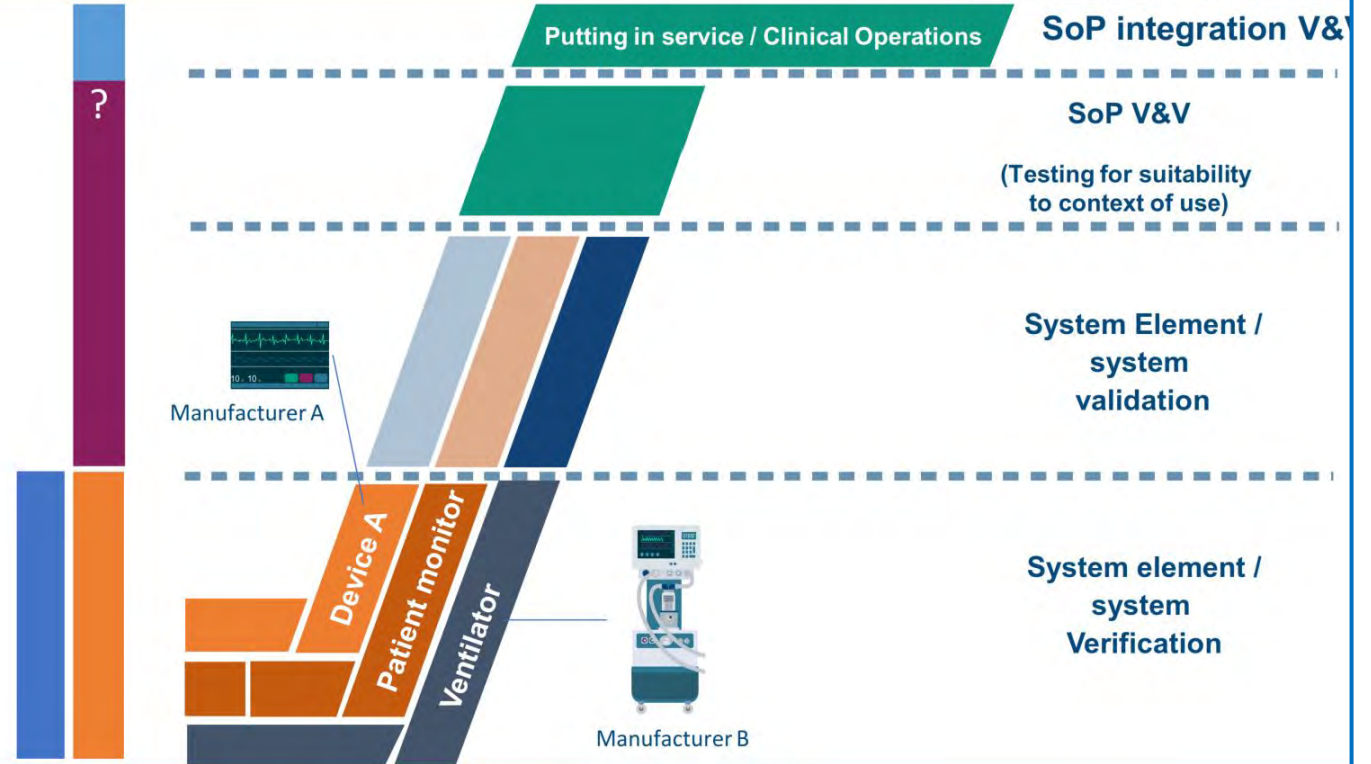
End-to-end testing of system-of-system functionality



V&V for constituent system



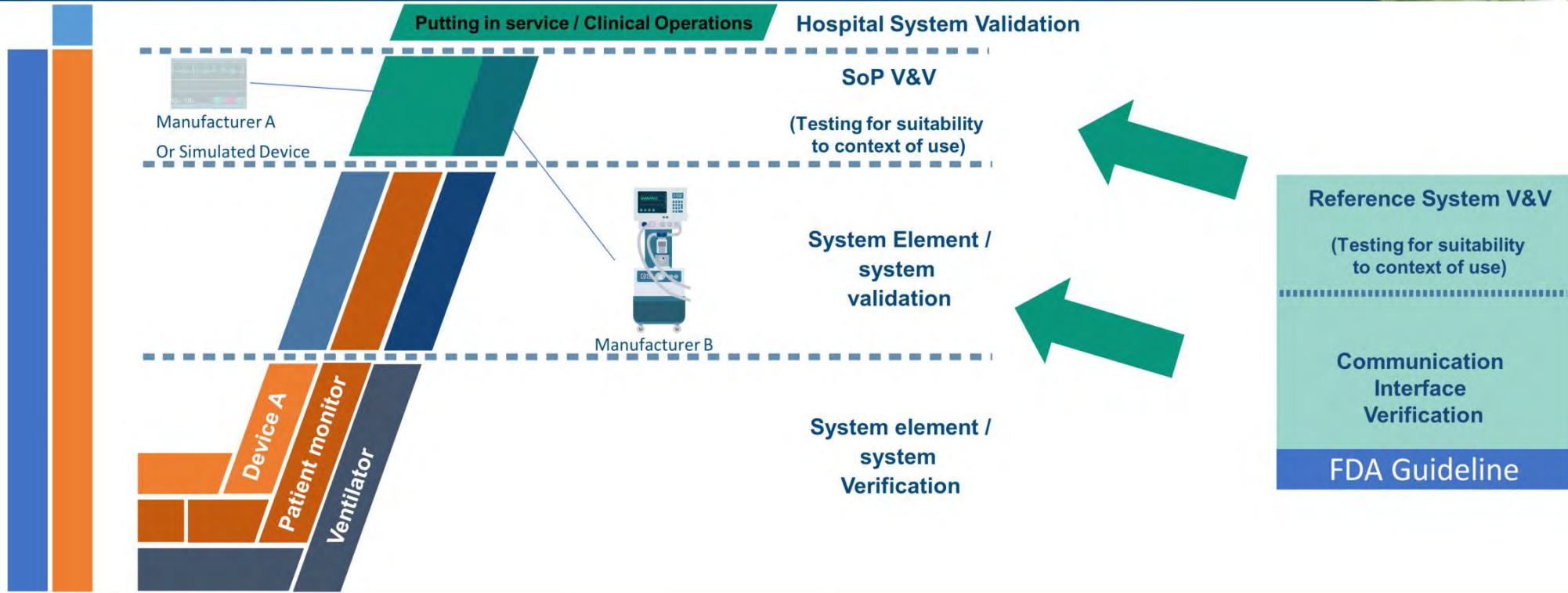
Verifies and validates single functions but not integration in SoP



A lack of end-to-end testing responsibility is observed in traditional SE

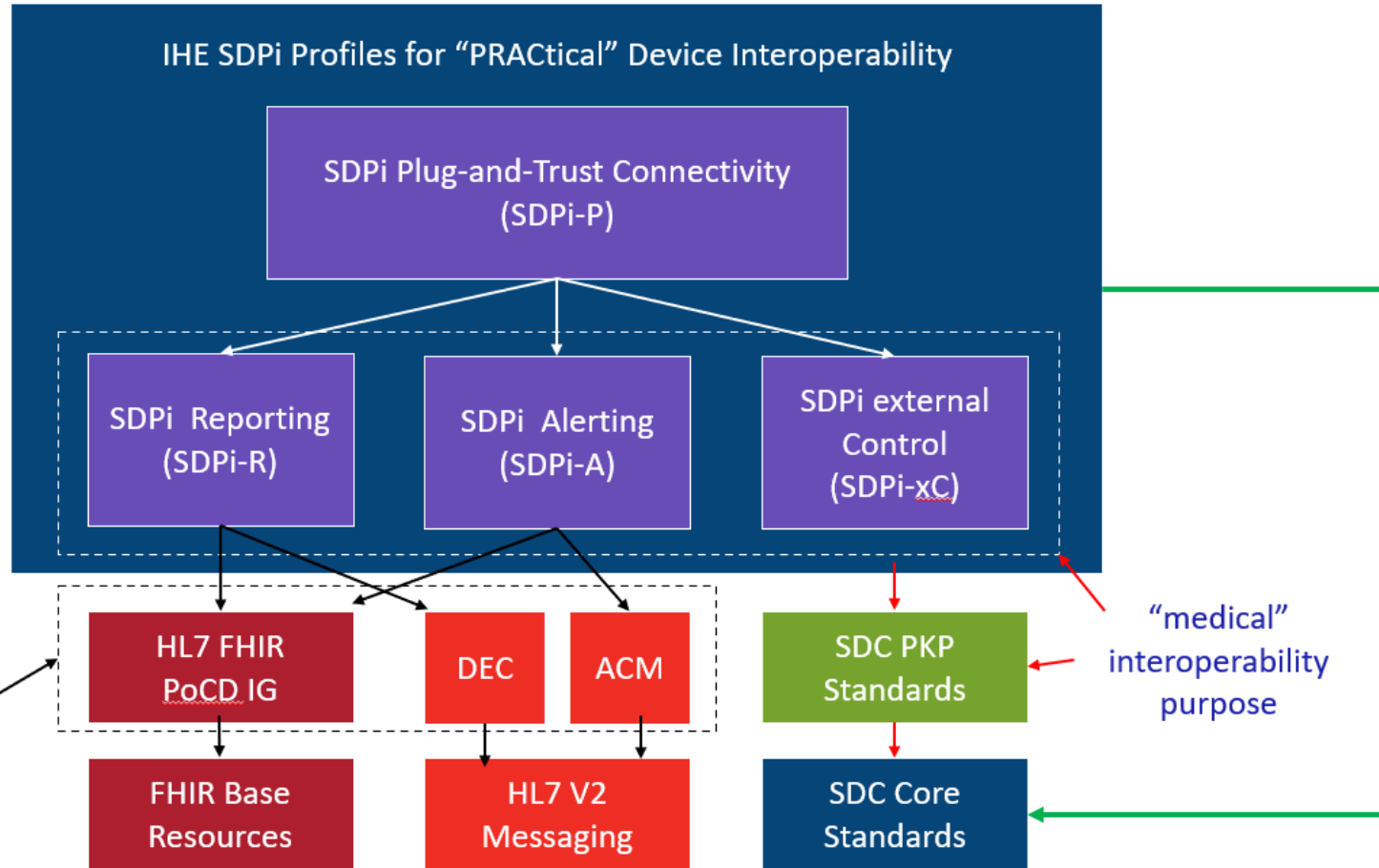


## Verification and validation responsibilities Example Medical Device



▶ **FDA Guideline also applicable for CE market?**

# MedTech Regulatory Pathway – Core to SDC/SDPi Specifications



Integrating the PKP Requirements – across the (4) Interoperability Key Purposes – into the (4) IHE SDPi specifications ...

***Enables IHE Conformity Assessment to ensure that the “decoupled” system has implemented the required quality/regulatory risk control measures***



## EU MDR

Regulation (EU) 2017/745

## The European Union Medical Device Regulation of 2017

If you are a manufacturer, authorised representative, importer or distributor of medical devices in the EU, or a regulatory affairs or quality management professional involved with medical devices, you need to know how to comply.

[Click here for the latest consolidated text](#)

### European MedTech industry must support the latest EU MDR requirements, including:

- ✓ “Regulations” vs. Directives (“MDD” previously)
- ✓ Increased evidence supporting ALL intended use “purposes”
- ✓ Increased post-market surveillance (esp. for intelligent tech)
- ✓ Product registration database – euroUDI? SaMD / Med “Apps”?
- ✓ New cohort of “recognized standards” (100’s!) proposed
- ✓ ...

Source: [eumdr.com](http://eumdr.com)

#### May 2021:

- Notice to stakeholders: [Status of EU-Switzerland mutual recognition agreement on medical devices](#).
- Press release 26 May 2021: announcing [Stronger rules on medical devices](#) (EU MDR) have entered into application.
- Publication of [MDCG 2021-8](#) Clinical investigation application/notification documents.
- The UDI Helpdesk is live. [Click here](#). The UDI Helpdesk is intended to help economic operators implement the requirements of the new UDI system.

#### April 2021:

- Publication of [MDCG 2021-6](#) Questions & Answers regarding clinical investigation.
- Publication of [MDCG 2021-5](#) Guidance on standardisation for medical devices.
- Publication of [MDCG 2021-4](#) Application of transitional provisions for certification of class D in vitro diagnostic medical devices (according to Regulation (EU) 2017/746).
- Update to [MDCG 2018-1 Rev 4](#) Guidance on basic UDI-DI and changes to UDI-DI.
- Publication of a Factsheet on [Class 1 Medical Devices](#).

#### March 2021:

- Publication of [MDCG 2021-3](#) Questions and Answers on Custom-Made Devices.
- Publication of [MDCG 2021-2](#) Guidance on state of the art of COVID-19 rapid antibody tests.
- Publication of an [Infographic](#) “Is your software a Medical Device?”

#### February 2021:

- Publication of [MDCG 2021-1](#) Guidance on harmonised administrative practices and alternative technical solutions until EUDAMED is fully functional.

# Big Ideas! enabling “Regulatory Submission Ready” IHE CA

Premise is simple: Can we craft IHE profiles and testing such that IHE conformity assessment (CA) test reports can be directly included in regulatory submissions?

Answer: Yes! But it will take some innovative thinking and a few: Big Ideas!



## SES+MDI – *Parallel Universe Problem*

**Problem:** Medical device interoperability (**MDI**) standards & Medical Technology Safety, Effectiveness & Security (**SES**) standards exist in **parallel universes** BUT products allowed for patient use must meet **both** the informatics *interoperability technology* requirements + *quality, regulatory, and legal* requirements.

**Question:** Can a **framework** be created to enable  
*Trusted Interoperable Product Decoupling*

Using

MDI: ISO/IEEE 11073 *SDC*, IHE *SDPi* & HL7 *FHIR Interoperability Standards*

+

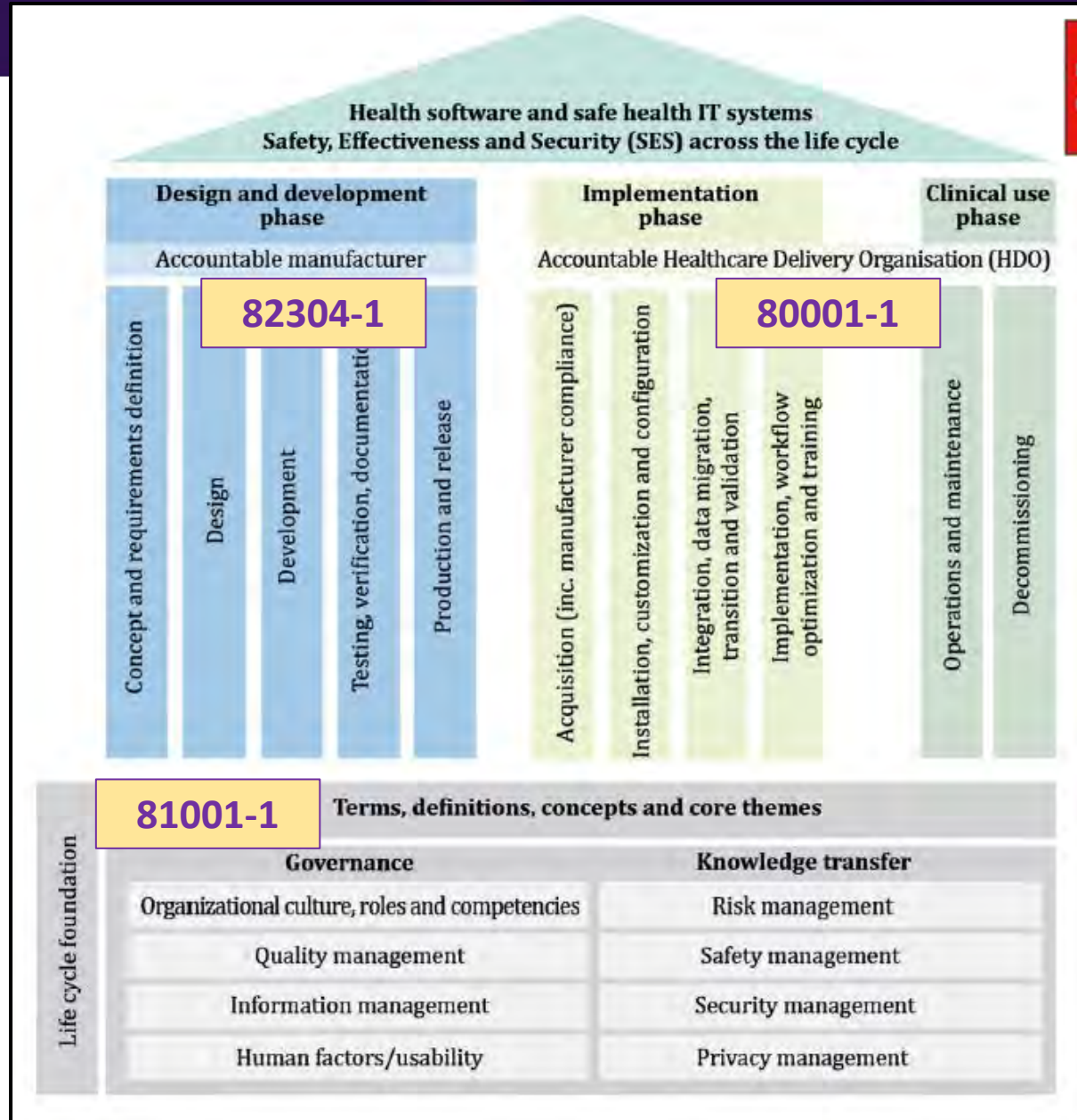
SES: ISO/IEC *JWG7 Safety, Effectiveness & Security Standards?*

The JWG7 SES “*Temple Diagram*” identifies core topic / subject areas ...

... standardized in *81001-1* ...

... over which you can “make sense of” *specific standards* ...

... all with a process / quality / regulatory / legal “*SES*” *community* subject focus

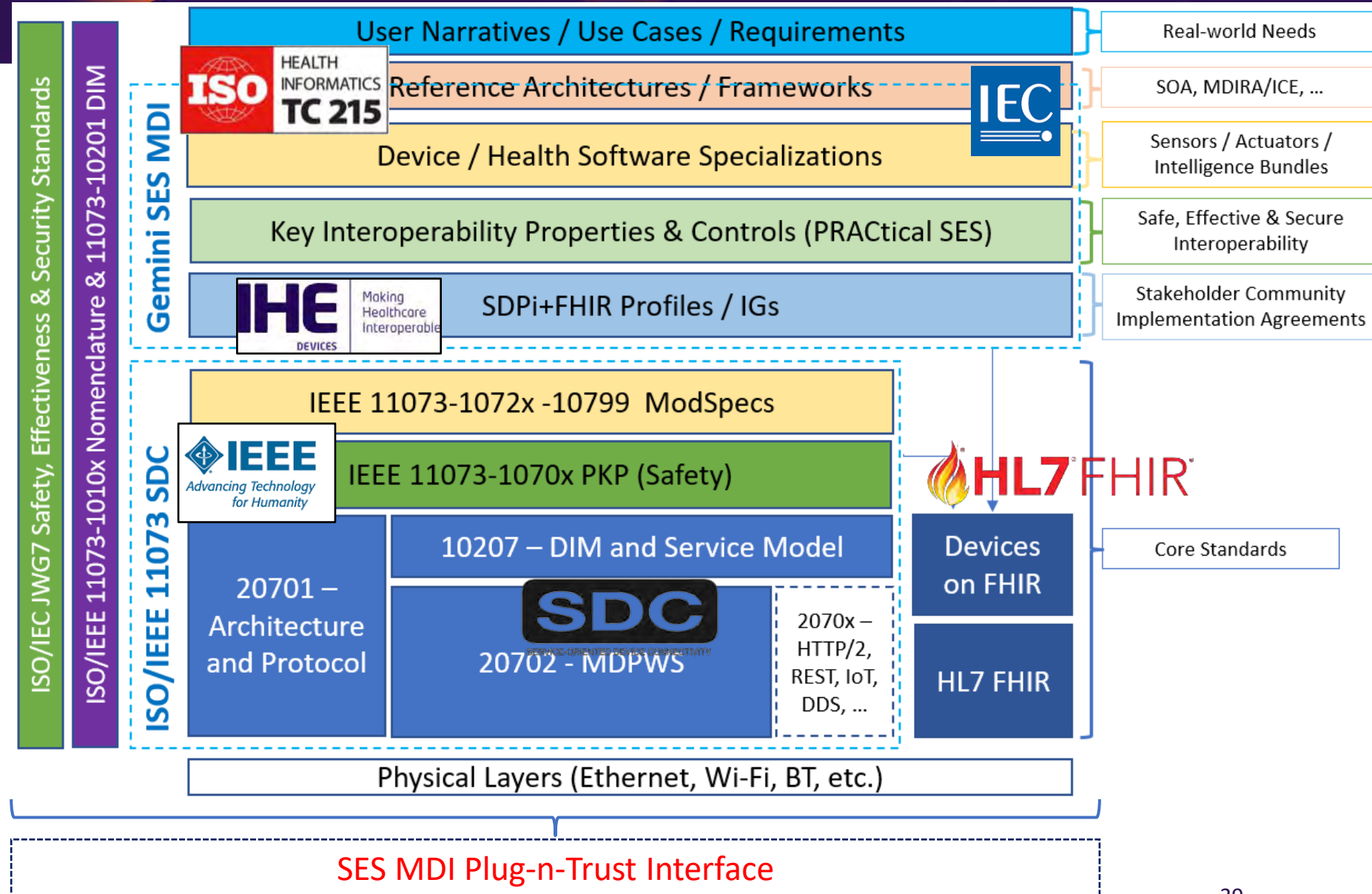




# Big Idea: SES+MDI Hanging Gardens Framework



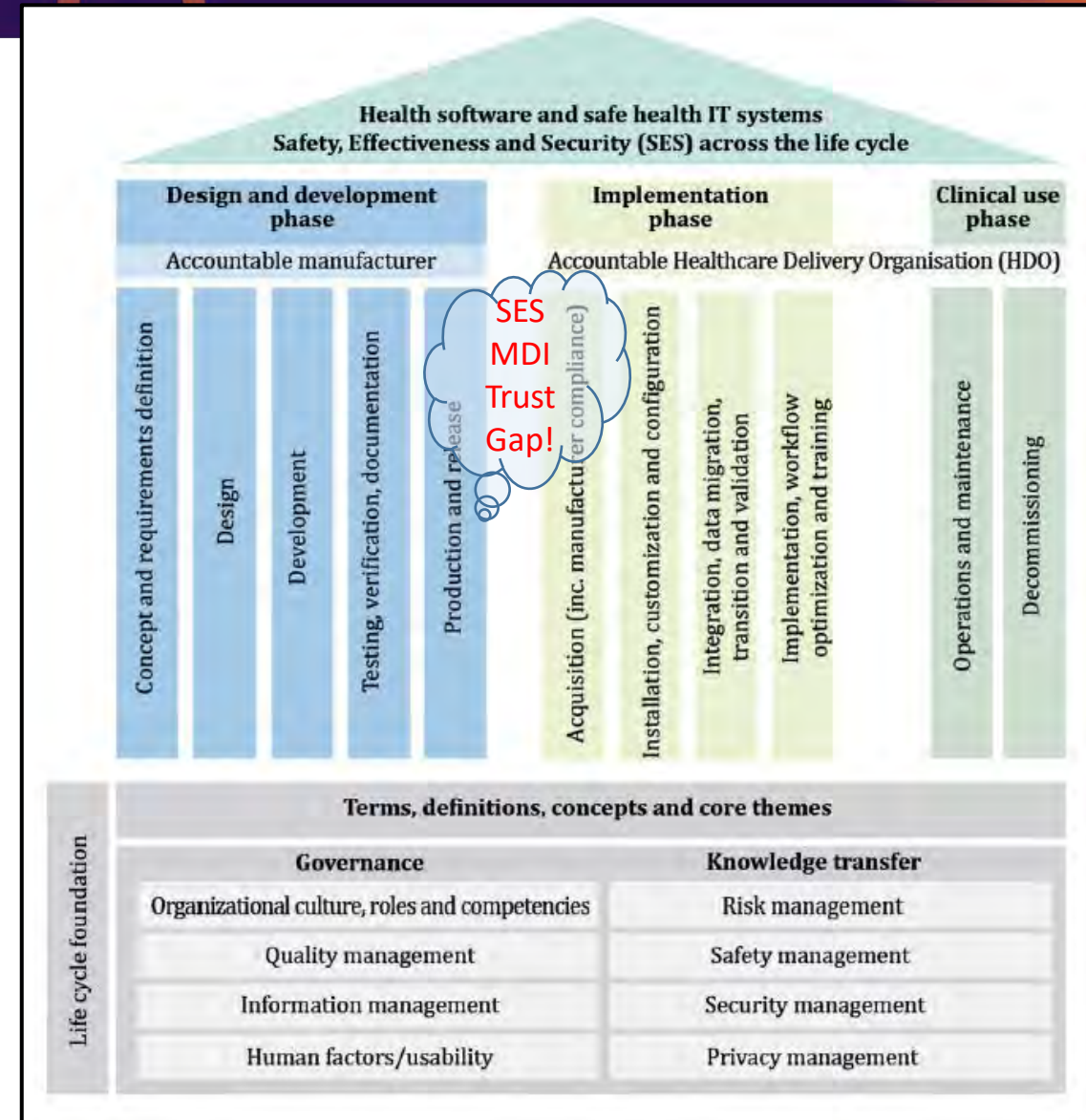
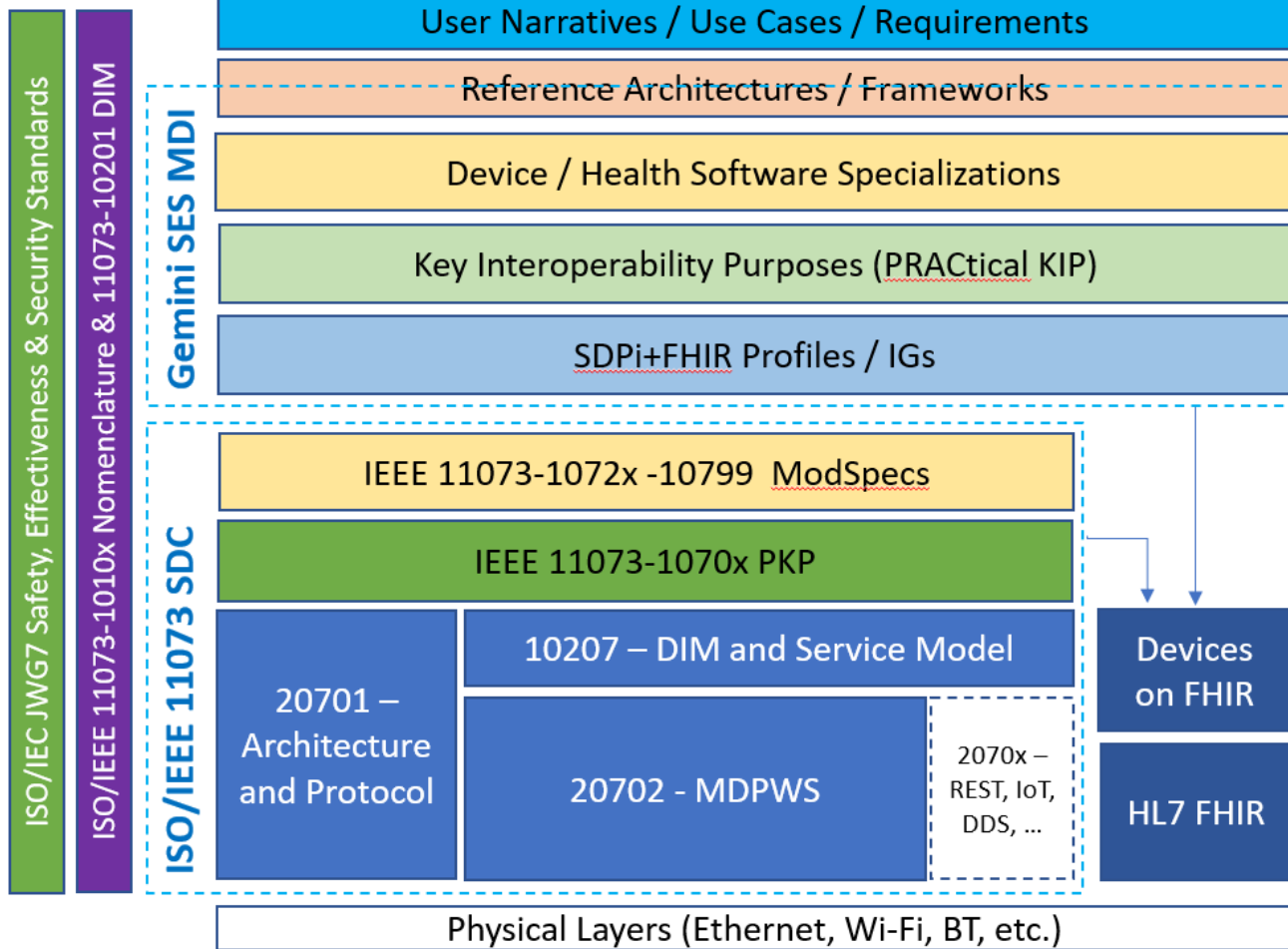
Consider the  
*SES MDI*  
*“Hanging Gardens”*  
Framework ...



SES MDI Plug-n-Trust Interface

(More @ <https://confluence.hl7.org/x/4ijxB>)

## Addressing the SES MDI Ecosystem "Trust Gap" ...





## Pragmatic “Big Idea!” initiatives to realize SES+MDI – **RI+MC+RR**

### ❖ **Requirements Interoperability** (RI)

Establishing traceability, test coverage & conformity from the device interface to multiple standards (1:m)

### ❖ **Model-Centric** (MC)

Establishing a computable, model based “single source of truth” specification that supports all stakeholders’ needs

### ❖ **Regulatory Ready** (RR)

IHE Conformity Assessment (CA) that provides “regulatory submission ready” test reports

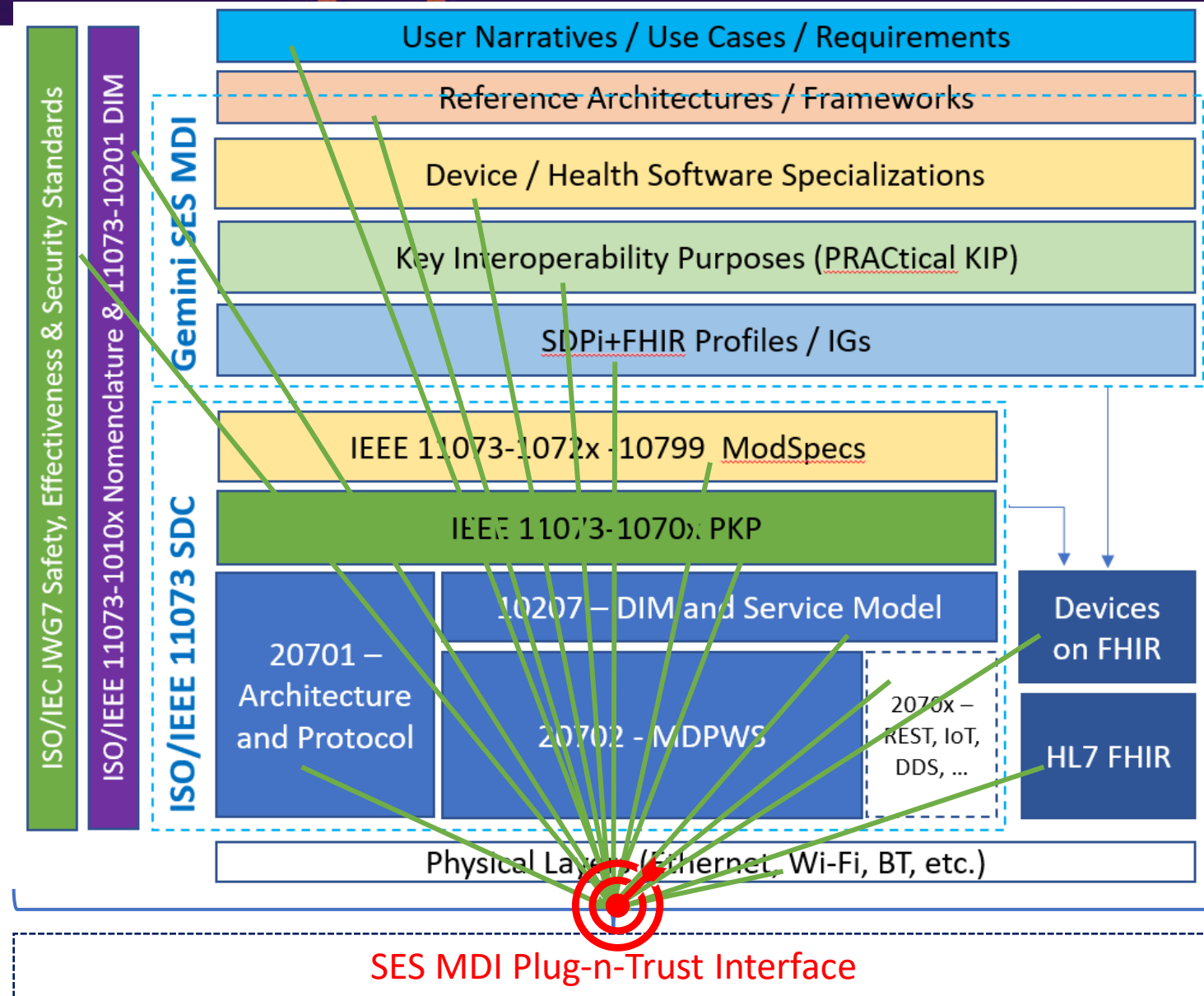
# Big Idea: Requirements Interoperability

## Innovators Challenge:

*One Interface / <X> Standards*

The Hanging Gardens framework provide a perspective on the various standards and specifications that are *integrated into each individual product's interface ...*

**One Layer &  
 One Standard  
 at a Time!**





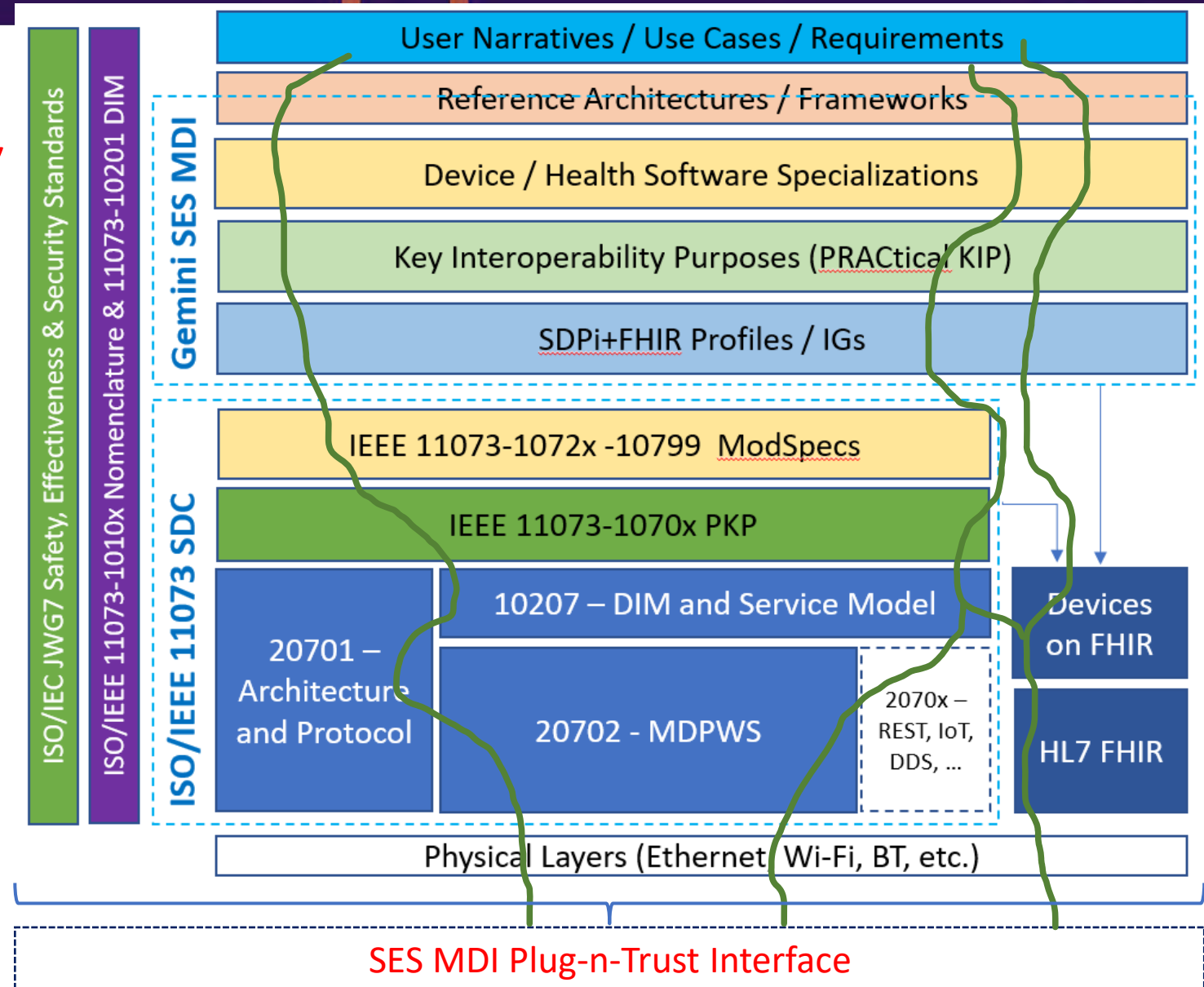
## Innovators Hope:

### *Requirements Interoperability*

The Hanging Gardens framework can also enable a much simpler, streamlined requirements pathway through *through each standard's needs & capabilities ...*

... the *Happy Path* charts *traceability* from the interface back to each standard specification and their *requirements*

**How hard can it be?!**

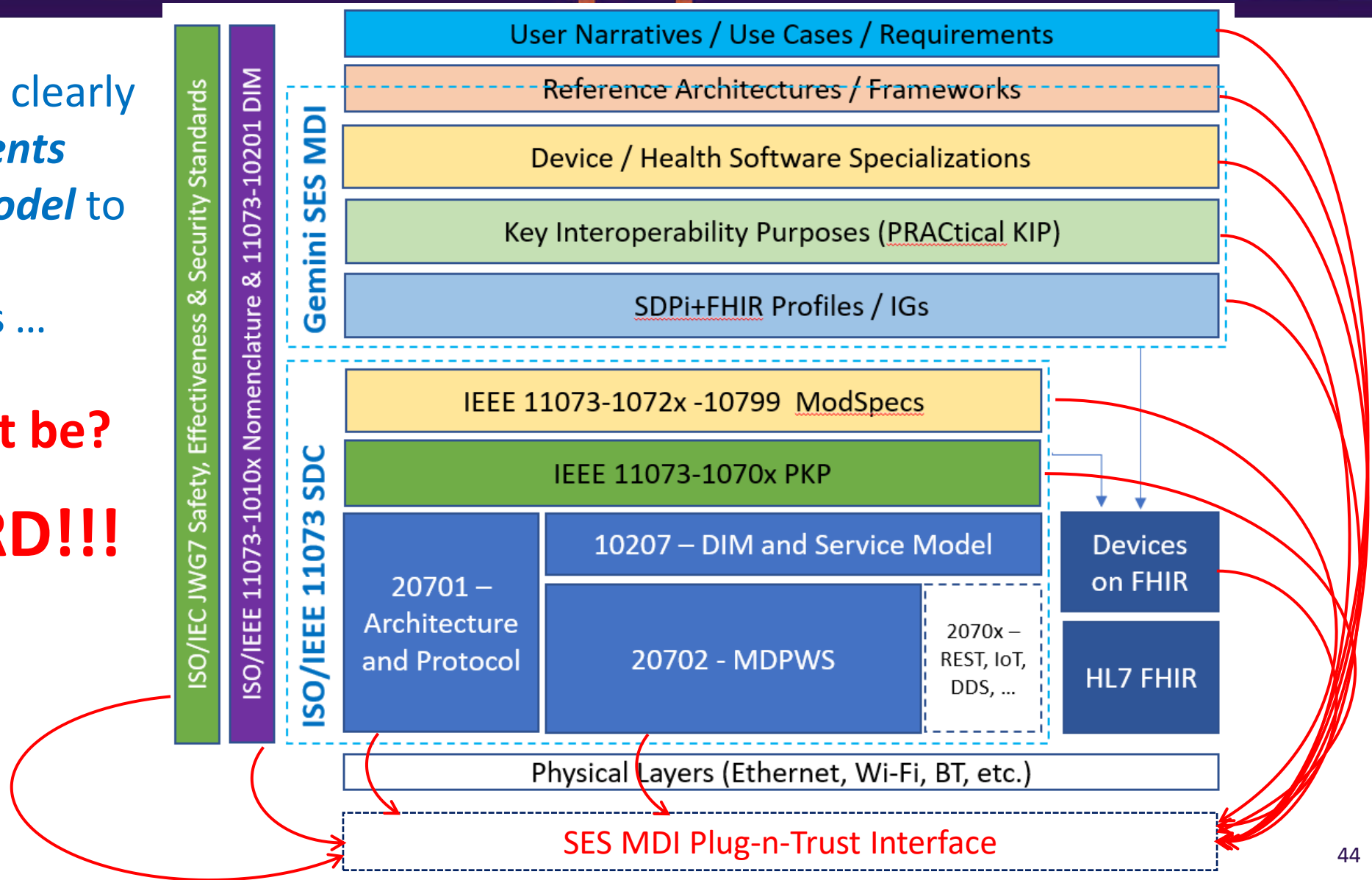


# Big Idea: Requirements Interoperability

In the absence of a clearly defined *Requirements Interoperability model* to enable connection between standards ...

**How hard can it be?**  
**PRETTY HARD!!!**

(via Ad Hoc Requirements Integration)





**Question:** How are MedTech developers managing the complexity and cost of next generation solutions?

**Answer:**

- ❖ **MBSE** Model-based Systems Engineering (methodology)
- ❖ **SysML** OMG Systems Modeling Language (UML profile)
- ❖ **Tooling** Automation tool chains supporting

**Question:** Can standards specification move from document-centric to model-centric to support these complex next generation technologies?

**Answer:**

- #1 MBSE / SysML / Tooling has advanced to make this 100% viable
- #2 *Without transitioning* from document-centric *to computable, model-centric “single source of truth” specifications ... standards adoption will continue to be **abysmal!***



## Definition

# “Model Based Systems Engineering”

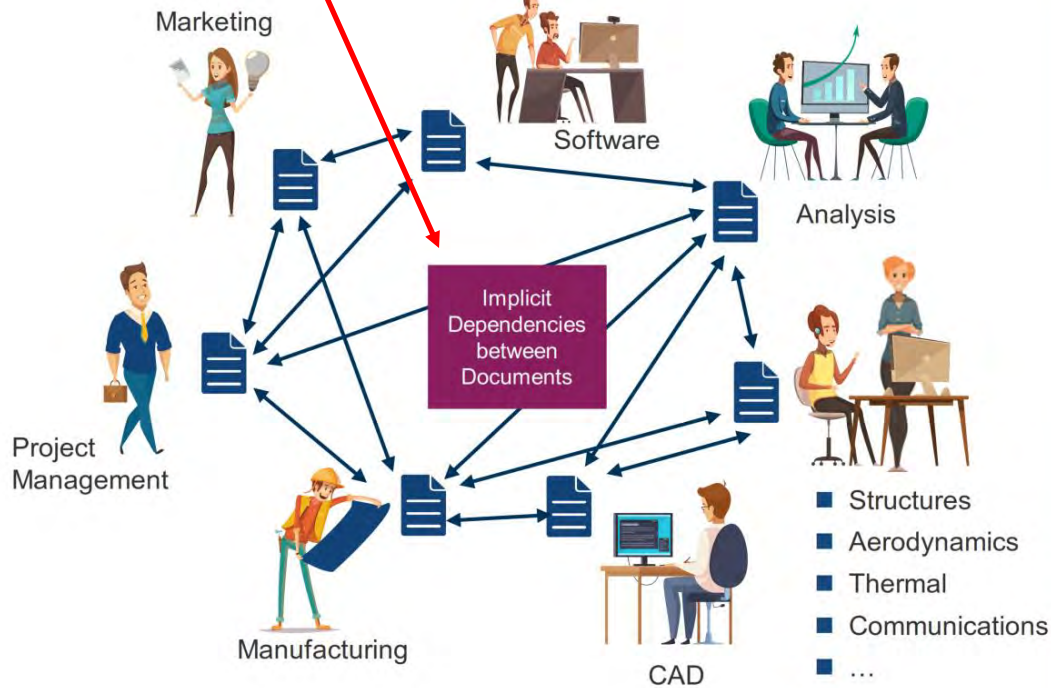
The formalized application of modeling to support ..

...system requirements, architecture, design, analysis,  
verification and validation activities

...beginning in the conceptual design phase and continuing throughout development  
and later life cycle phases

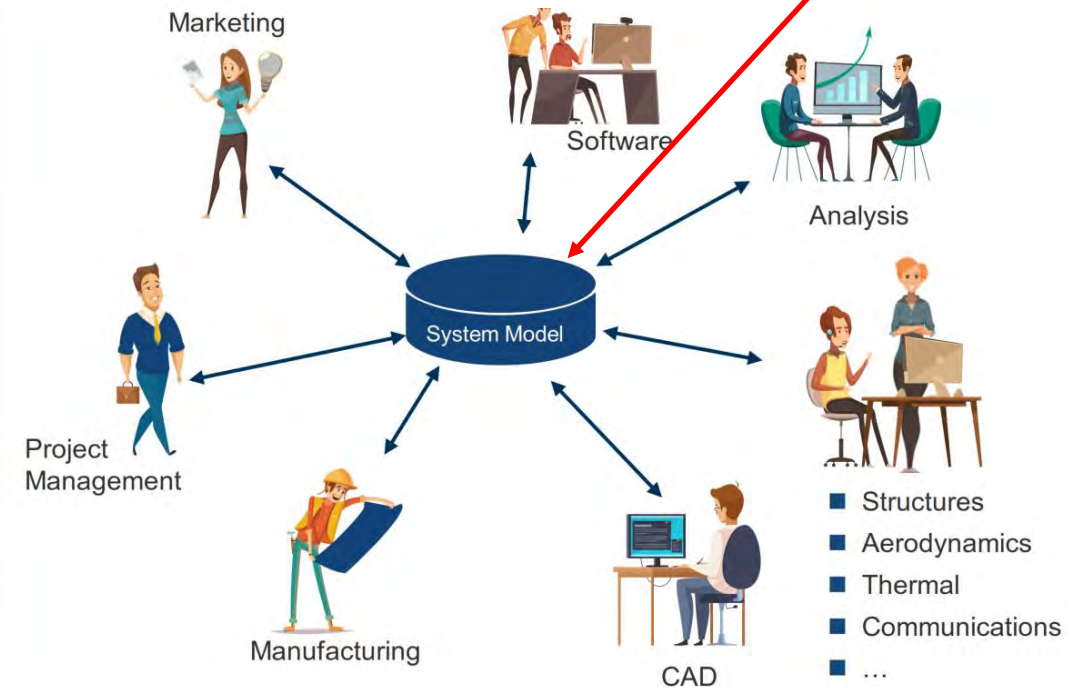
## Document-based vs. Model-based approach

**Standards remain document-centric**



Traditional systems engineering

**Gemini SDPi+FHIR must transition to model-centric**



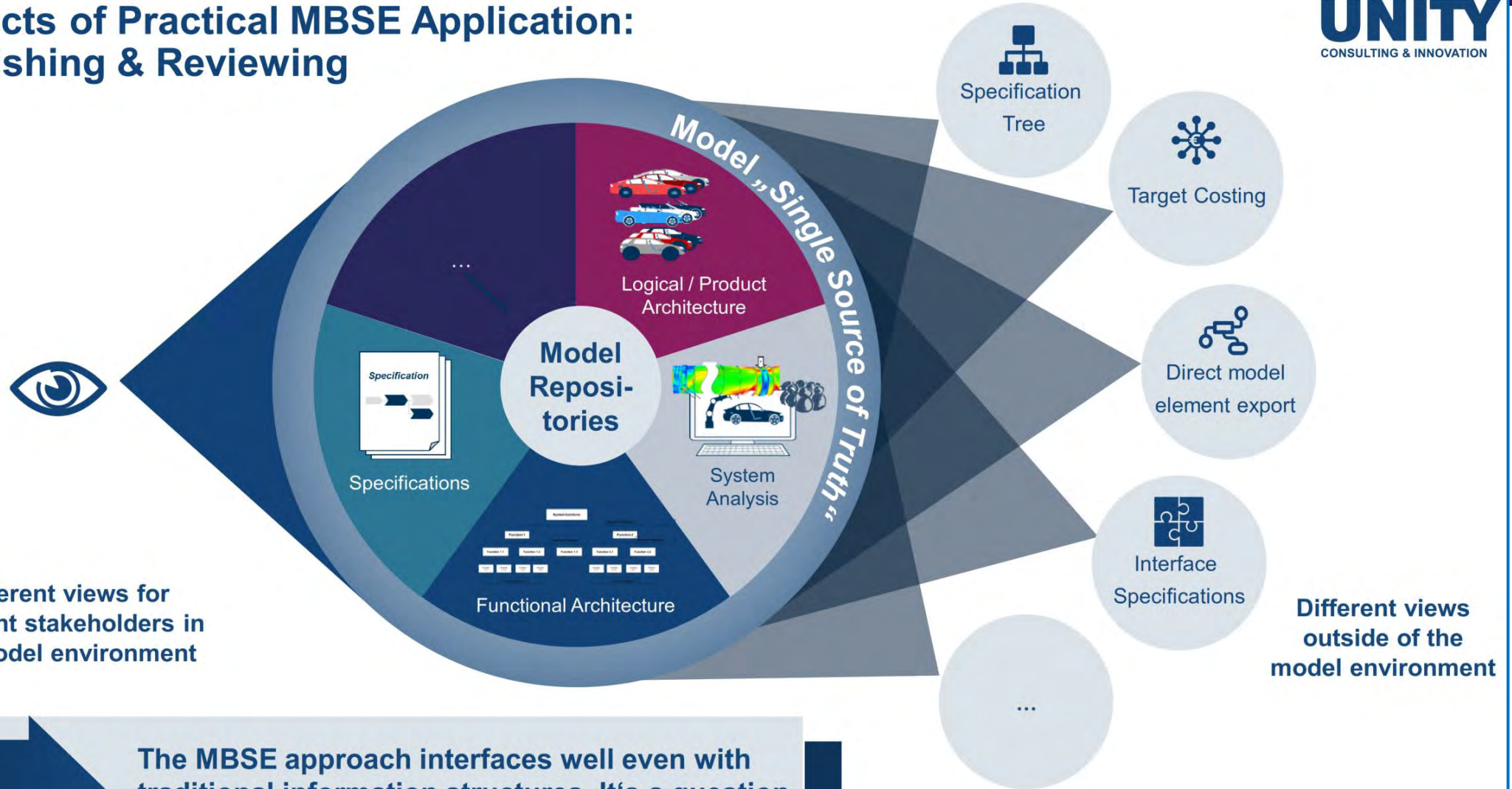
Model-based systems engineering



# Big Idea: Requirements Interoperability + Model-Centric “Single Source of Truth” Computable Specifications!



## Aspects of Practical MBSE Application: Publishing & Reviewing



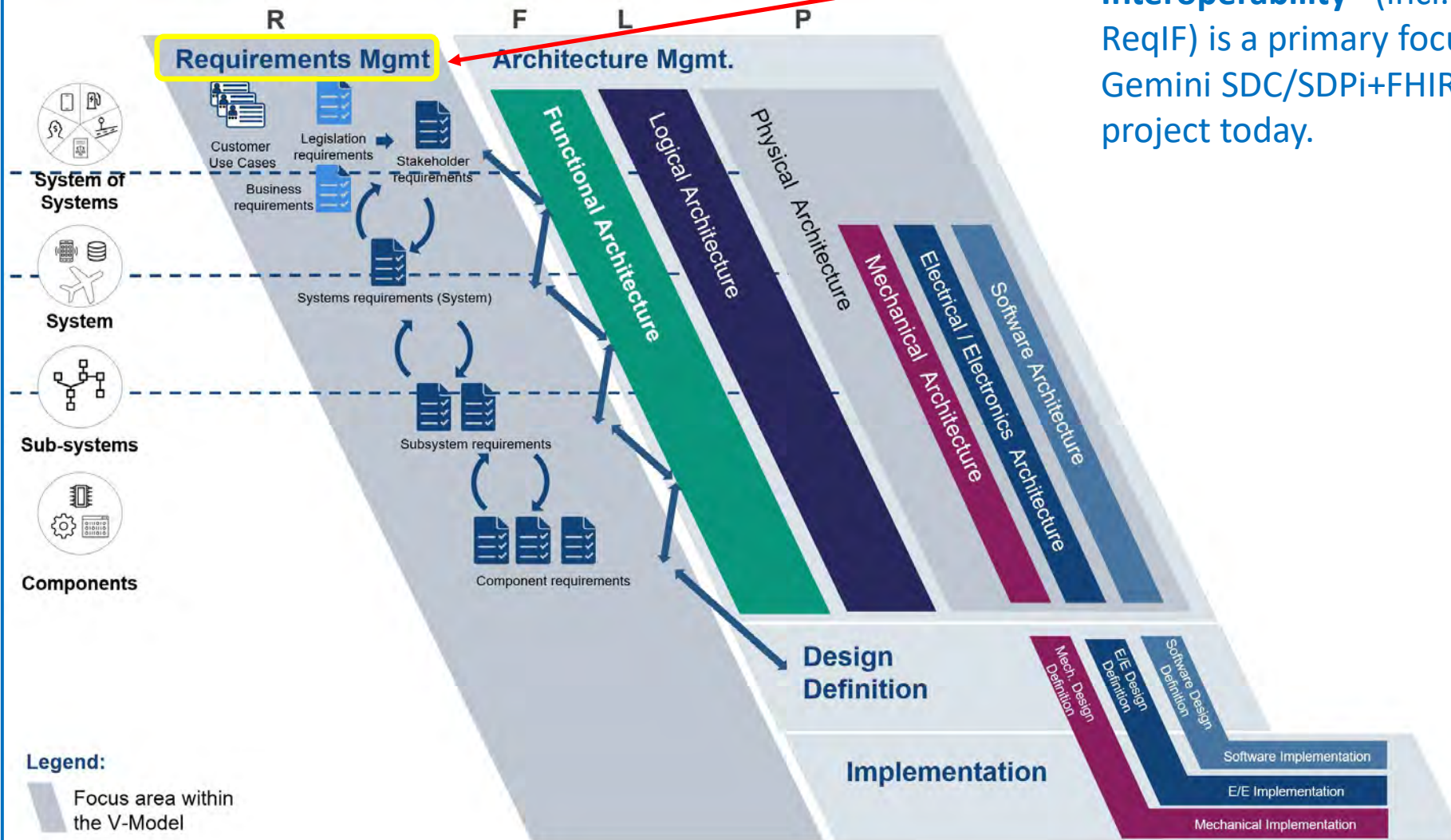
**➔ The MBSE approach interfaces well even with traditional information structures. It’s a question of customization.**

# Big Idea: Requirements Interoperability + Model-Centric “Single Source of Truth” Computable Specifications!



## MBSE supports RFLP approach

“Requirements Interoperability” (incl. ReqIF) is a primary focus for Gemini SDC/SDPi+FHIR project today.



MBSE facilitates the definition, relation and documentation of system specification

MBSE model elements as basis for development and other artifacts



**Question:** Can IHE Conformity Assessment of SDC/SDPi+FHIR specifications provide test reports that can be directly included in regulatory submissions?

**Answer:**

- ❖ 11073 SDC has a comprehensive integrated SES MDI regulatory pathway
- ❖ IHE SDPi+FHIR profiles fully integrate the foundational
- ❖ Requirements Interoperability provides the traceability and coverage required to claim conformity to key SES standards and the MDI risk mitigations
- ❖ MBSE / SysML not only increases overall quality across ALL implementers, but enables simulation and other Systems of Products validation techniques

**Question:** But what is the basis for confidence that a regulatory agency will *recognize* and *accept* **IHE SDPi CA Test Reports** in submissions as “*sufficient*” *evidence of SES MDI*?



U.S. FDA S-CAP program lays the foundations for determining if and how SES MDI CA test reports could be used in regulatory submissions ...

**FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

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- [Recognized Consensus Standards Database](#)
- [Non-Recognized Standards](#)
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### Standards and Conformity Assessment Program

The Standards and Conformity Assessment Program (S-CAP) seeks to promote patient safety, advance regulatory science, and support a least burdensome regulatory framework. S-CAP fosters a collaborative approach to standards development and application by drawing upon expertise from across the product development, conformity assessment and standards communities.



**U.S. FDA ASCA Pilot Program leverages the same NIST Expertise and ISO 17000 CA “pedigree” as the IHE CA program!**

See April 2021 FDA Webinar for more complete information @

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/workshops-conferences-medical-devices/webinar-asca-pilot-streamlining-conformity-assessment-device-submissions#materials>

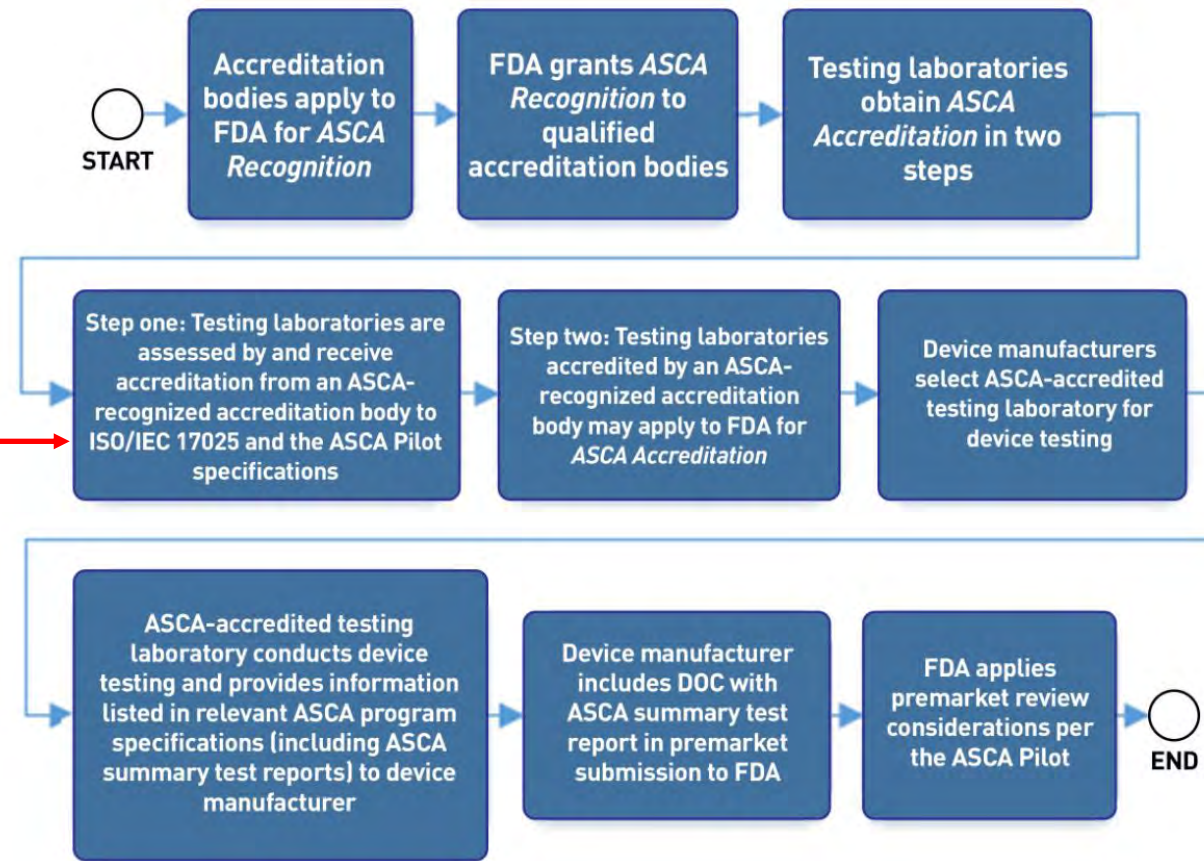


Figure: Process flow for the ASCA Pilot

# Conclusion: *“Are we there yet?”*

Arguably, no BUT we are closer than ever before and are closing fast on the long sought-after goal of **“Plug-and-Trust” Safe, Effective & Secure (SES) Medical Device Interoperability (MDI) ...**



## IHE International & IHE Catalyst:

### Advancing Interoperable MedTec Solutions with *"Regulatory Submission Ready" Conformity Assessment*

- ❖ ISO/CEN/IEEE 11073 SDC Standards provide true **Plug-and-Trust Interoperability**
- ❖ **IHE-HL7 Gemini Device Interoperability using SDC/SDPi+FHIR** will deliver the profiles needed to advance **interoperable MedTech product** implementation and deployment
- ❖ **"SES MDI"** closes the *"interoperability trust gap"* between tech & quality standards
- ❖ **RI+MC+RR** – Requirements Interoperability + Model-Centric + Regulatory Ready provide new value for all implementers
- ❖ Integration of a **regulatory pathway** into the standards & profiles + engagement with **notified bodies** + pilot projects such as the **FDA ASCA** set stage for decoupled products
- ❖ Integration with **total product lifecycle** management **automation tool chains**
- ❖ **IHE Conformity Assessment** + **IHE Catalyst** support add the last pieces of the puzzle!

Tomorrow's IHE Europe Experience Sessions will fill in the rest of the picture for:

**IHE Catalyst**

**IHE Testing (CA) Continuum**

**Experience Sessions Thursday, 17 June**

The IHE-Europe Experience Programme is online!  
Register now for the sessions of your interest.



14:00 - 15:00

■ **IHE Catalyst: Its value for users, governments and vendors**

*Claudio Saccavini, IHE Catalyst*  
*Lapo Bertini, IHE Catalyst*  
Register [here](#)

16:00 - 16:30

■ **All you want to know on the IHE Testing Continuum**

*Lapo Bertini, IHE-Services*  
*Alexander Berler, IHE-Services*  
Register [here](#)

## IHE International & IHE Catalyst: Advancing Interoperable MedTec Solutions with *"Regulatory Submission Ready" Conformity Assessment*

**OR.NET**<sub>e.v.</sub>

IHE International sponsor of the  
IHE Devices Domain / Device Point-of-care  
Interoperability (DPI) Program



**Dr.-Ing. Stefan Schlichting**

OR.NET: [stefan.schlichting@ORNET.org](mailto:stefan.schlichting@ORNET.org)  
Unity: [Stefan.Schlichting@unity.de](mailto:Stefan.Schlichting@unity.de)  
+49 162 2465894  
Lübeck, Germany

**UNITY**  
CONSULTING & INNOVATION



**Todd Cooper**

OR.NET: [Todd@ORNET.org](mailto:Todd@ORNET.org)  
TSF: [Todd@TrustedSolutionsFoundry.com](mailto:Todd@TrustedSolutionsFoundry.com)  
+1 858.442.9200  
San Diego – *«America's Finest City!»*

 **Trusted  
Solutions  
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