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2021 Fall
Technical Forum
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Operational Transformation

The Tooling Abyss

Joann Shumard

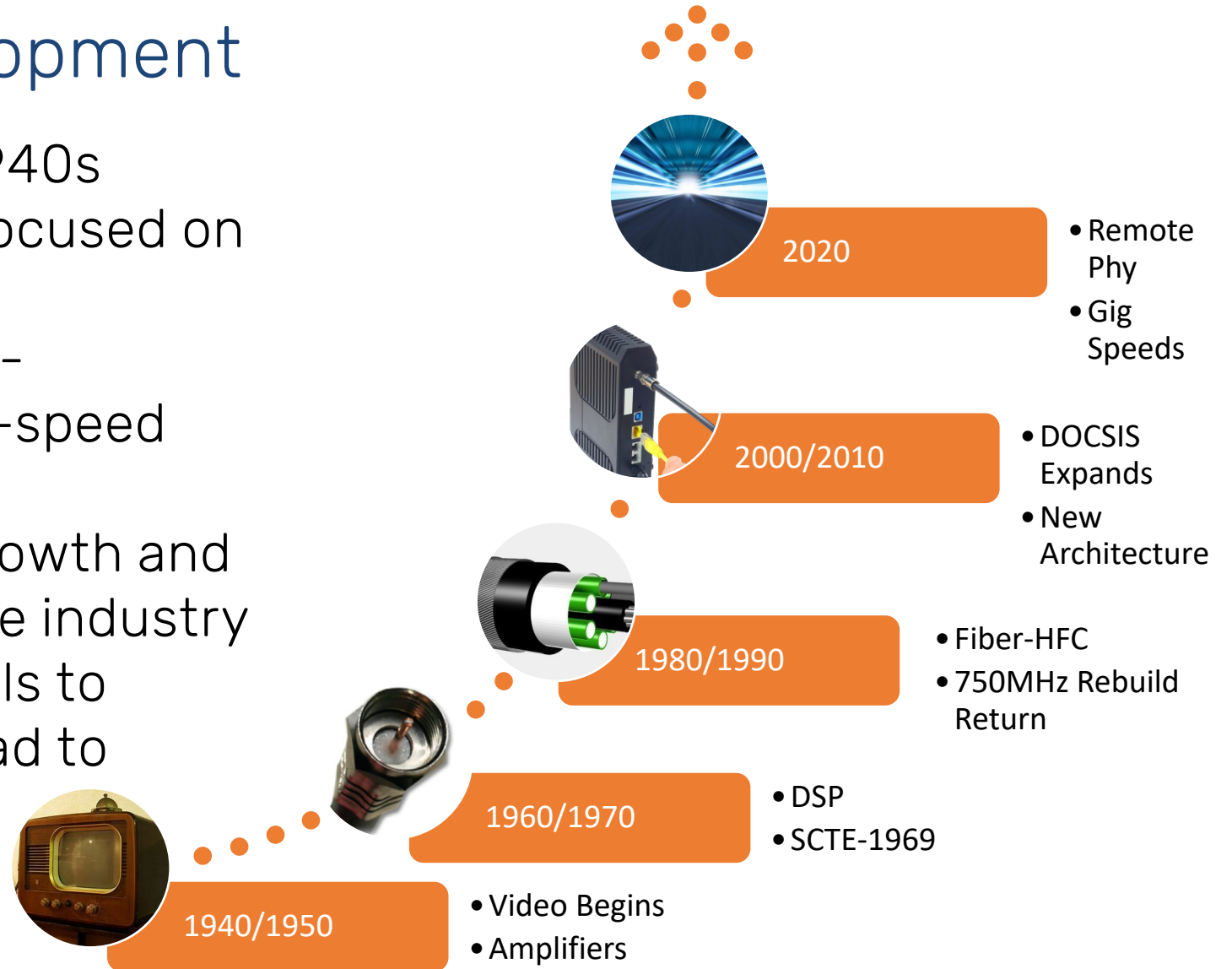
Vice President, Engineering Operations
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**VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE
OCTOBER 11-14**

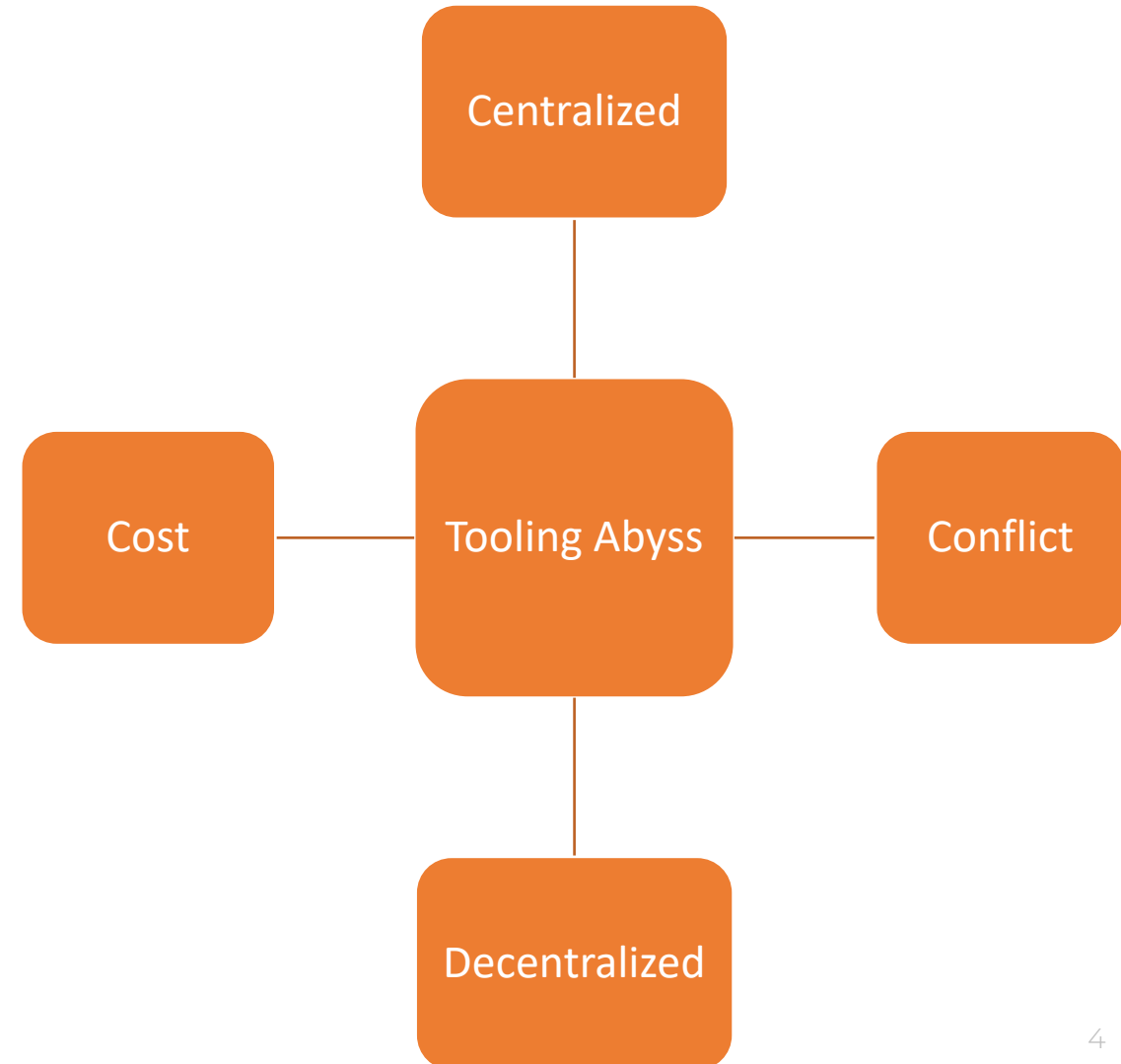
Industry and Tool Development

- Cable Television Originates 1940s
- First 50 years of innovation focused on television technology
- 1995 Industry transformation- introduction of HFC and high-speed internet (4000kps)
- Next 25 years, exponential growth and innovation in transforming the industry
- Software electronic cable tools to measure and monitor have had to evolve with the architecture



What is the tooling abyss and how is it created.....

- Centralized tooling system
 - Just create a new one for new technology
 - Departments within a centralize organization can be misaligned
- Decentralized tooling
 - Gap tool creation
 - Local team creation doing duplicate work
- Tool ownership conflict
 - Collaborative versus competitive strategy
- Cost impact
 - Inconsistency and duplication is costly



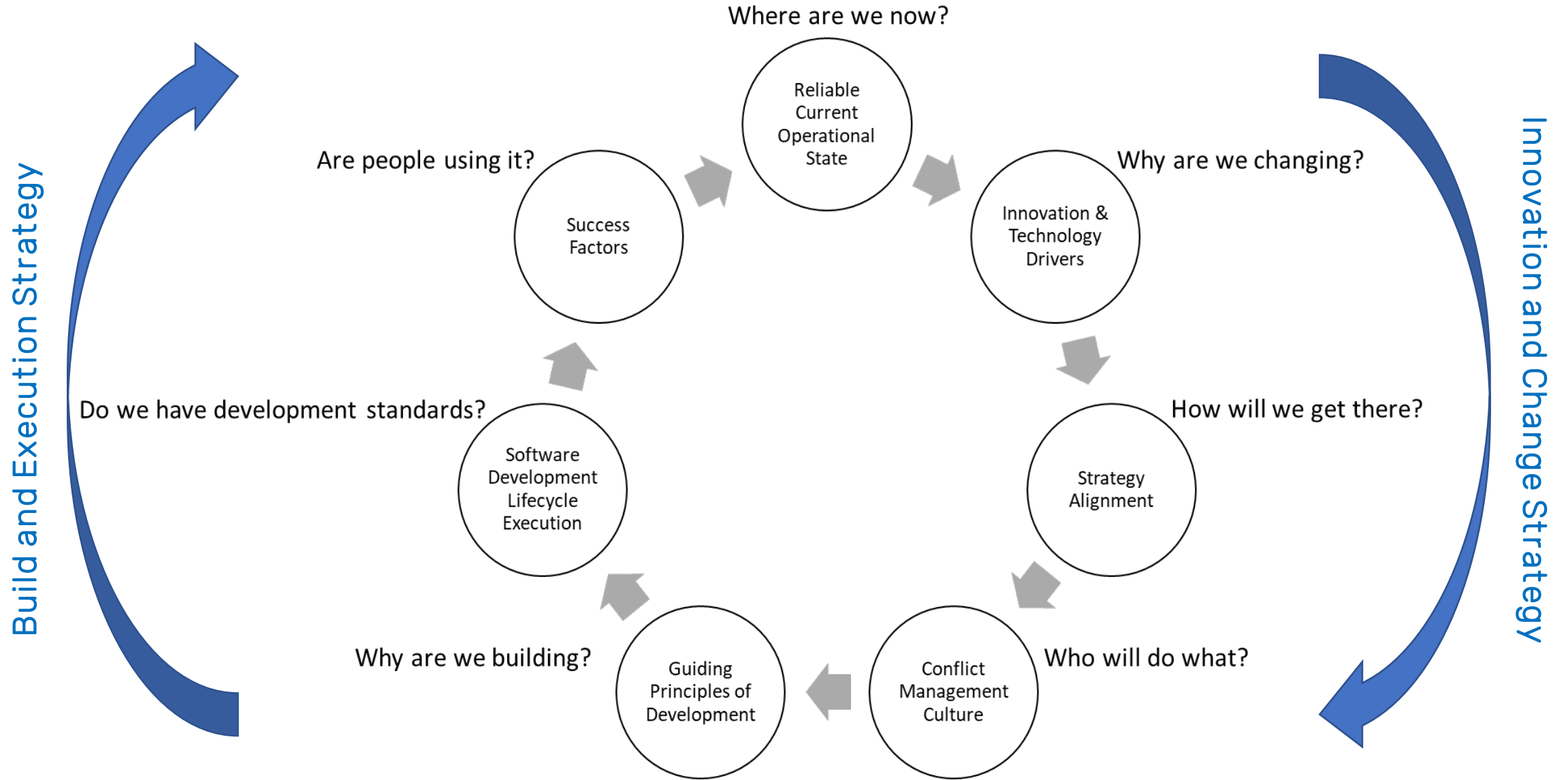
When is too much information or too many tools overwhelming for the user...

Multiple Tool Interfaces

- Building new tools without a strategy for the previous tool creates swivel
- Swiveling takes time away from tasks while users search for information
- Multiple tool interfaces requires multiple development teams to manage them

Adding Information

- New technology innovation drives new information into tools
- Information overload is a risk of the methodology of providing as much information as possible without consideration of the task
- Information avoidance is a result of information overload



Tools are created and evolved to meet business needs....

New Industry Technology

- Innovation changes tooling needs (Build new or add to existing)
- Architecture evolution creating multiple structures to be supported

Tool Infrastructure Technology

- Reliability, planned upgrades, and technology obsolescence
- Capacity growth and complexity of algorithms and data

Process Improvement

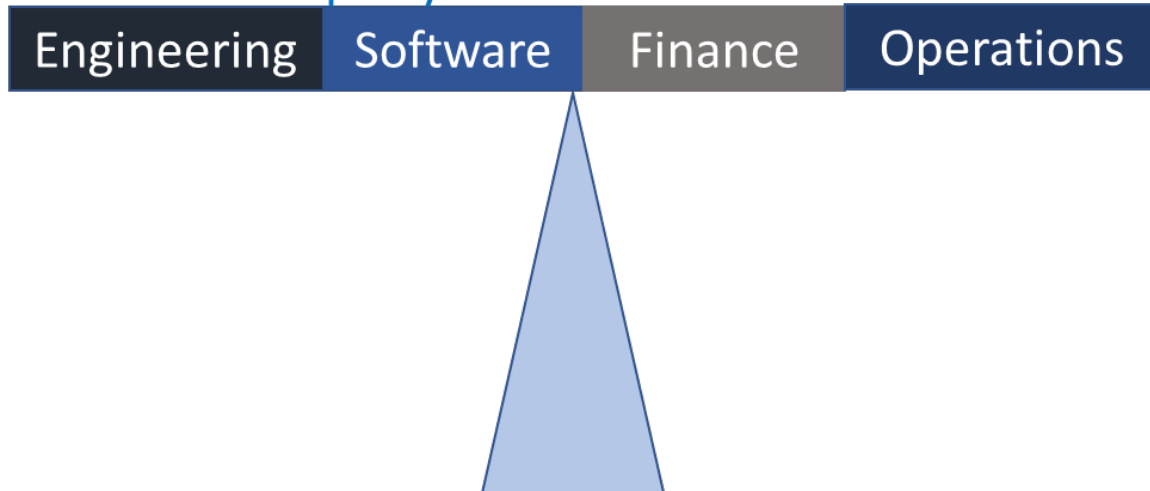
- Removing manual swivels between tool and creating automated flows
- Process changes driven by evolving architecture

User Experience Enhancement

- Cost efficiency through technician time efficiency, time saved per task
- Increased value by improving response time and ease of using UI

Balancing Strategic Pillars

Equally Balanced Collaboration



- Leadership alignment recognizing the importance of governance and accountability
- Four key balanced pillars
 - Core engineering (Product architecture)
 - Software development (Software standards)
 - Operations (Support and field operators)
 - Finance (ROI, budget, financial business value)
- Collaboration not competition achieves the strongest results
- Defined conflict management culture influences success and job satisfaction

Clear policy and strategy

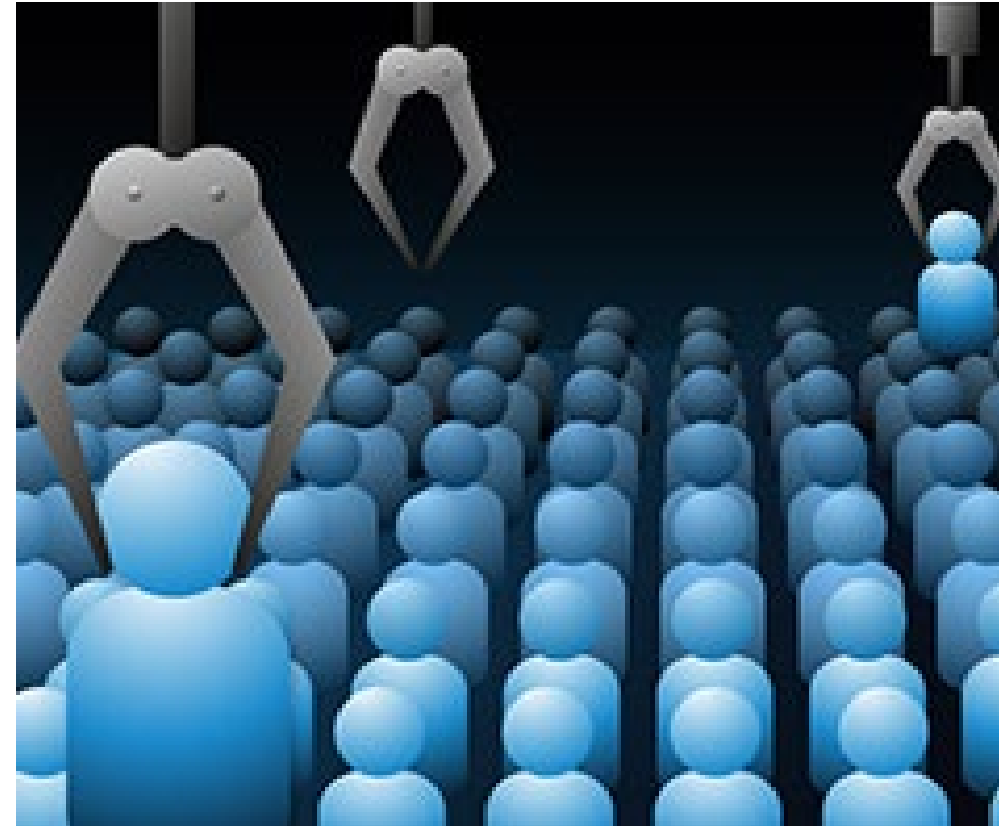
Key Questions To Ask

- Is this requirement strategically aligned and governed?
- What is driving the change or the problem that needs to be solved?
- Who and what development team is responsible for solving it?
- How will the user behavior be influenced, and what is the behavioral expectation?
- How does this fit in the business financial model?
- Should this be developed internally or purchased?



Business Value Strategy

- Engineering Deployment Of New Technology
 - If tooling systems are not built or updated for the new technology, what experience would fail?
- Software Development
 - If there was no investment into the systems to modernize and grow in capacity, would the system tools become unreliable or unusable?
- Operational Requirements
 - How will requested features and functionality improve the user experience and drive business value?
 - Will there be improved efficiency or saved time per task and will they use it?
- Financial Requirements
 - Is there a positive return on investment (ROI) analysis of the cost to create the tool or enhancement compared to the value benefit for the business?





Successful Complex Integration

- Adoption is quick and utilization is high
- Business value, ROI is achieved, task time is reduced, and positive investment to the business
- Business behaviors, ensuring the expected changes in how users change and utilize to impact business metrics and customer satisfaction
- User feedback, user experience is being simplified, information is valuable and not overwhelming, and positive response from users

- How the tooling abyss is created
- Information overload and avoidance
- Aligned tool development strategy
- Balanced business pillars and value assessment
- Development principles and standards
- Success Factors



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Thank You!

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