



# Applying the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) to Lean Systems Engineering

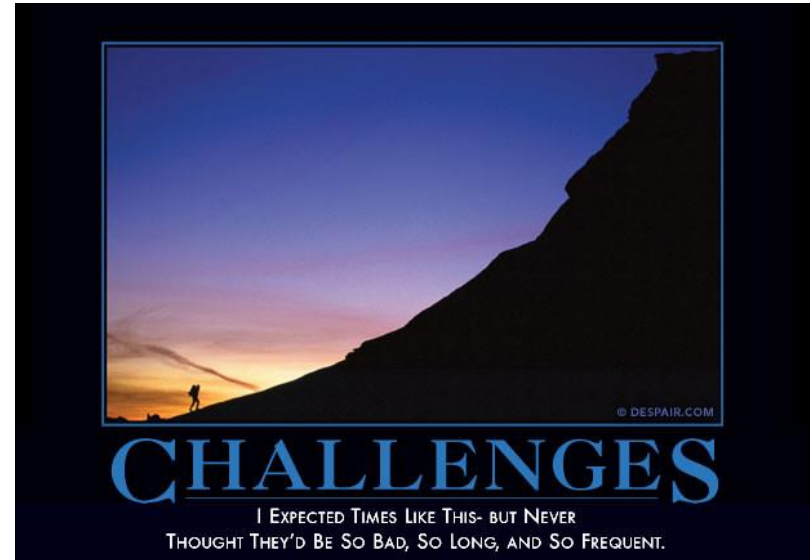
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# Engineering Challenges

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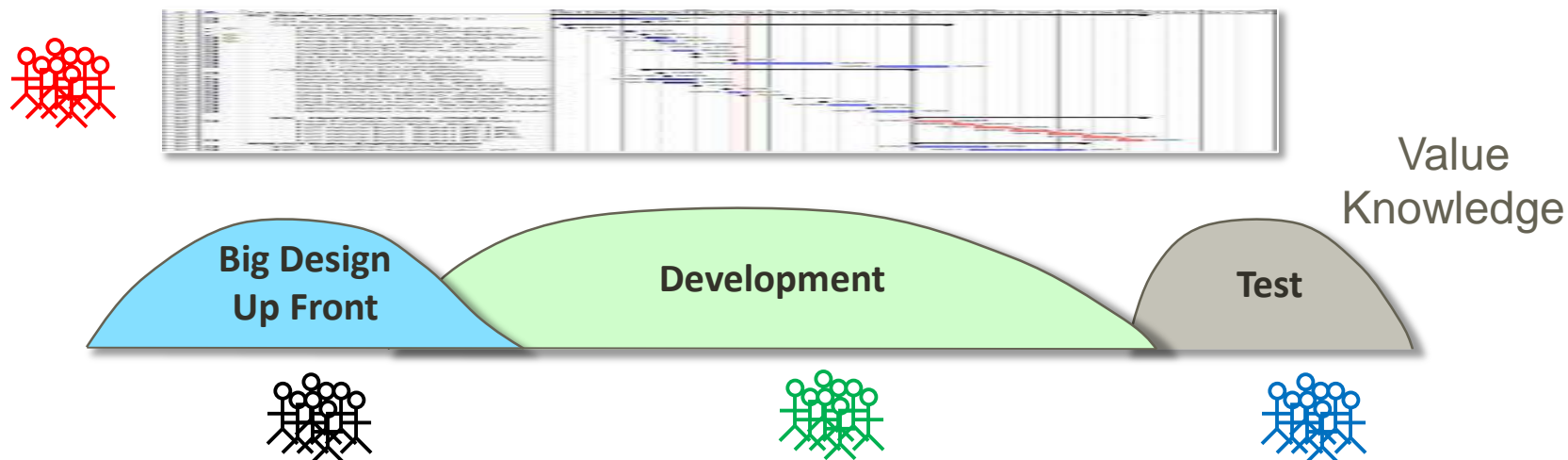
- ➔ Increasing complexity
- ➔ Rapid reduction in cycle times
- ➔ Risk meeting customer/market needs
- ➔ Products in a continuous release cycle
- ➔ Solutions cross organizational boundaries (Systems of Systems)
- ➔ System-wide collaboration demands (BOF vs. BOM)
- ➔ Increased product variation
- ➔ Compliance - contractual, regulatory





# Our Current System Cannot Address Challenges

- ➔ System requirements, design, and schedule “defined” up front
- ➔ Difficult to defer decisions; reluctance to provide detail
- ➔ Project success defined by executing plan vs. delivering value
- ➔ Slow value deliver - delays, WIP, handoffs
- ➔ Not aligned to deliver value

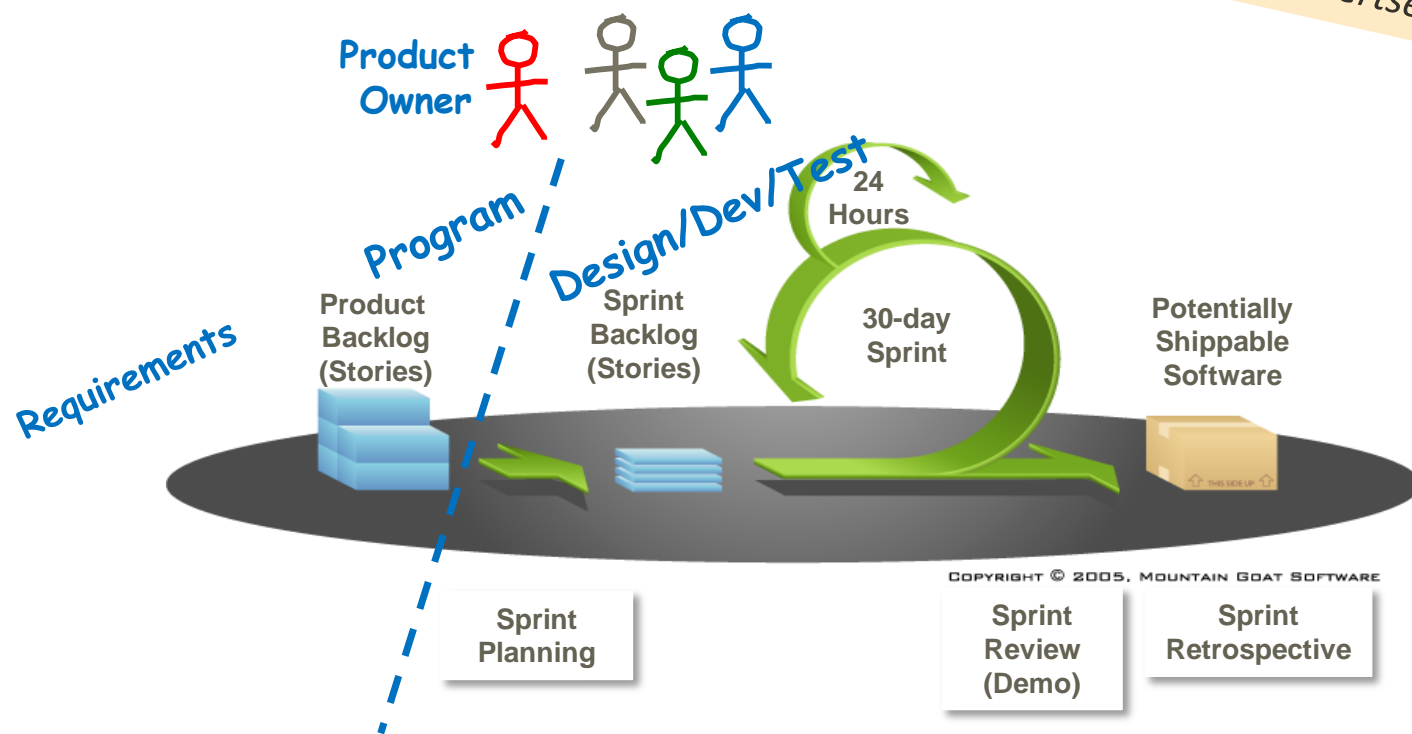




# Where Does Agile Excel?

- ➔ Answer: Alignment and Collaboration
- ➔ But, only solves team-level alignment and collaboration

Principle of Alignment: There is more value created with overall alignment than local excellence  
-- Don Reinertsen





# Apply Lean-Agile Principles

#1-Take an economic view

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#2-Apply systems thinking

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#3-Assume variability; preserve options

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#4-Build incrementally with fast, integrated learning cycles

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#5-Base milestones on objective evaluation of working systems

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#6-Visualize and limit WIP, reduce batch sizes, and manage queue lengths

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#7-Apply cadence, synchronize with cross-domain planning

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#8-Unlock the intrinsic motivation of knowledge workers

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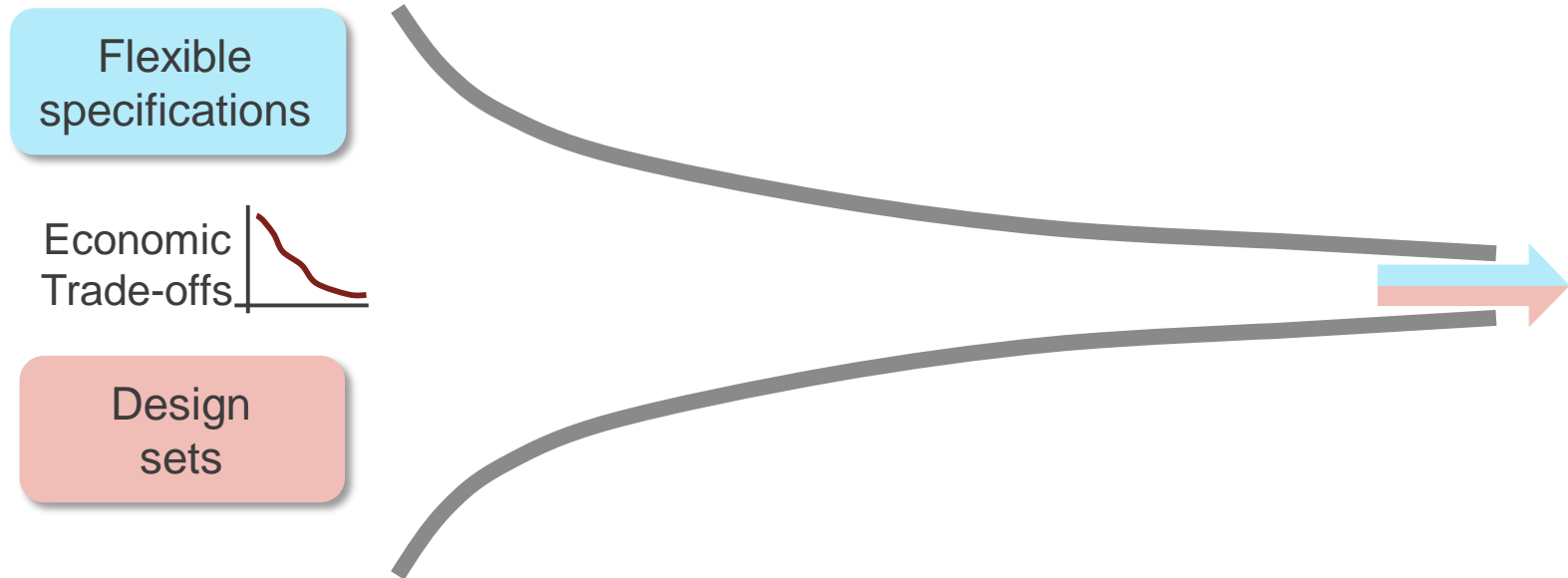
#9-Decentralize decision-making

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# Assume Variability; Preserve Options

*Aggressively evaluate alternatives.  
Converge specifications and solution sets. — Allen Ward*

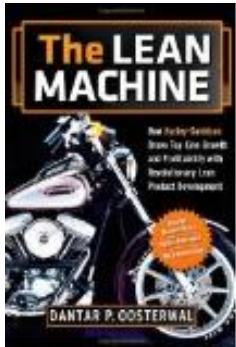
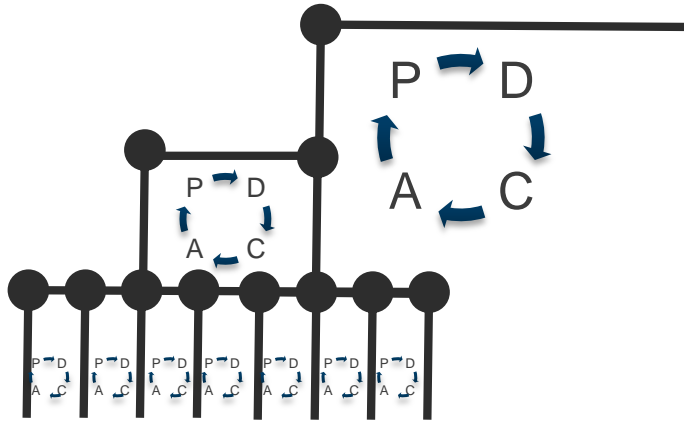


- You cannot possibly know everything at the start
- Requirements must be flexible to economic design choices
- Designs must be flexible to changing requirements
- Preservation of options improves economic results



# Integrate and Test Frequently

*“Integration points control product development”*



***The Lean Machine:***

*How Harley Davidson Drove Top-Line Growth and Profitability with Revolutionary Lean Product Development*

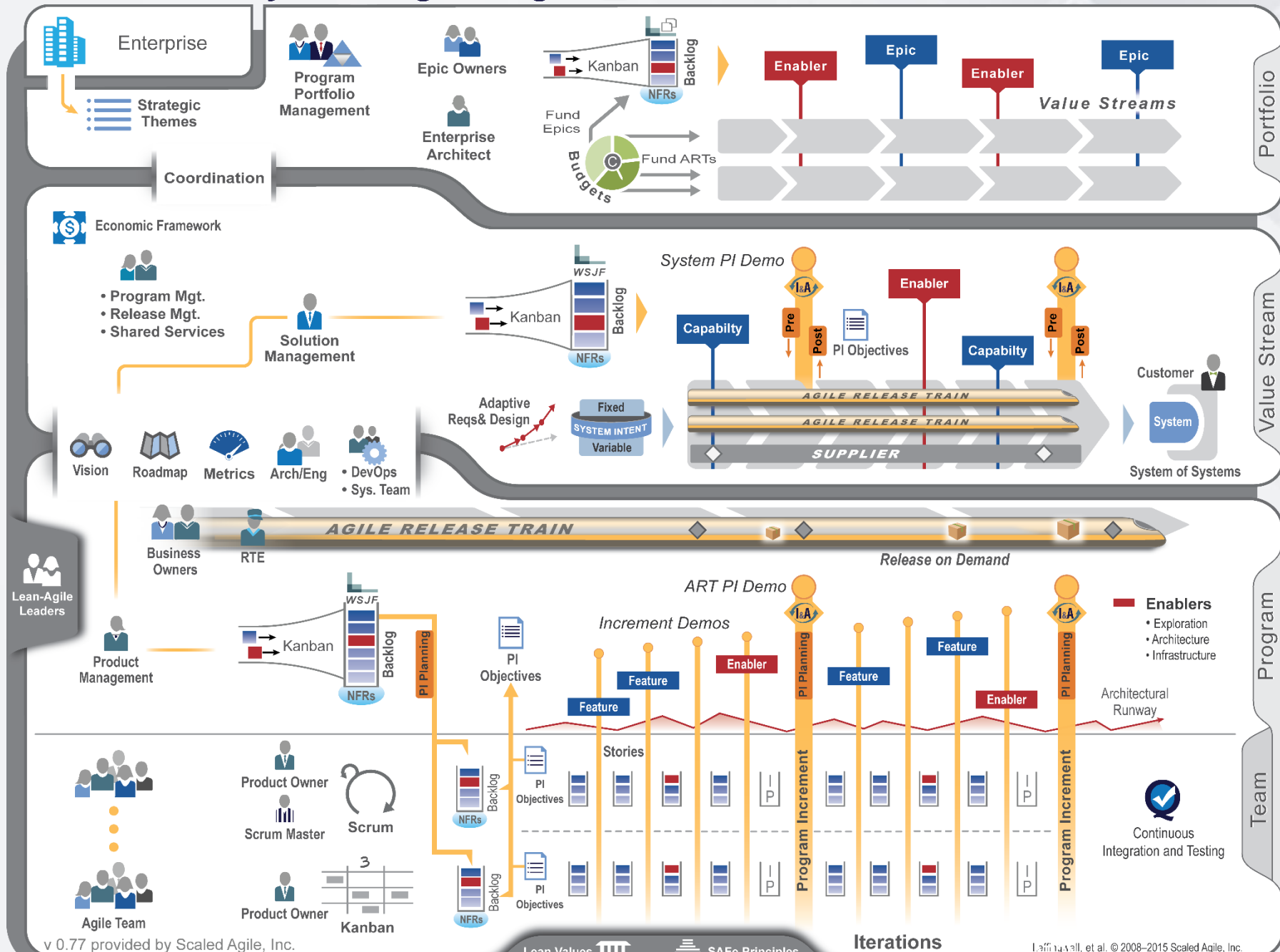
—Dantar P. Oosterwal

- ▶ Integration points are pull events that accelerate learning
  - Routine communication
  - Reduce variation
  - Objective evaluation
- ▶ Development can proceed no faster than the slowest learning loop
- ▶ Improvement comes through ***synchronization*** of design loops and ***faster learning cycles***

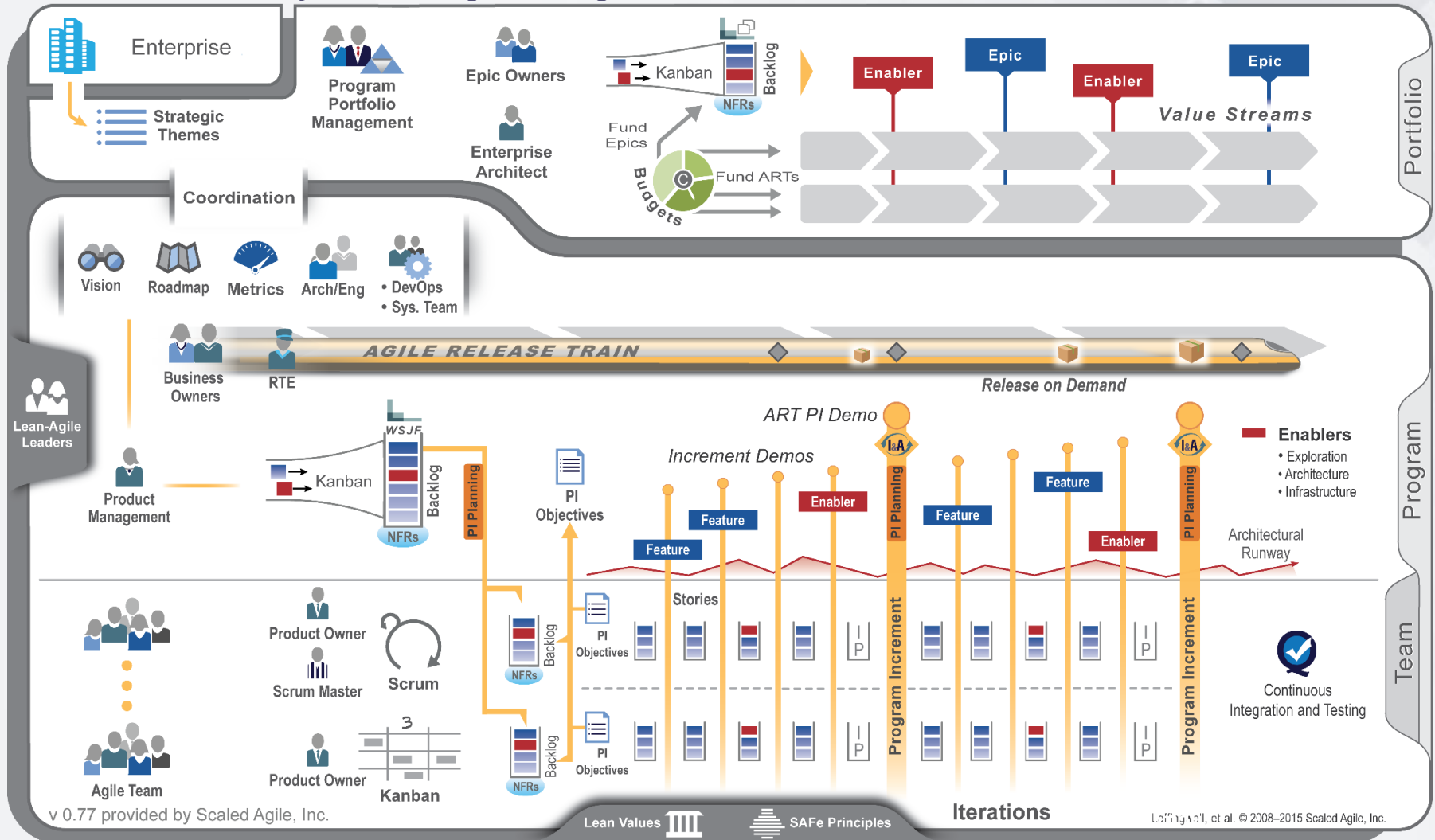


# SAFe® for Lean Systems Engineering

Preview 2

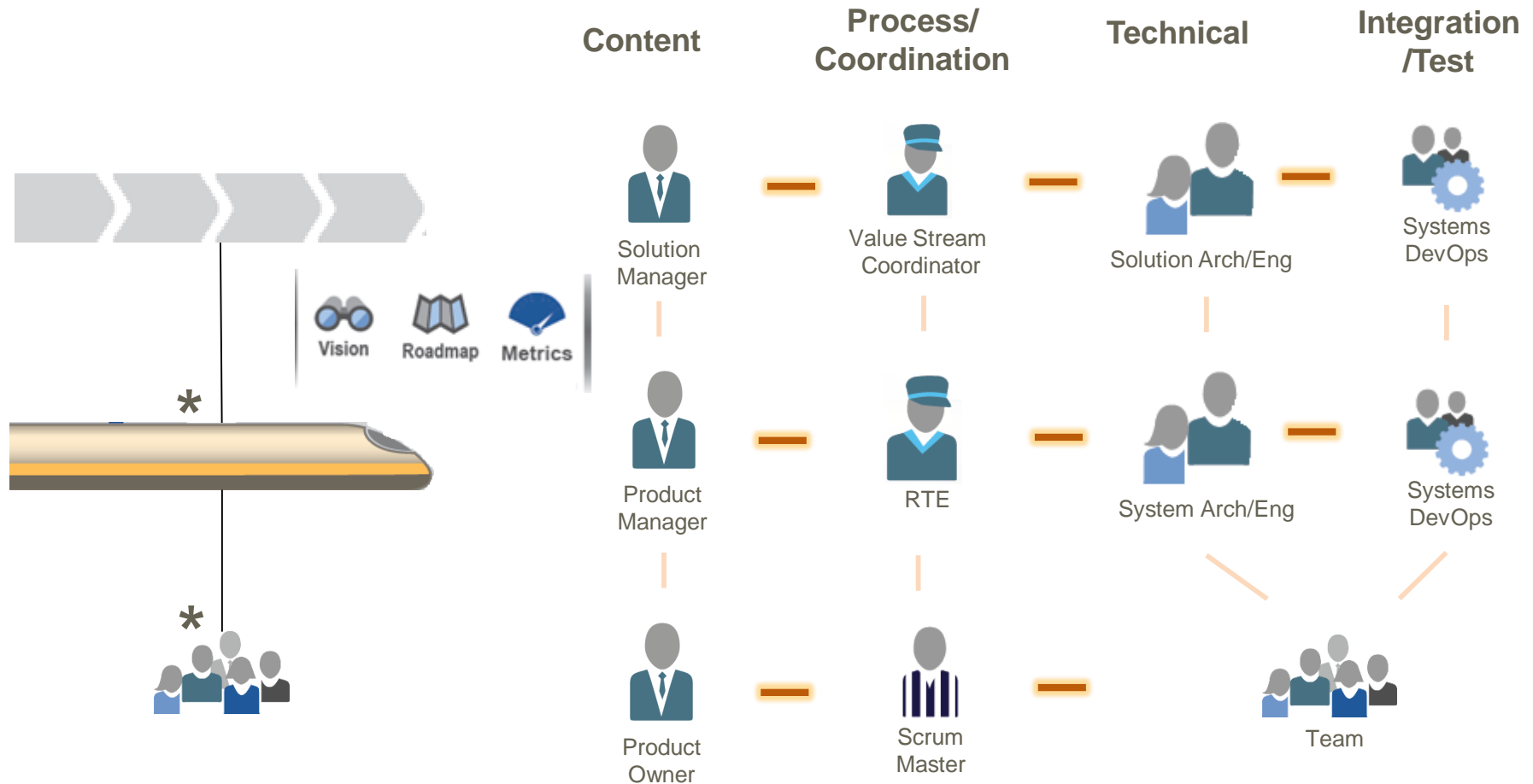








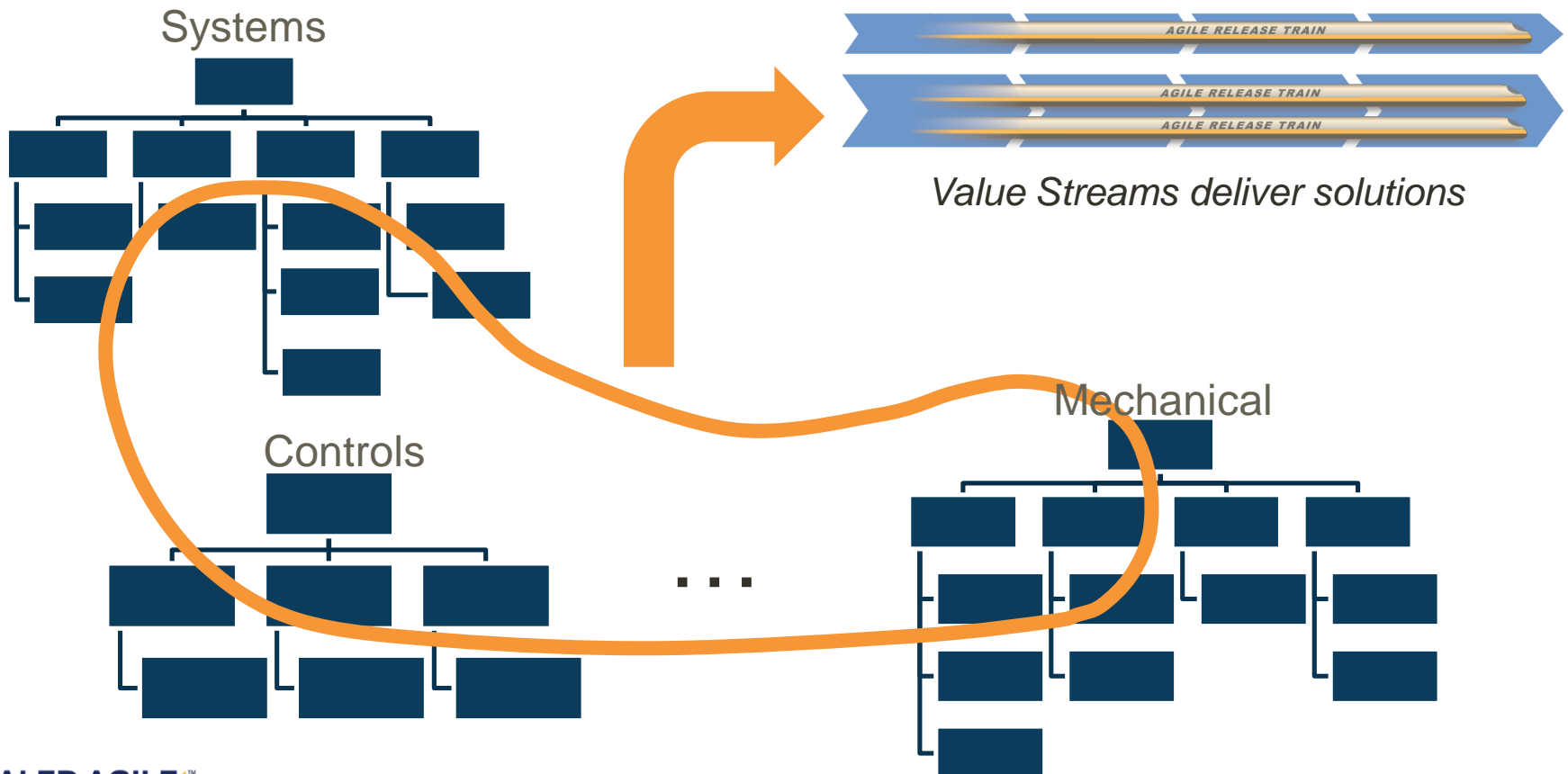
# Coordinate and Align Within and Across Layers





# Organize Around Value

- ▶ Value doesn't recognize organizational or geographic boundaries
- ▶ Organize your people around your Value Streams

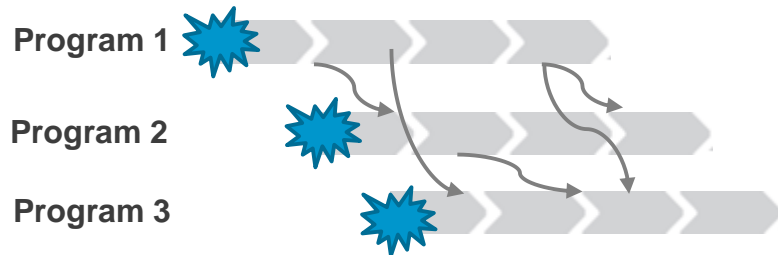




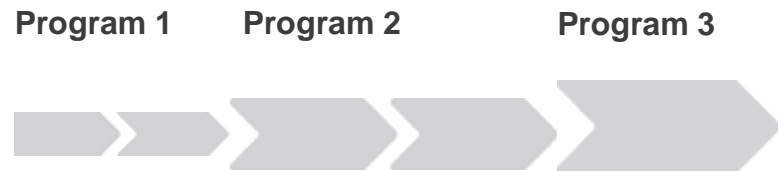
# Programs Are NOT (necessarily) Value Streams

- ➔ Value Streams do not (necessarily) equate to contracts or programs
- ➔ Too much “people motion” leads to:
  - Unpredictable team performance
  - Lost productivity - *form-storm-norm-perform*
  - Limited reuse
  - Localized optimizations
  - No economies of scale

**Don't bring people to the work...**



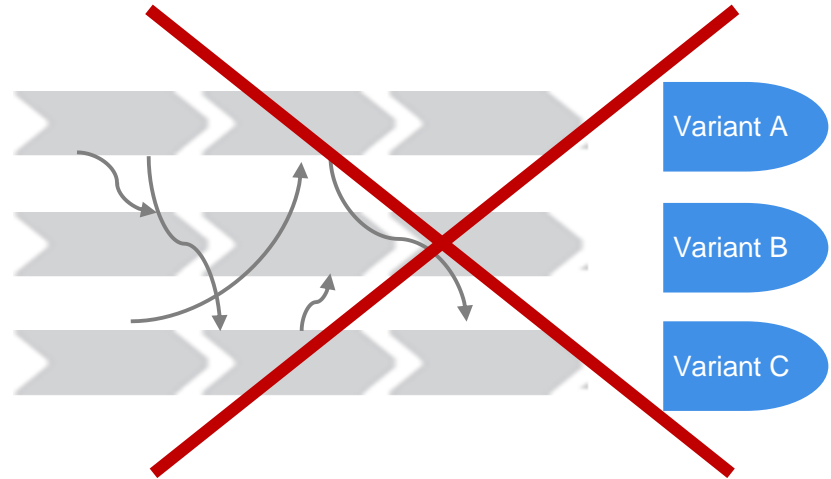
**...Bring work to the people**





# Use Value Streams to Deliver Product Variants

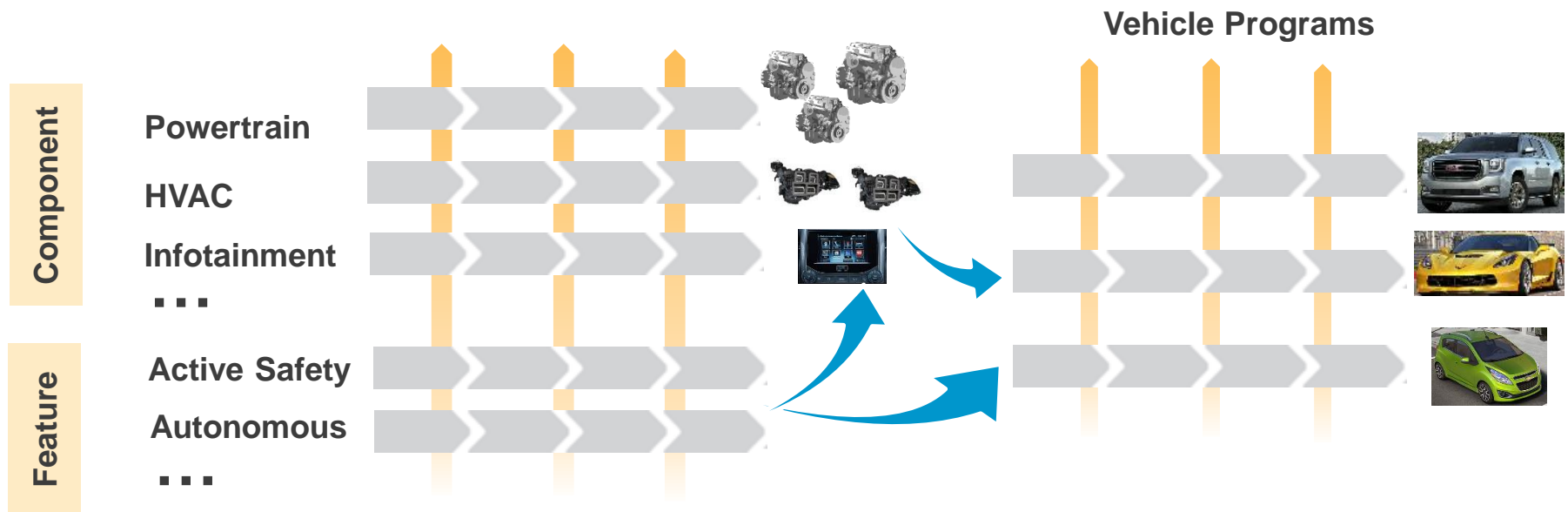
- ➔ Eliminate handoffs
- ➔ Organize around common product lines vs separate VSs
- ➔ Variants may be by feature or time (model year '17, '18)





# Value Streams Deliver Solutions

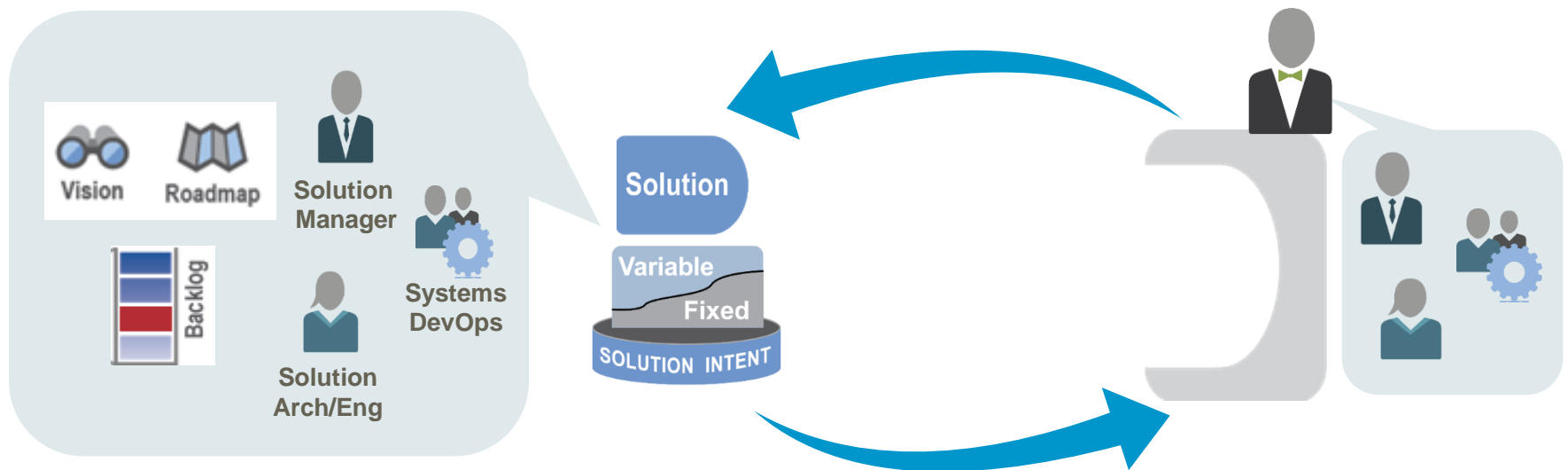
- ➔ Solution may be a component or feature
- ➔ Fund ARTs and cross-stream initiatives, not projects





# Solution May Require a Context

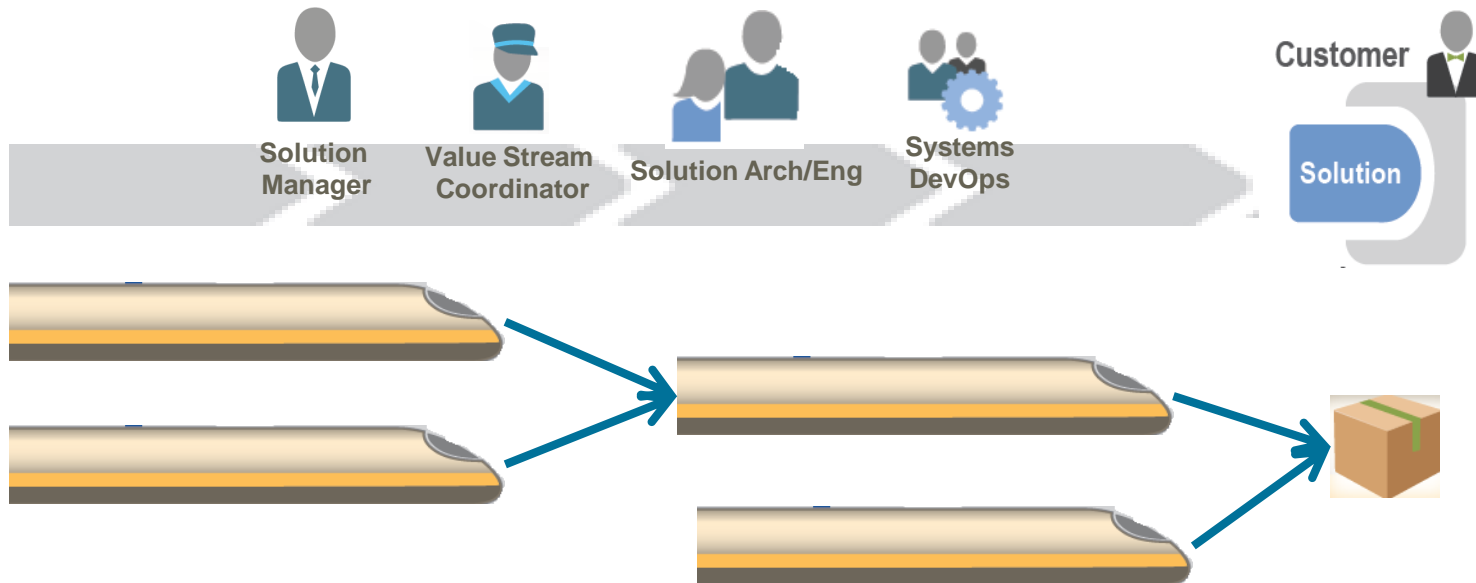
- ➔ Represents Suppliers and Systems or Systems
- ➔ Customer continuously collaborates on multiple dimensions
  - Content (backlog), technical, integration, program/budget





# ARTs Build Value Stream's Solution

- ➔ ARTs deliver each increment (and ideally sprint)
- ➔ Continually integrate solution at least each increment
- ➔ Value Stream roles coordinate – content, technical, I&T

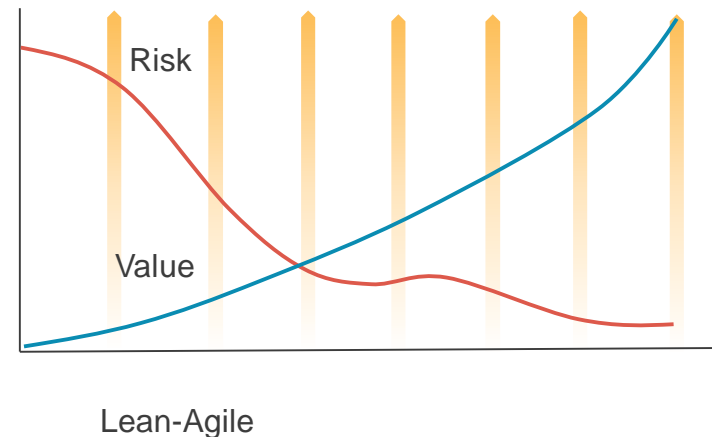
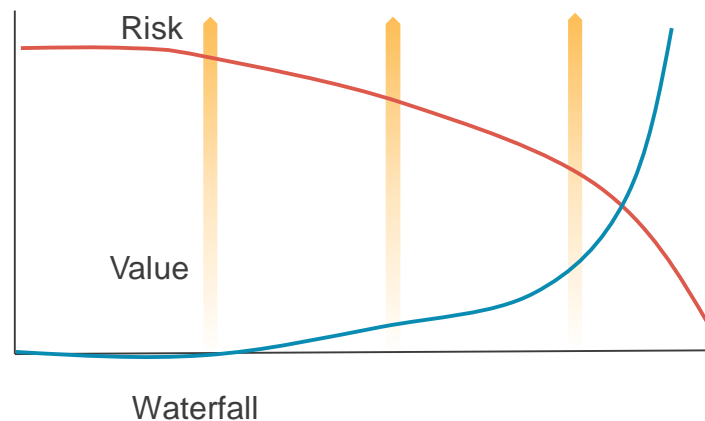




# Replace Gates with Cadence-Based Learning Cycles

Base milestones on objective evaluation of working system

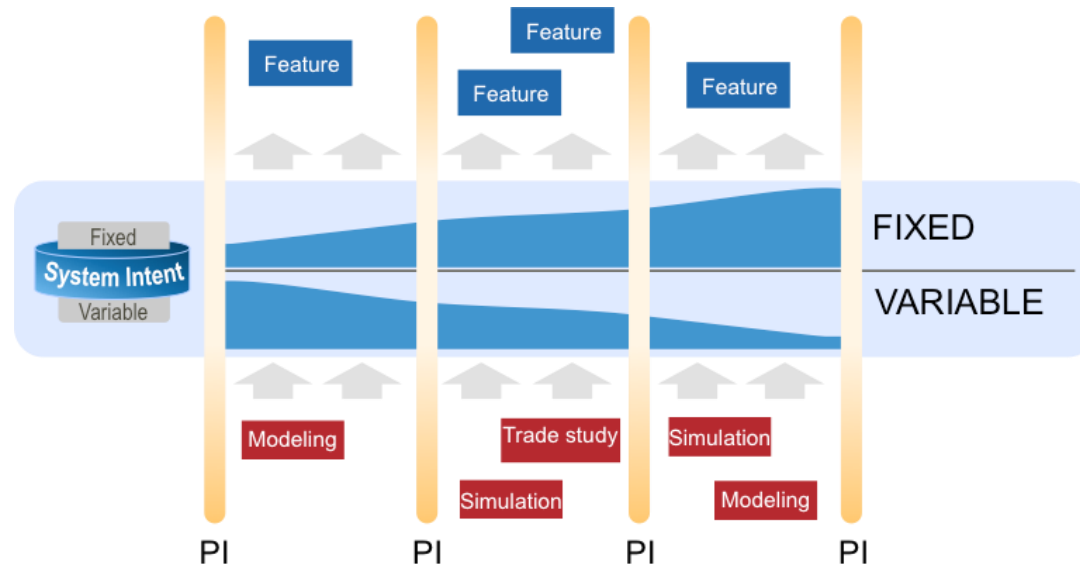
- ▶ “Pull” event to integrate entire system
- ▶ Work may include simulations, models, experiments, etc.





# Learning Moves Variable to Fixed

- ➔ Simultaneously learn what we know, discover what we don't know
- ➔ Enablers create knowledge, decisions, and runway to build Features
- ➔ Decisions made with sufficient time to support feature building
- ➔ Accelerated by MBSE and Set-Based Design

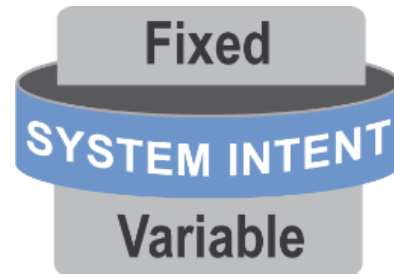




# Record Knowledge in System Intent

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- ➔ Repository of collective system knowledge
- ➔ Single source of truth to communicate decisions
- ➔ Populated by results of Enabler work
- ➔ Facilitates impact analysis
- ➔ Supports regularity and contractual compliance



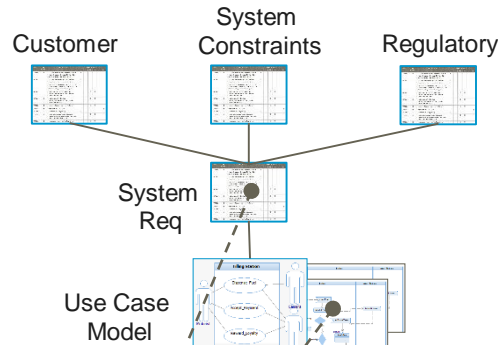


# Use Models (MBSE) to Organize System Intent

## Requirements

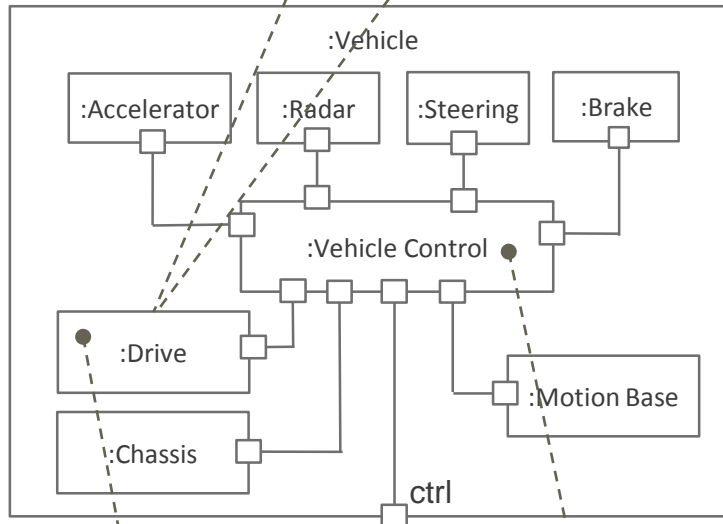
### Model

(functionality,  
constraints)

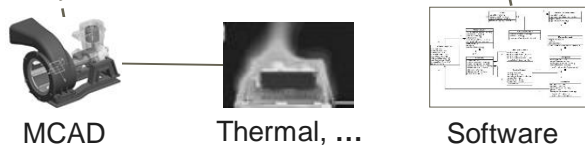


## System Model

(structure,  
behavior,  
simulation,  
parametrics,  
allocations)



Domain  
Models  
(designs,  
analysis, etc.)



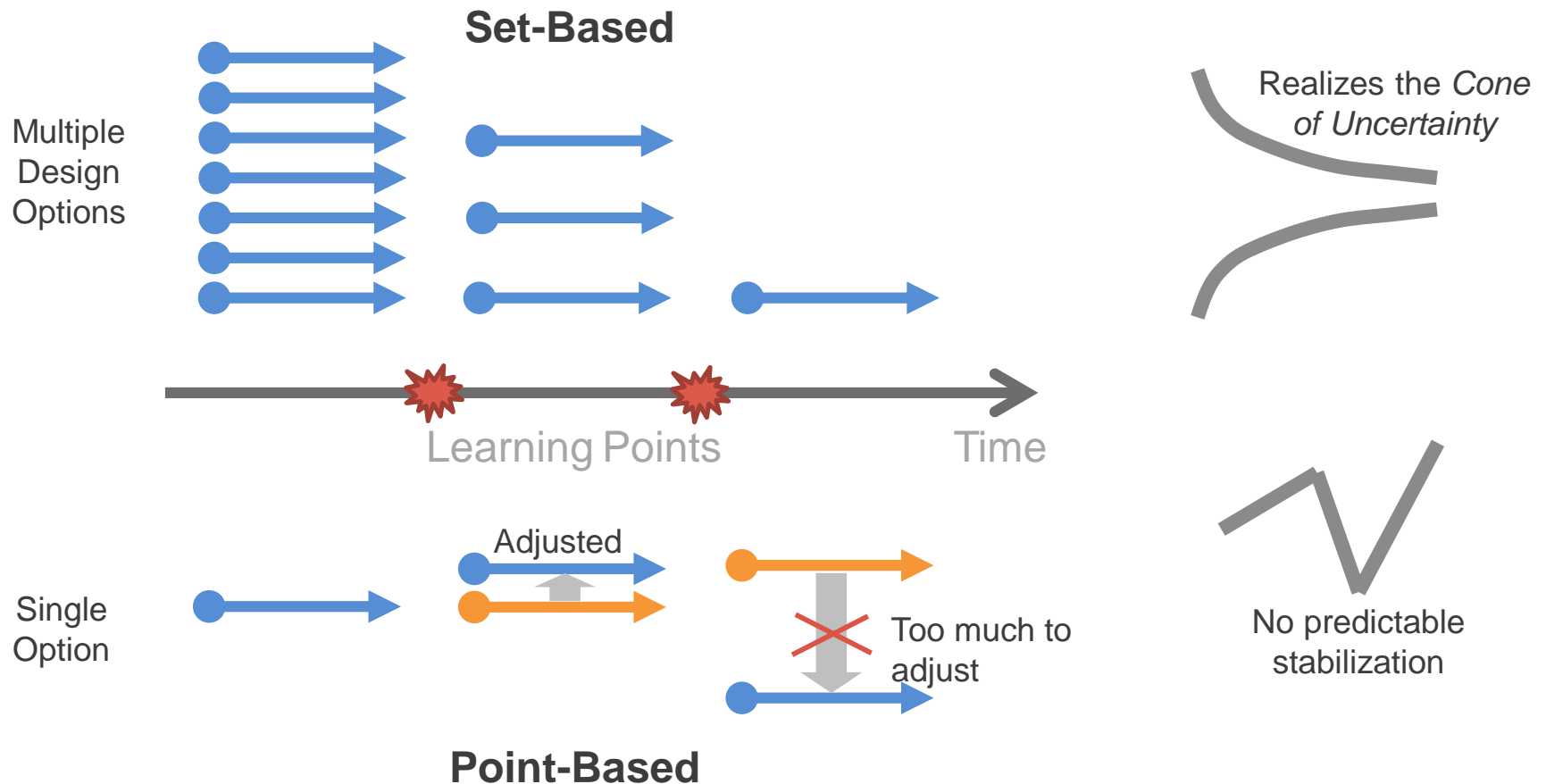
- ➔ Communication
- ➔ Impact analysis
- ➔ Strategic reuse
- ➔ Source for generating compliance documents





# Make Better Decisions with Set-Based Design

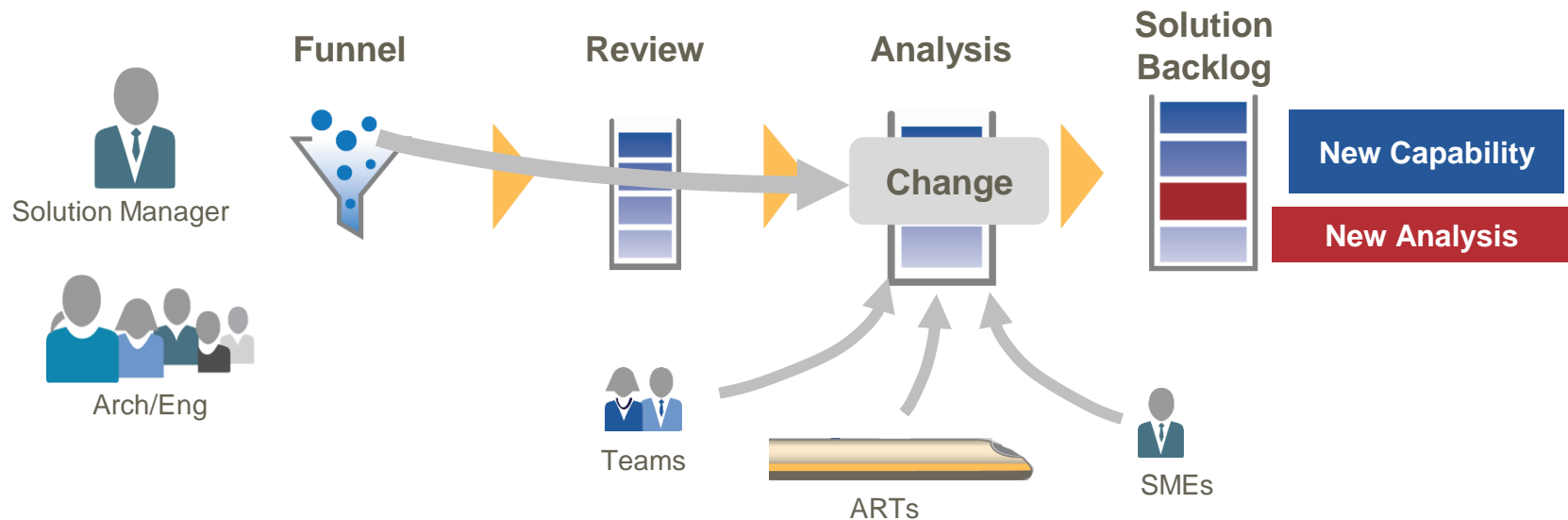
Set-Based Design preserves options to make the best economic decisions based on objective evidence





# Manage Change with Solution Kanban

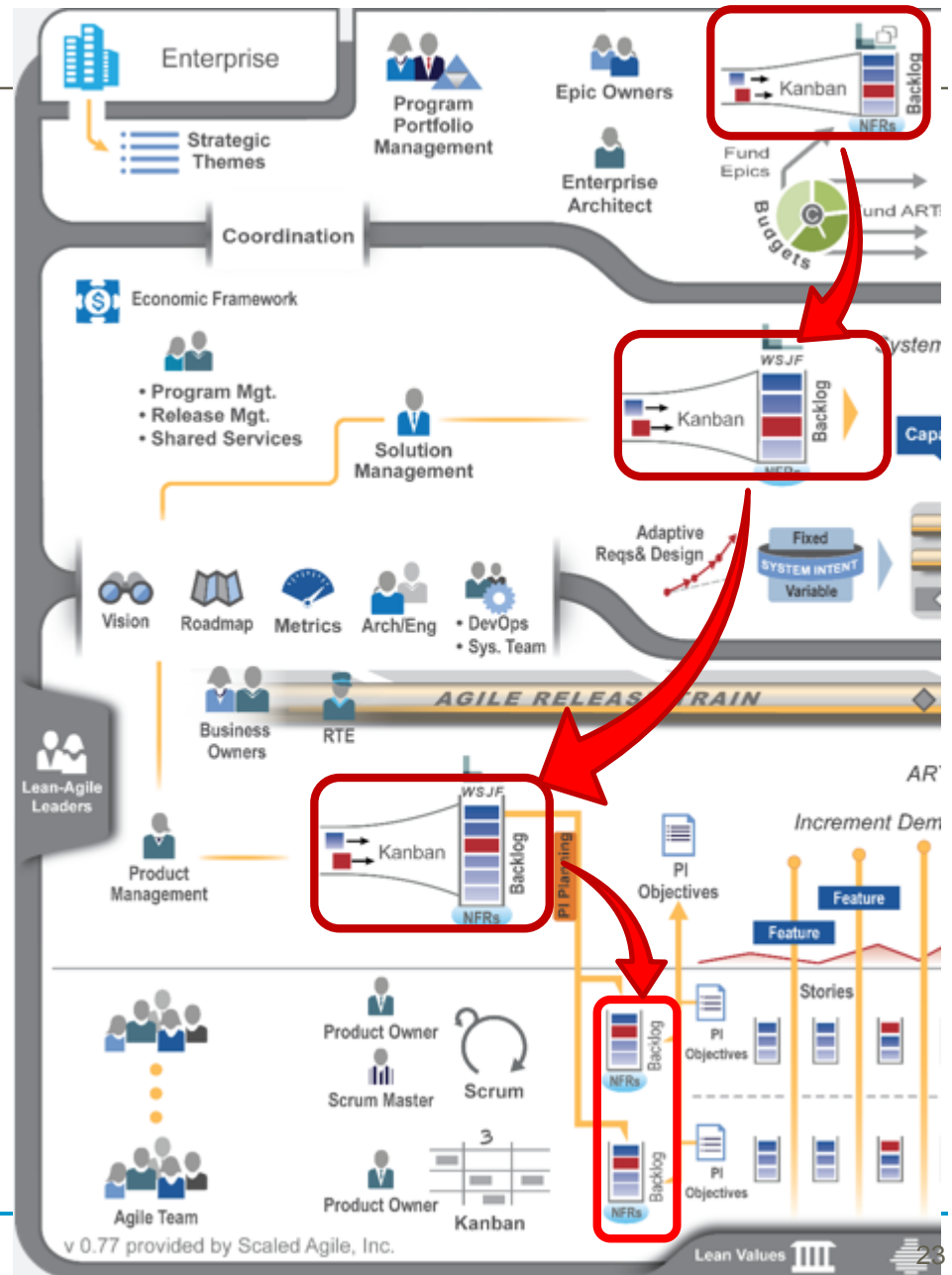
- ➔ Organizes “boards”/CCBs
- ➔ Prioritized by Solution Management
- ➔ Reviewed by System Engineering (utilize System Intent)
- ➔ Analyzed by effected stakeholders





# Connected Kanbans

- ➔ Backlogs contain centralized initiatives and local context
  - *Centralized strategy; decentralized decisions*
- ➔ Increased visibility into the flow
- ➔ Hierarchical content governance system





# Change Requires Leadership



*People are already doing their best; the problems are with the system.*

*Only management can change the system.*

—W. Edwards Deming

- Lead the change
- Know the way; emphasize life-long learning
- Develop people
- Inspire and align with mission; minimize constraints
- Decentralize decision-making
- Unlock the intrinsic motivation of knowledge workers



# Acquire the Knowledge

## *Implementing SAFe*

1

- ▶ Ingrain deep SAFe knowledge (SPCs)
- ▶ Identify value streams; structure ARTs
- ▶ Train others



*SAFe  
Program  
Consultants  
(SPCs)*

## *Leading SAFe*

2

- ▶ Develop Lean-Agile leaders
- ▶ Organize and support ARTs
- ▶ Implement Agile Portfolio



## *Supporting role-based curriculum*

4

- ▶ Product Manager/  
Product Owner
- ▶ Portfolio Management
- ▶ Scrum Master \*
- ▶ Release Train Engineer \*



## *SAFe for Agile Teams & ART Quick start*

3

- ▶ Organize and train Agile Teams
- ▶ Start the Train
- ▶ Plan and execute the first Program Increment



*SAFe ScrumXP  
Scrum Master &  
Product Owner  
Orientation*





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# Rational Support For SAFe LSE

- CCM
- RM, DM, RELM
- QM
- Reporting

