

GE Transportation

# Next Generation Train Control Systems Design by GE Transportation Italy:

*A Universal Vital Platform Approach to  
meet Current and Future Rail  
Transportation Signaling Challenges*

Giovanni Zanelli

Expoferroviaria, Torino 28/3/2012



GE imagination at work



COLLEGIO  
INGEGNERI  
FERROVIARI  
ITALIANI

# Mapping Requirements to Design Objectives

## LCC Optimization

- Lower Capex
- Reduced maintenance costs
- Better obsolescence management
- Higher reliability and availability

## Execution Excellence

- Consistency with specific requirements
- On-time delivery
- Effective migration strategies
- Effective Handholding

## Operating Process Efficiency

- Improved operational efficiency

## Scalability

- Flexible to changing needs over life cycle
- Upgradability/downgradability

## Flexibility

- Adaptive architecture

## Energy Saving

- Contribution to sustainable growth

## Security

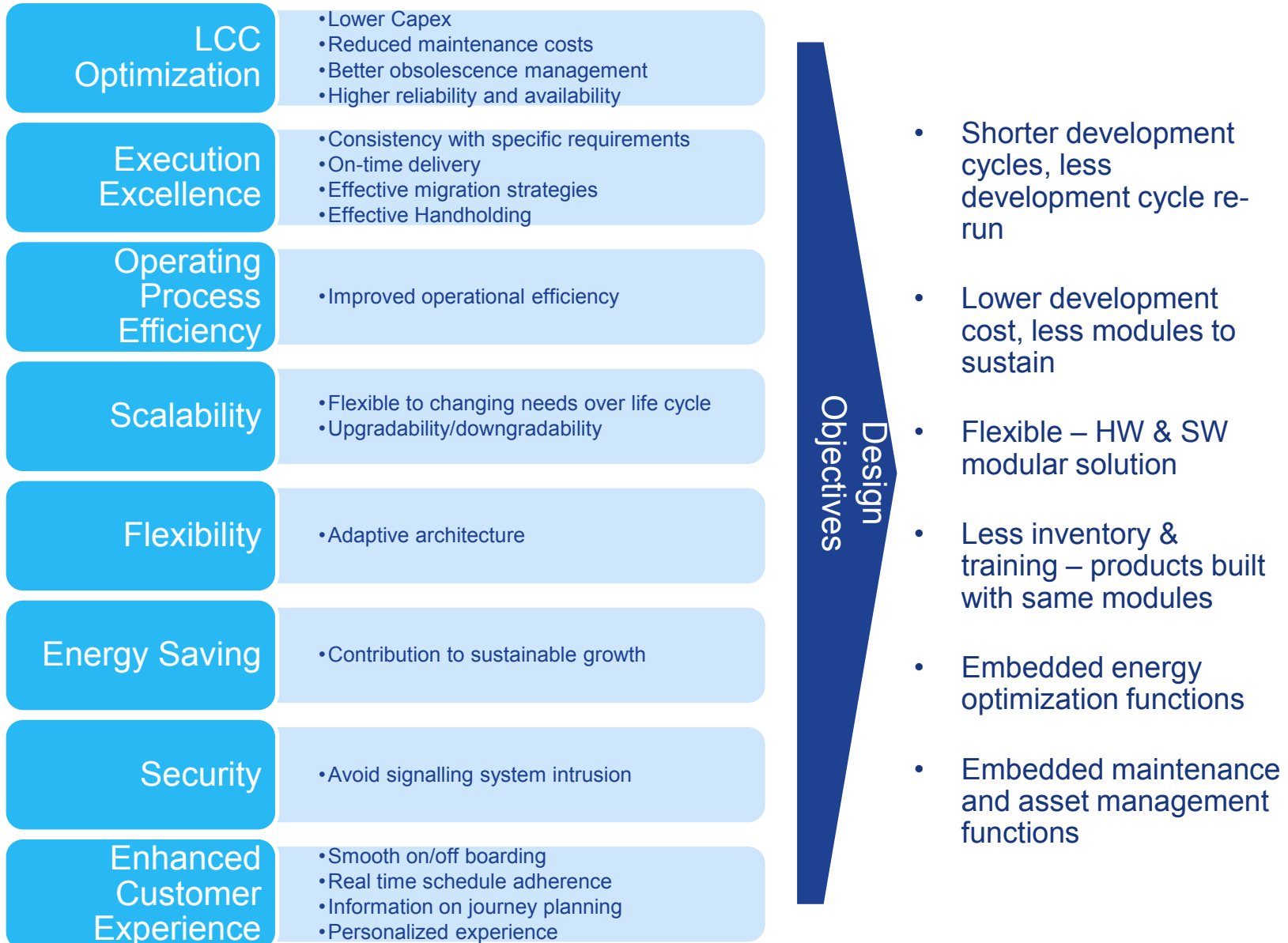
- Avoid signalling system intrusion

## Enhanced Customer Experience

- Smooth on/off boarding
- Real time schedule adherence
- Information on journey planning
- Personalized experience



# Mapping Requirements to Design Objectives



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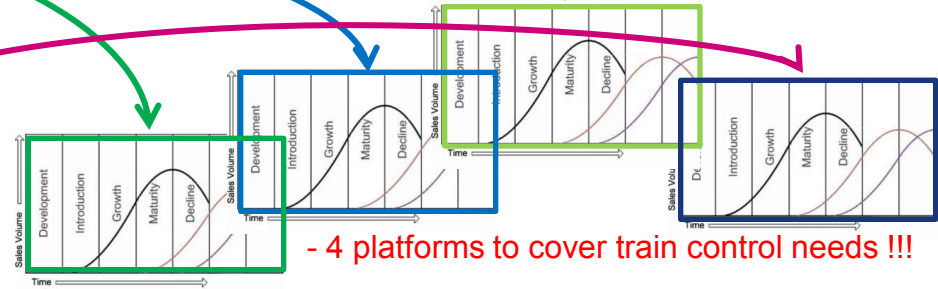
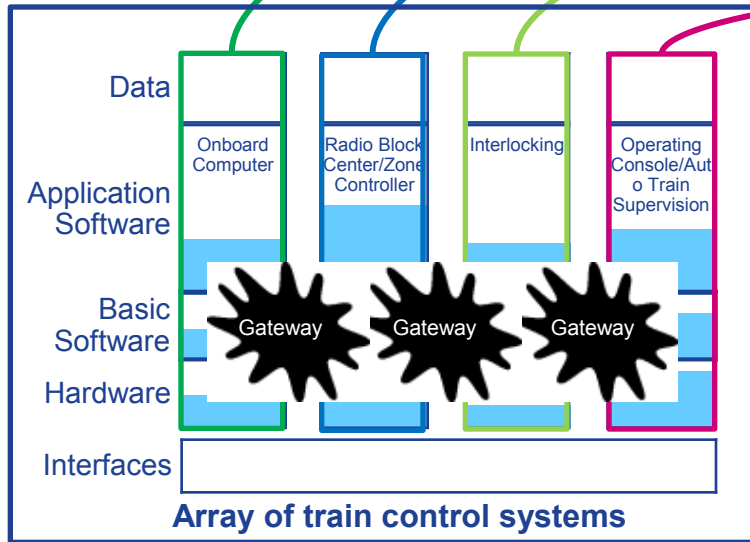


- Shorter development cycles, less development cycle re-run
- Lower development cost, less modules to sustain
- Flexible – HW & SW modular solution
- Less inventory & training – products built with same modules
- Embedded energy optimization functions
- Embedded maintenance and asset management functions

**Universal Vital Platform?**

# Current Cumbersome Rail Signalling Situation

■ LITTLE Reuse  
 LARGE Customization



**Voice of traditional systems users:**

- Unhappy with high change costs
- Unhappy with high OpEx

Current Situation
Non optimized “Silo” based implementation
Non integrated set of engineering tools and processes
“Bottom up” step by step approach
Asynchronous Multi Platform R&D investments in multiple “vintages”/branches
Multiple product SW developments , product specific SW

Drawbacks
Non modular products (monolithic): little room for customization, impact of changes difficult to predict
System level, product level, dedicated project execution– not usable at tendering stage
Using and adapting legacy modules...requiring additional equipment – “glue ware” or “gateways” between sub systems
Great inertia and cost to make portfolio evolve Little cross platform development re-use
New generation development increases sustaining cost of large installed base

# Project Delta: A Team on a Mission

High Growth Train Control Market Segments and Geographies

## Passenger Rail



- Conventional
- High Speed

Solutions: ETCS/IXL...



GE Tempo™

## Mass Transit



- Metro
- Light Rail

Solutions: CBTC...

## GE Transportation

Intelligent  
Control  
Systems

## Delta

Imagine

a new generation  
of train control solutions  
designed around:

- optimized project execution
- long term LCC effectiveness
- environmental friendliness in mind.

An Imagination Breakthrough Initiative

Differentiated and Integrated Solutions

Open System and Sub-System Architectures



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FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES  
ONLY

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Intelligent  
Control  
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## Delta

60 M \$US Investment

100 + people strong team of experts

Two Centres of Excellence:

- Paris La Défense (France)
- **Sesto Fiorentino (Italy)**

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# Sesto Fiorentino Office Opening



REGIONE  
TOSCANA

EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION



***Promotion of industrial research, transfer of technologies, pre-competition development; valorization of research and innovation***

- Creation of a Center of Excellence
- Recruitment of new skilled resources
- Develop the know-how in the region
- Tuscany as a worldwide player in the Railway sector
- Set up laboratories and a showroom

Activities: Research & Development

Maximum funding €6.589.496,64

## Steps

## Date

Submission 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Contract Signature 7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2011

Office Opening 9<sup>th</sup> June

2011



"Ribbon-Cutting" ceremony



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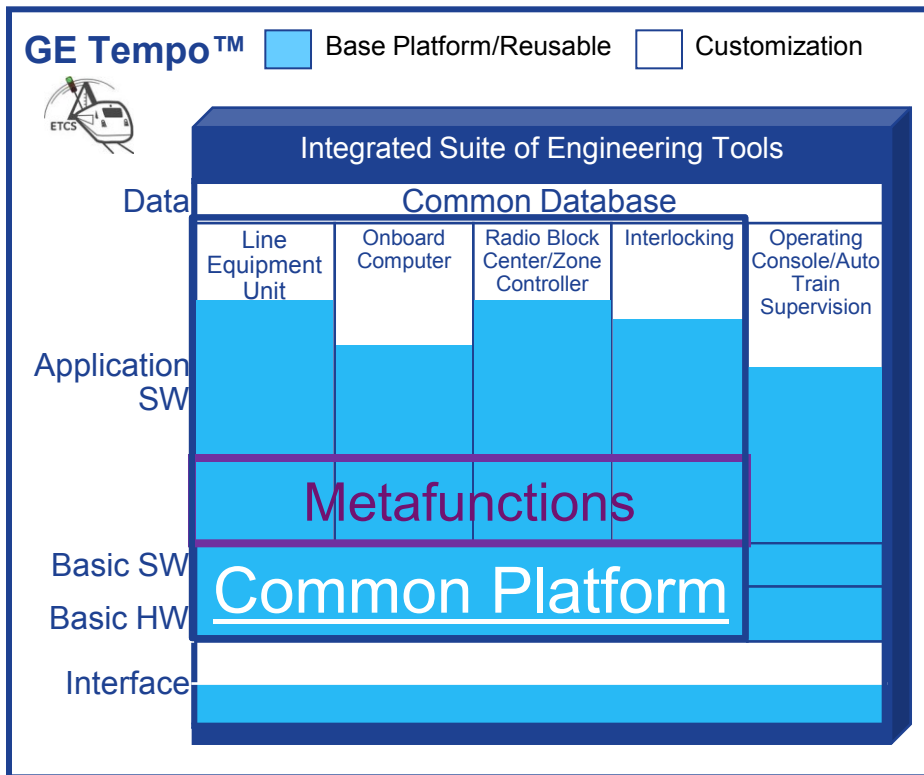
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# Tempo™ System Architecture

## A Universal Vital Platform Approach...



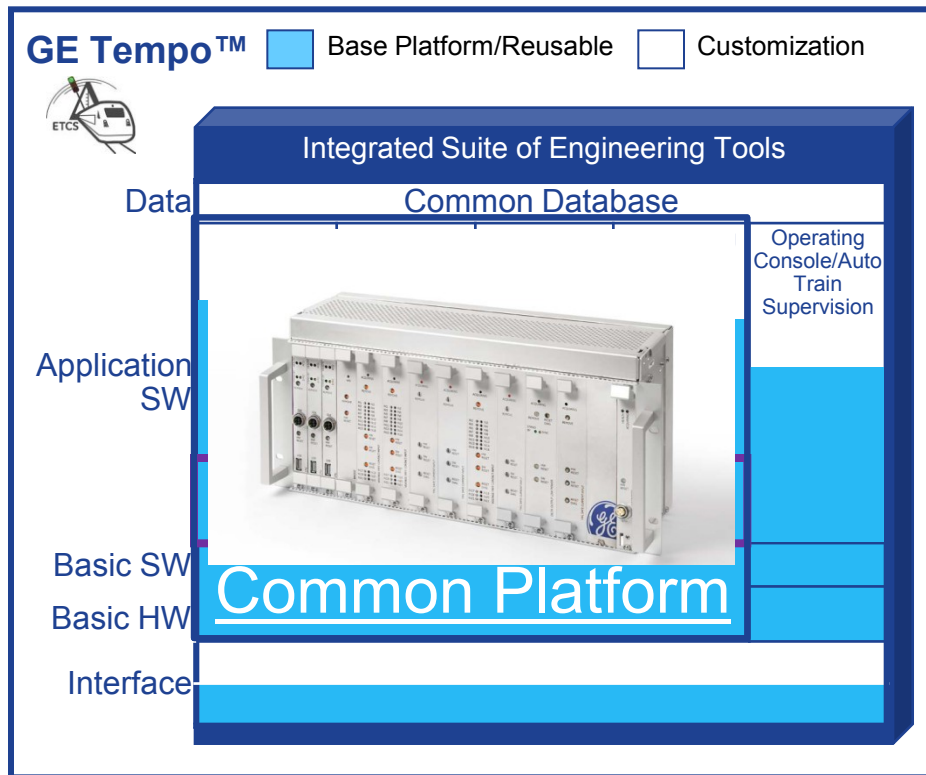
One system platform enables:

- standardized and a minimum set of HW/SW bricks
- APIs to application SW
- Flexible application SW using set of SW functional modules
- cross-functional features: Metafunctions
- Integrated end to end tools to manage entire project lifecycle milestones

**“Top down” integrated system design capable of supporting all rail transportation control functions without complexity**

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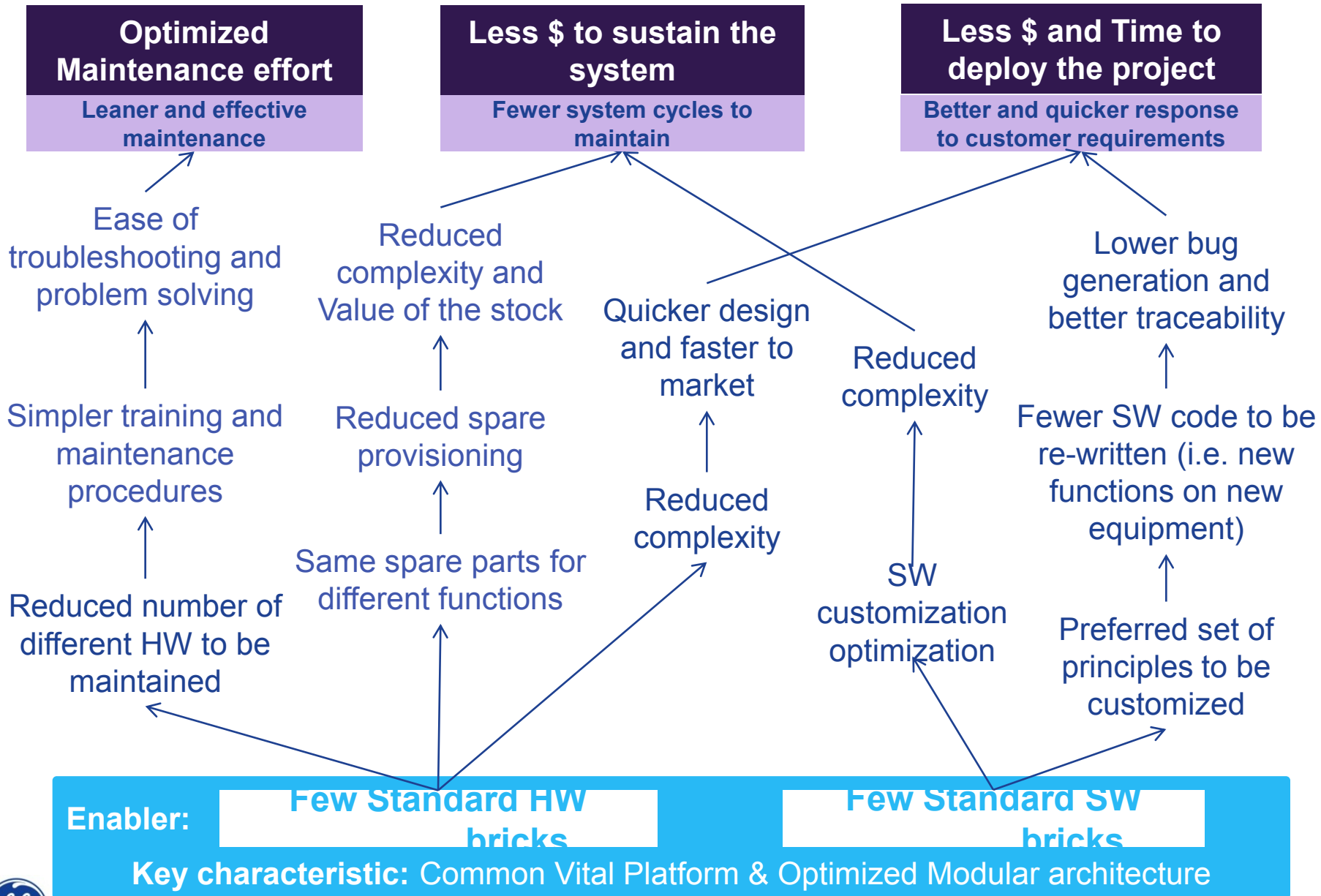


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# The value chains



# Conclusions

- Long term LCC effectiveness → Reduced Total Cost of Ownership
- Common platform- Commonality of Hardware: racks, PCBs, I/O cards,
  - Using set of SW Functional Modules
  - minimum set of common bricks
- Modular Architecture: flexibility in reuse, ease of interface, ease of standardization
- Taking advantage of State-of-the art integrated tool set through entire project lifecycle
- Environmental friendliness in mind

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