

R&M: Managing Emerging Challenges and Risks

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RAMS | Page-1

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Systems Engineering focuses on engineering excellence – the creative application of scientific principles:

- To design, develop, construct and operate complex systems
- To forecast their behavior under specific operating conditions
- To deliver their intended function while addressing economic efficiency, environmental stewardship and safety of life and property

DASD(SE) Mission: Develop and grow the Systems Engineering capability of the Department of Defense – through engineering policy, continuous engagement with component Systems Engineering organizations and through substantive technical engagement throughout the acquisition life cycle with major and selected acquisition programs.

A Robust Systems Engineering Capability Across the Department Requires Attention to Policy, People and Practice US Department of Defense is the World's Largest Engineering Organization

Over 108,000 Uniformed and Civilian Engineers

Over 39,000 in the Engineering (ENG) Acquisition Workforce



DASD, Systems Engineering





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- Software continues to take a pivotal role in aircrafts, land vehicles, and ships as well as traditional software intensive programs
- Emerging risk areas include:
 - Autonomous Weapon Systems/ AI driven decisions
 - Hardware replaced by software
 - Cloud Computing
 - Applications impact on common infrastructure
- To design reliable software, the current practices and methods need to evolve
- Elements to consider in design of reliable software:
 - Source Code
 - Architecture
 - User/External Actors
 - Data
 - Hardware/OS/Runtime
 - Distribution/Installation/Patching



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- Consideration for the types of design related attributes when developing requirements.
- Types of design activities to be placed on contract for reliable performance of software.
- Cost-effective application (depth of analysis) for reliability block diagrams or Failure Modes, Effects Analysis (FMECA) for software.
- Metrics used to effectively characterize and manage software maturity.
- Application of appropriate test methods for assessing software performance (e.g. availability, downtime, MRT, etc.).