

# Implementing Systems Engineering in a Sustainment Environment



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## So What is the Problem?

- **High-level policy is a good and necessary first step, however, more detailed direction is essential to turn the policy into a workable, grass-roots program**
- **Sustainment different than acquisition**
- **Our organization had insufficient direction, documentation, and procedures to begin implementing an effective, comprehensive Systems Engineering program**



# So What Are Doing About It?

- Instigated a step-by-step approach to begin implementing systems engineering throughout the sustainment organization
- Tangible approach that is:
  - Aimed at the working level
  - Affects all phases of a program's lifecycle
  - Applicable throughout entire organization
  - Accounts for organization's progress through metrics



# Systems Engineering Implementation Phases

- Phase 1: Awareness of Need
- Phase 2: Workforce Training
- Phase 3: Identify Applicable Programs/Orgs
- Phase 4: Identify and Define Processes
- Phase 5: Incentivize Contractors/Partners
- Phase 6: Develop Library of Tools
- Phase 7: Track Progress via Metrics



# Phase 1: Awareness of Need

- ✓ Brief senior leadership and got documented buy-in
- ✓ Identify focal point for organization
- ✓ Prepare SE re-invigoration briefing
- ✓ Present briefing to all:
  - ✓ Supervisors (Squadron Commanders/Directors)
  - ✓ Program Manager's
  - ✓ Logisticians
  - ✓ Engineers
  - ✓ Equipment Specialists
  - ✓ Telecommunication Specialists



## Phase 2: Workforce Training

- ✓ Determine appropriate amount/level of training by working with:
  - ✓ Internal engineering management
  - ✓ Center-level functional offices
  - ✓ Higher headquarters (HQ AFMC)
  - ✓ Senior Program Managers
- ✓ Ensure training consistent with other ALC, AFMC and DoD efforts
- ✓ Determine training plan robust enough to make a difference yet realistic based on workload
- ☐ Train Workforce



# Phase 2: Workforce Training

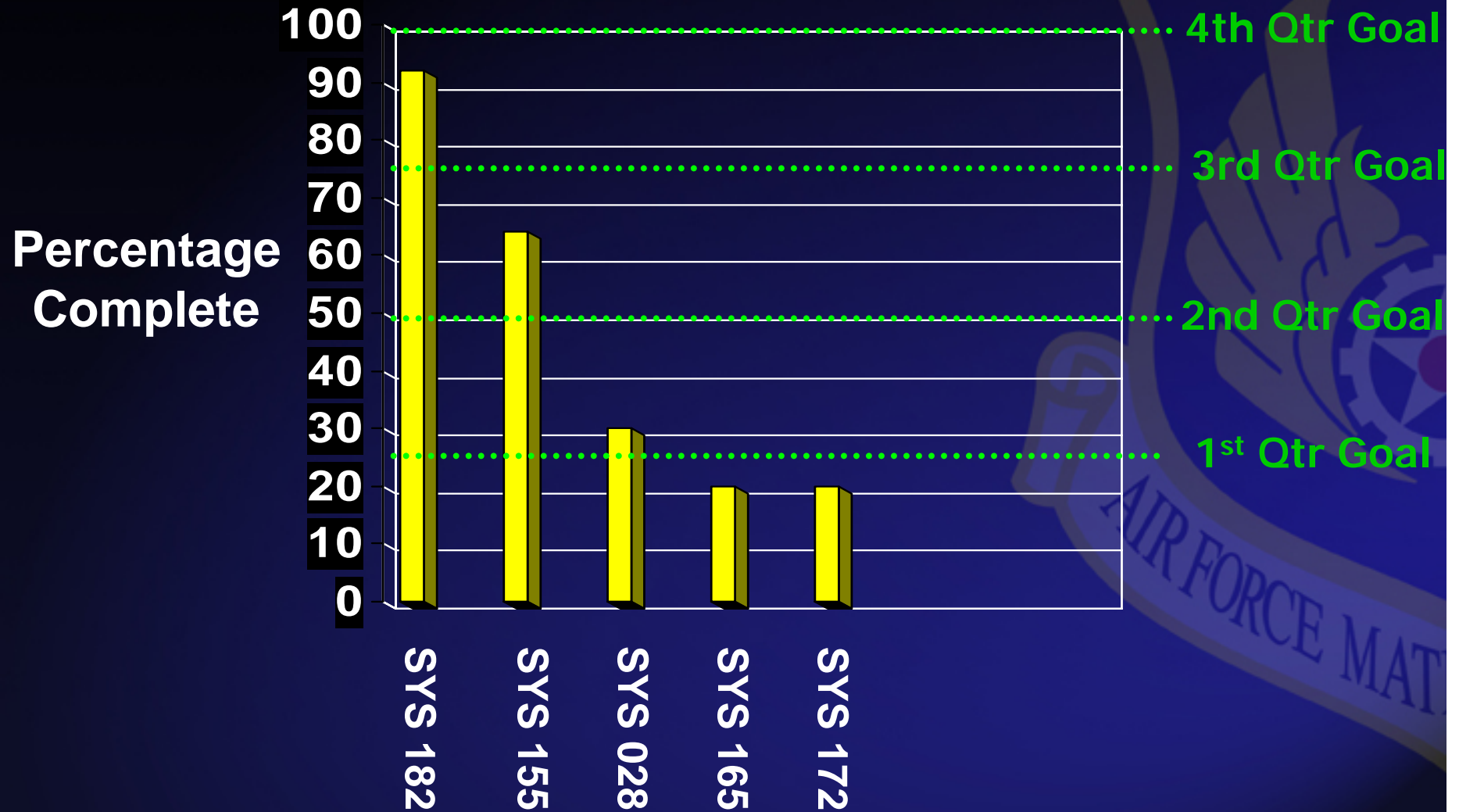
## Courses Selected (All CBT):

- **SYS 182 Intro to Systems Engineering ~ 3 hrs**
- **SYS 155 Operational Safety, Suitability & Effectiveness ~ 9 hrs**
- **SYS 028 Intro to Configuration Management ~ 16 hrs**
- **SYS 165 Intro to Risk Management ~ 21 hrs**
- **SYS 172 Modification Management Process ~ 6 hrs**

**Who: All PM's, Equipment Specialists and Engineers**  
**When: Complete in 12 months**

# Phase 2: Workforce Training

## Org A Training Progress (45 People)





# Phase 3: Identify Applicable Programs/Orgs

## ✓ Determine Applicable Programs Criteria:

### ✓ All OSS&E Programs

- \* C-9
- \* C-20
- \* C-21
- \* C-38
- \* KC-10
- \* Peace Lotus
- \* Academy Fleet
- \* VC-25
- \* C-12
- \* C-21
- \* C-26
- \* E-9
- \* KDC-10
- \* T-43
- \* E-4B
- \* HFGCS



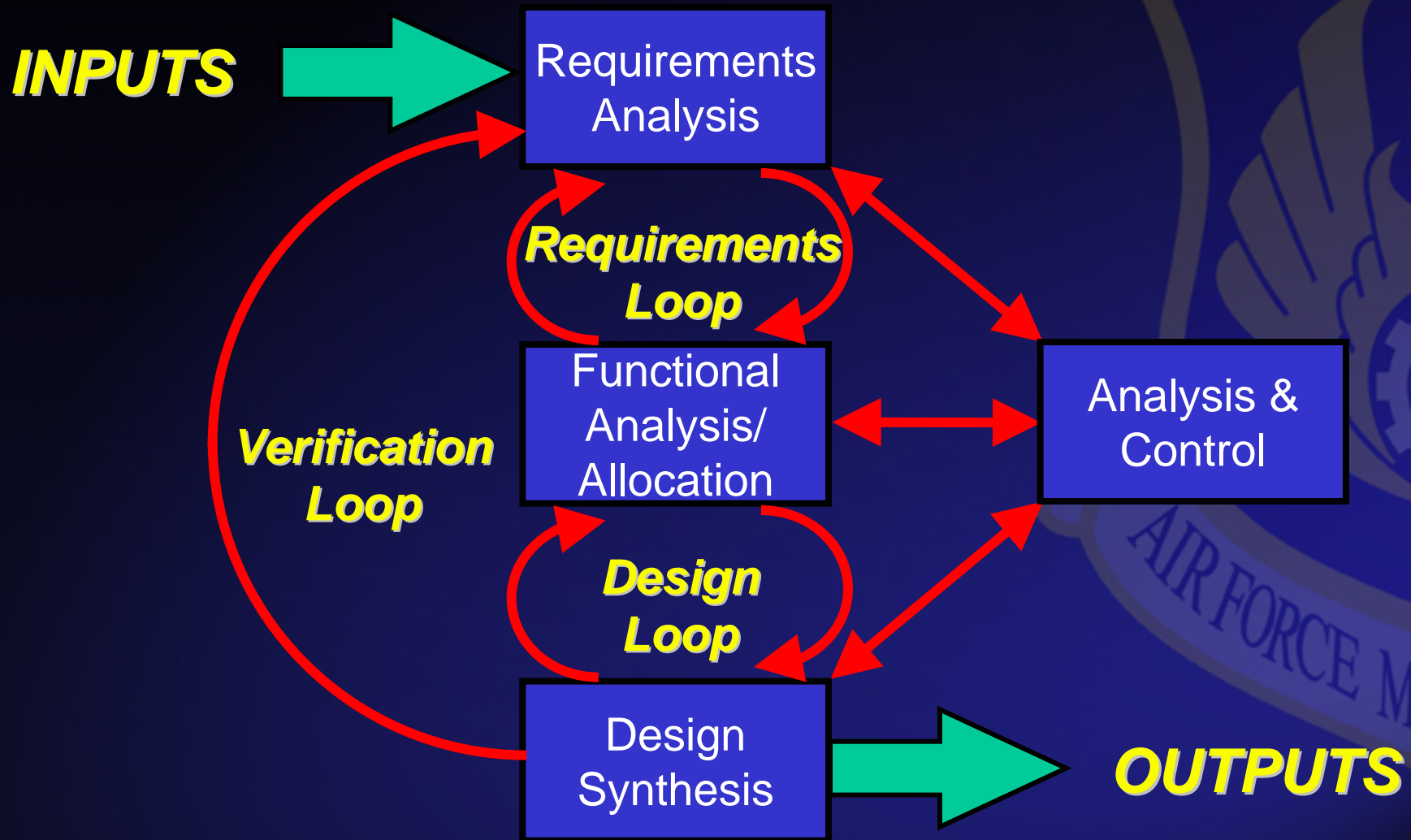
## Phase 4: Identify and Define Processes

- ✓ Ensure processes incorporate systems engineering
  - ✓ Jumpstarted SE revamp with 3 Key Processes:
    - ✓ Requirement Management OI
    - ✓ Risk Management OI
    - ✓ Test Management OI
- Will springboard into other organizational processes
- Goal to standardize and share Best Practices across organization



# Phase 4: Identify and Define Processes

## Basic Systems Engineering Process



## Phase 4: Identify and Define Processes

- Break requirements down in a Requirements Correlation Matrix (RCM):
- Spreadsheet with following columns:
  - Requirement
  - Requirement Source
  - Derived Requirements
  - Quantification
  - Initial Risk Assessment
  - Operational Conditions
- Give RCM to
  - Test Team for their planning
  - Risk Mngt Team for their planning



# RCM

| Req Title | Req Source | Derived Req | Req Definition | Quantification | Op Cases | Risk (R/Y/G) |
|-----------|------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------|--------------|
|           |            |             |                |                |          |              |
|           |            |             |                |                |          |              |
|           |            |             |                |                |          |              |
|           |            |             |                |                |          |              |

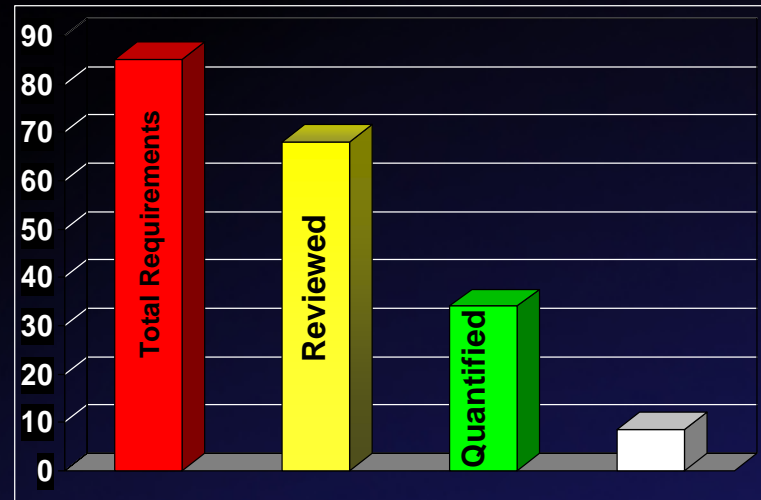
Program Manager

Project Engineer(s)  
(Gov & Contr.)

User

Entire Team

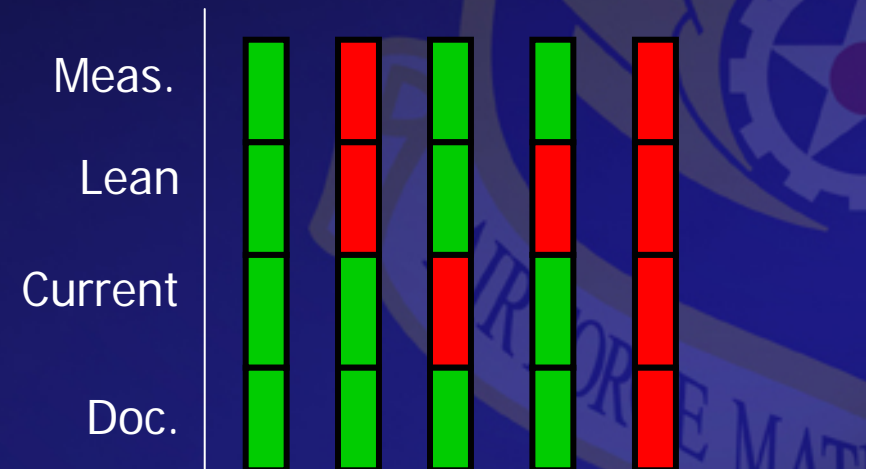
# Phase 4: Identify and Define Processes



Requirements

|      |     |      |      |
|------|-----|------|------|
| High | 0   | 2/4  | 1/2  |
| Med. | 1/6 | 0/1  | 3/4  |
| Low  | 1/3 | 2/4  | 2/3  |
|      | Low | Med. | High |

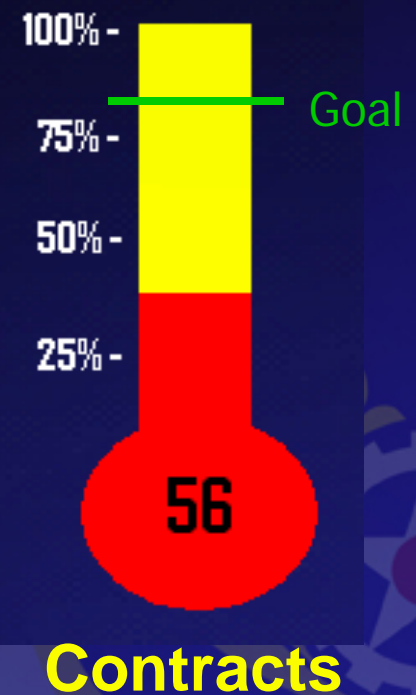
Risk



Processes

# Phase 5: Incentivize Contractors/Partners

- Ensure Systems Engineering is an incentivized factor in all applicable contracts
- ✓ List all Contracts
  - Determine which should have SE
  - Determine appropriate SE wording
  - Develop plan, so as contracts renewed, incorporate SE incentivization
- Work with contractor/partner to improve implementation of systems engineering

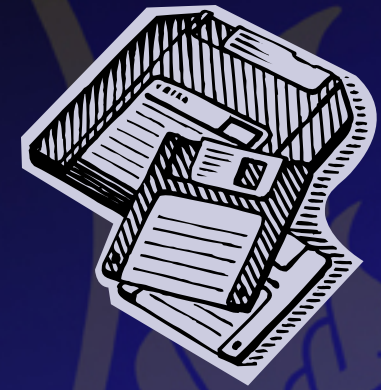


**Already incorporated in two major contracts!**

# Phase 6: Develop Library of Tools

## ☐ Need good SE “toolbox”

- Templates
- Metrics
- How-to’s (fishbone, 5-whys, pareto, ...)
- Lessons Learned
- Explanations
- Best Practices
- Peer Review
- Case Studies
- Life Cycle Cost consideration
- Contractual language
- Etc...



**Functional Office to Develop/Obtain....Not Started Yet**



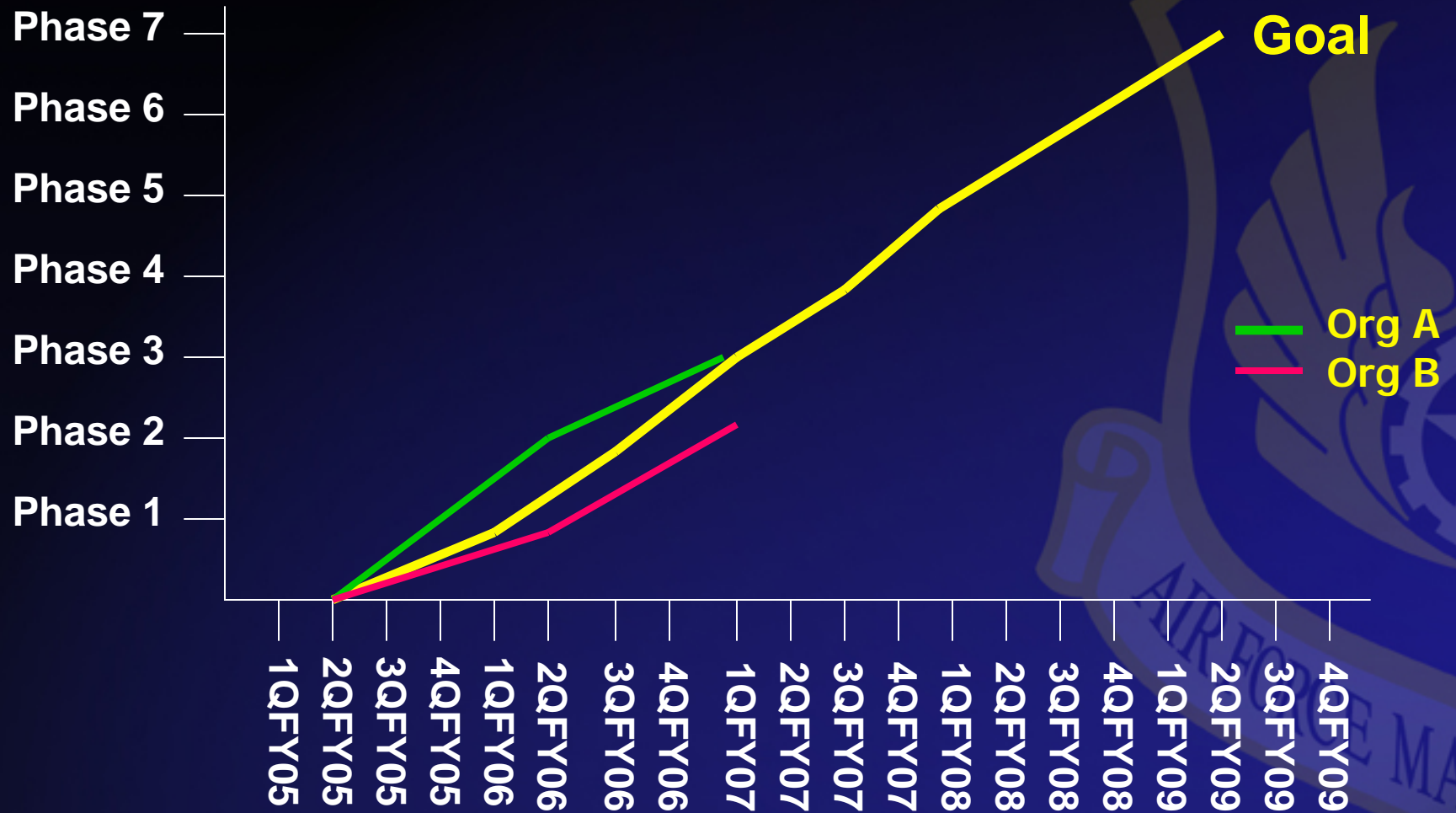
# Phase 7: Track Progress via Metrics

- ✓ Metrics developed to track progress
- ✓ Metrics shown regularly to upper management
  - 1<sup>st</sup> staff meeting of month
  - Quarterly Weapon System Reviews
  - ✓ Metrics must be able to roll up
- ✓ Metrics will track:
  - ✓ Systems Engineering Implementation
  - ✓ Requirements
  - ✓ Risk
  - ✓ Processes
  - ✓ Training
  - ✓ Contracts



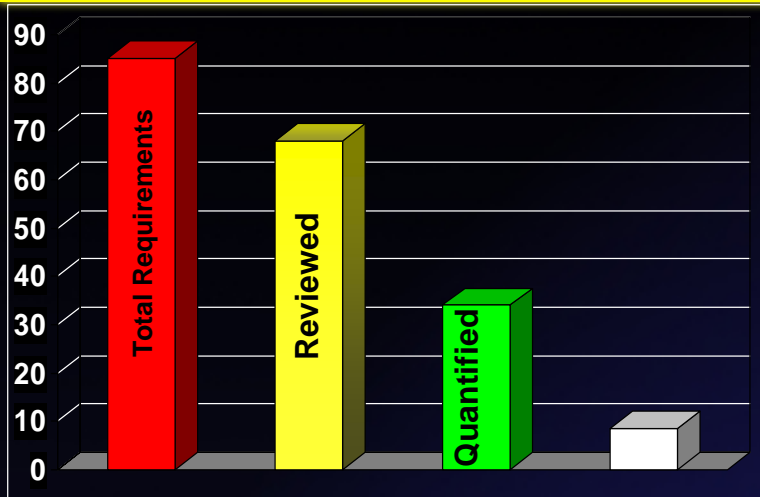
# Phase 7: Track Progress via Metrics

## Sys Eng Implementation Progress

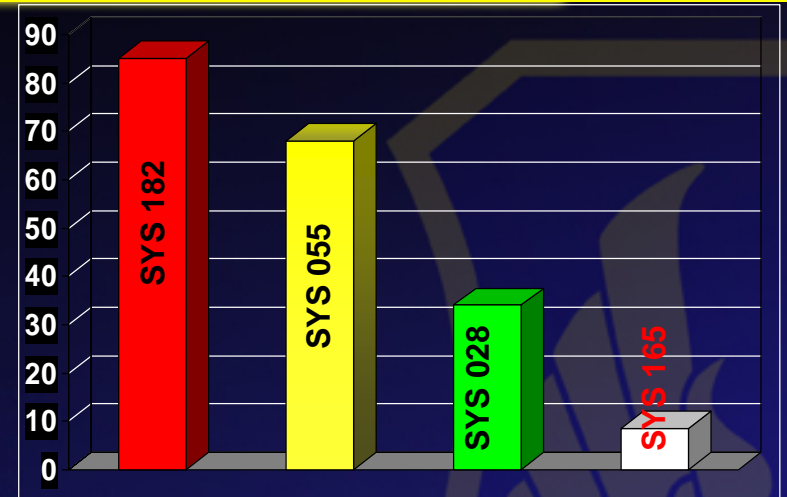


Still Refining Goal Dates

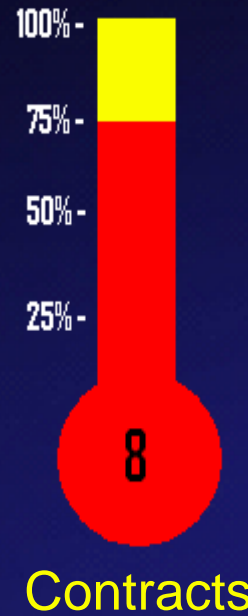
# Sample Program Sys Eng "Dashboard"



Requirements



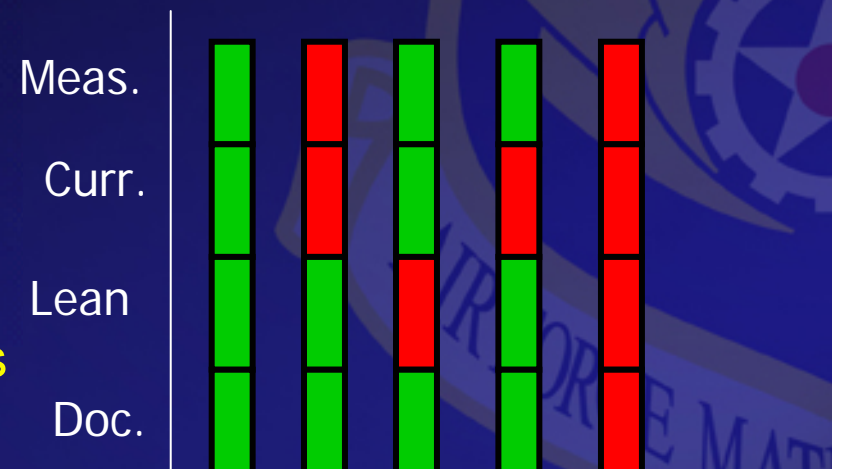
Training



|      |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| High | 0   | 2/4 | 1/2 |
| Med. | 1/6 | 0/1 | 3/4 |
| Low  | 1/3 | 2/4 | 2/3 |

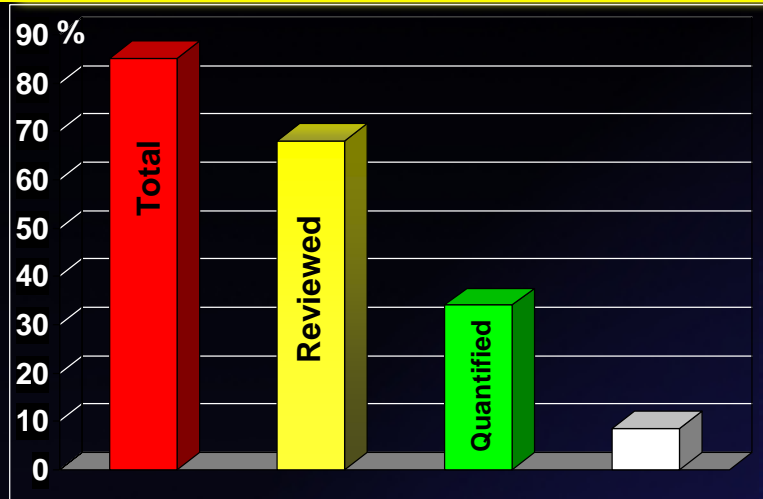
Low Med. High

Risk



Processes

# Sample Organization Sys Eng “Dashboard”



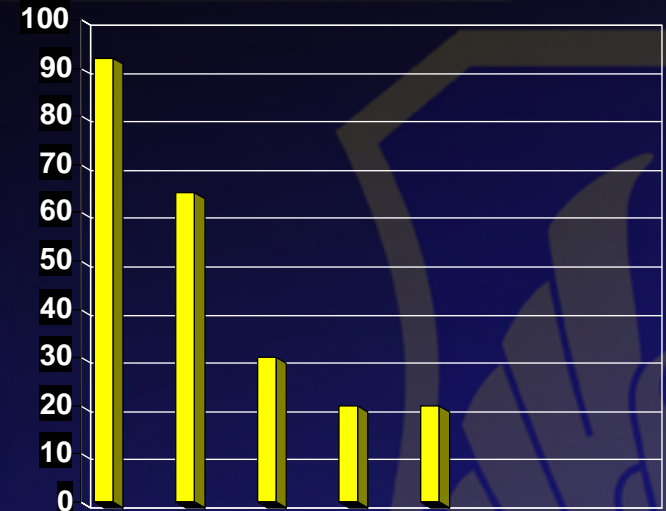
Requirements (%)

|      |     |      |      |
|------|-----|------|------|
| High | 20  | 40   | 80   |
| Med. | 5   | 50   | 60   |
| Low  | 10  | 5    | 40   |
|      | Low | Med. | High |

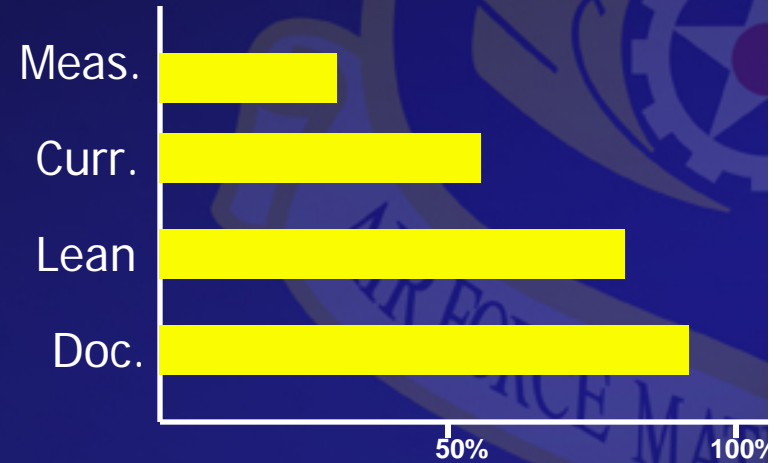
Risk (%)



Contracts



Training (%)



Processes (%)

# What's Next

- Continue implementation throughout organization
- Measure/Track results
- Increase and standardize systems engineering presentation in quarterly Weapon System Reviews and Staff Mtgs
- Start configuration management Process Improvement Team



**Systems Engineering can be implemented, applied  
AND make a difference**

# Summary

- Recent high-level policy issued
- 727<sup>th</sup> ACSG developed grass-roots means to implement SE in Sustainment Environment
- Clear-cut, tangible processes steps for the working-level; metrics to measure progress for management



**In Place and In Use Now**

Questions ?

