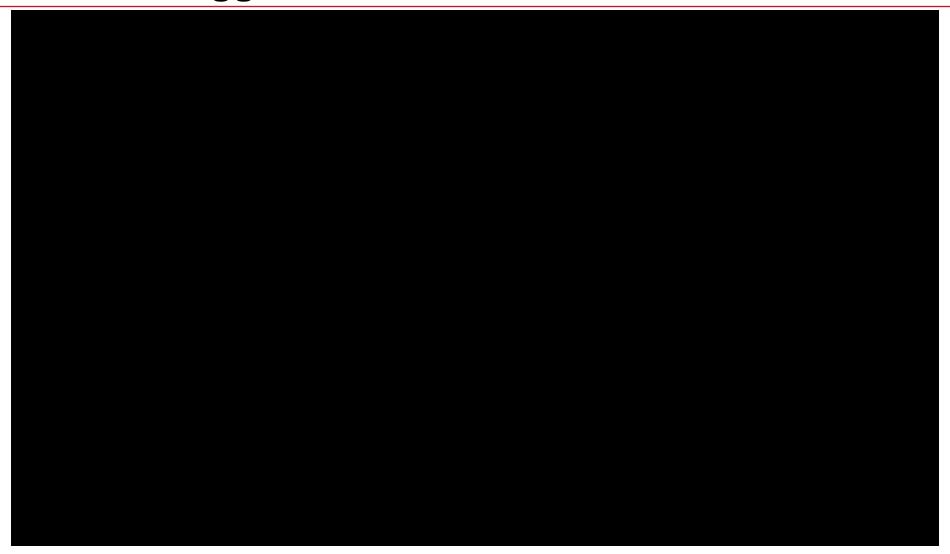






# **120GM** Dagger<sup>™</sup> Introduction



## 120GM Dagger™



- Advanced Precision Mortar Initiative
  - 2009-Present Urgent Need Effort to Expedite Guided 120mm Mortars to Field
  - RMS was awarded a Phase 1 contract
  - APMI Phase 2 contract (sole source) was awarded to ATK
- Raytheon 120GM Dagger<sup>TM</sup> GPS-only Design was updated during APMI Phase 1 to include
  - Standard Weapon Interface Compatibility
  - SAASM GPS
  - Telemetry
  - Tri-Mode Fuze (Standard M734A1 Mortar Fuze)



## Reliability

- Many definitions, a good definition:
  - "The probability that a functional unit will perform its required functions for a specified interval under stated conditions."
- How is reliability scored/evaluated?
  - Analytical Methods (mostly pre-CDR)
    - Our program conducted minimal effort here (quick turn, no time)
    - Created fault trees, use of Built-in-Test
  - Test and Evaluation (mostly post-CDR)
    - Heavy emphasis on component/system level repeatability testing and All-Up-Round Flight Testing
    - Simple sequence: Test system, find problems, fix them, test again.
- In general, product reliability is proportional to
  - Man-hours Invested in T&E
  - Number of Hardware Units Built/Delivered

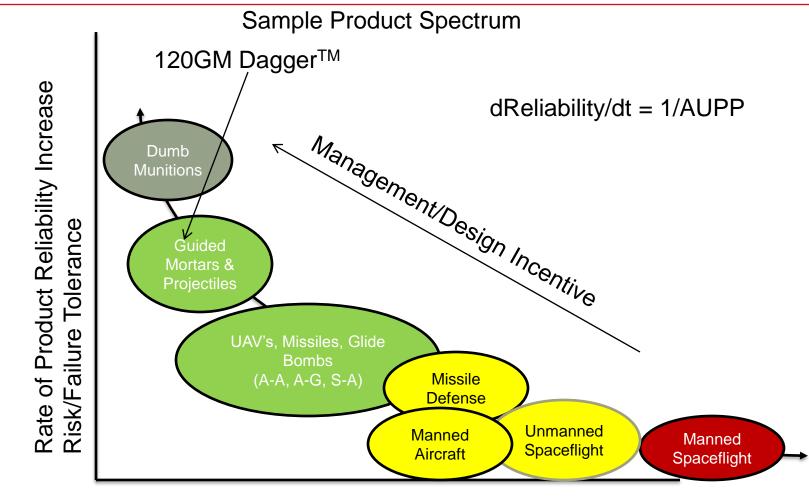


## Reliability

- Understanding and Achieving Reliability in Missile/Projectile Business can be a Difficult Problem Due to Intrinsic Nature of Expendable Systems (not to say it isn't difficult elsewhere...)
  - Long dormant storage life requirements
  - 1-shot devices (squibs)
  - No/minimal design capacity for built-in redundancy
  - Minimal information from systems under test (sometimes must disturb system to extract information)
  - Difficult environmental requirements
  - Shoe-string, leap-frog budgets
  - Tight schedules when money is present

# Complex Technology Products Reliability Incentives





All Up Production Price (AUPP), Product Complexity

Location on this curve largely dictates T&E behavior.

We should strive to move towards less complexity/price!



## **Sources of Product Maturity**

### Laboratory Testing

- Use case parameter exploration with hardware
- Software parameter exploration
- Functional testing
- Repeatability testing
  - Extremely Boring, Extremely Effective!

#### Simulation

- Some mix of real and simulated hardware and physics
- Performance optimization
- Rapid software evolution
- Software parameter exploration

## Field/Flight Testing

Real product hardware in tactical or near-tactical environment



## **Optimal Mixture is Product Dependent**

- Optimal Test Mixture Depends on Location in Product
   Space
   Dagger™
- High Failure Tolerance/Low Production Price
  - Laboratory testing as necessary
  - Minimalistic (low fidelity) simulation necessary to mature software algorithms and generate course performance estimates
  - Heavy weighting towards field/flight testing with real hardware, as soon as possible (10's to 100's of flights per year)
- Low Failure Tolerance/High Production Price
  - Heavy laboratory testing
  - Heavy work in low, medium, and high fidelity simulations
  - Field/Flight test minimally, and only once high confidence in success is achieved (1-10 flights per year)



## Types of T&E – Pros/Cons

	Laboratory/Simulation Testing	Field/Flight Testing
PRO	<ul> <li>Usually Cheaper than Flight Testing (both monetarily and politically)</li> <li>Easy to control, homogenize and selectively explore product parameter space</li> <li>Failures have minimal political impact</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Highest Fidelity</li> <li>High Political Impact</li> <li>Exposes Product Issues Quickly</li> <li>True Performance Estimates</li> </ul>
CON	<ul> <li>Lower Fidelity than Flight Testing</li> <li>Mountains of Data</li> <li>Time Consuming</li> <li>Inaccuracy in Performance</li> <li>Estimates due to Modeling Fidelity</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>High (Negative) Political Impact</li> <li>Expensive</li> <li>Tendency to heavily script events due to political risks</li> <li>Larger Non-Homogeneous, Random Parameter Space that is Difficult to Quantify/Measure/Control/Understand</li> </ul>



## On the "Fire and Fix" Mentality

- Thomas Edison vs. Nicola Tesla
  - Tesla hated the experimental, non-theoretical methods Edison used
  - Tesla was (and is still) revered for his theoretical prowess
  - In the end, Tesla was not a successful businessman he was too academic!
  - Edison did not need to fully understand the underlying physics to make something work
- When time is short, and hardware is (relatively) cheap, one can resort to experimental methods.
- Even though it does not sound as "smart" (because it is not!), experimental methods can be (and have been for us) a legitimate approach to maturing a product.
- Both men and their methods represent extremes a mix of laboratory, simulation, and flight testing is best

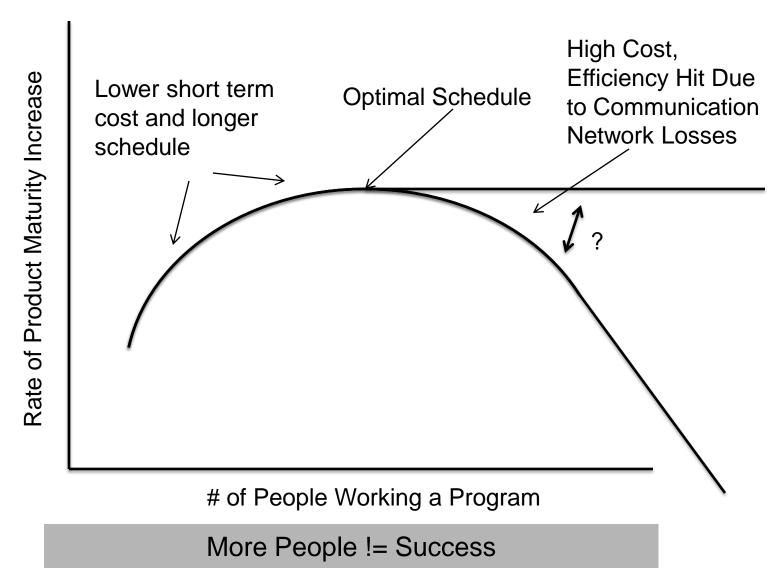


### **Risk Aversion**

- Why do we fear failure?
  - Yields Negative Customer Perception: "This Widget Will Never Meet Performance/Reliably Within a Schedule We Care About."
- Certainly, life is cozier if we never fail
- Failure is often a necessary step in maturing a product
  - We must increase our appetite to budget for failure, and build failure into (some) programs...this is difficult to sell in an era of declining expenditures.
  - Desire is to work testing towards the edge of the performance envelope, out of the cushy nominal areas, as political landscape allows. We want to understand where and why a widget fails!
  - Failure-tolerant programs are more likely to be successful in the end.
- Failure Often Yields More Knowledge and Product Improvement than Success, because Engineers are Forced to Dig Deeper
- Don't Dread the Failure Review Board Embrace the Opportunity to Learn Something New



## **Product Maturity Incentives**



## Example AUPP vs. Flight Test Quantities Economies of Scale



- Unit Cost Reduction Feeds Back Into Product Reliability by Allowing Us To Extract more Knowledge from a Given Budget
- Notional Analysis synthetic costing/budget numbers, not real data
  - Values used are for example purposes only
  - Low Quantity or Initial AUPP: \$19k
  - Notional ~Logarithmic Price Breaks
  - FYXX T&E Materials Budget: \$800,000
    - le, customer gives us \$800k for flight testing this year. What can we do with it?

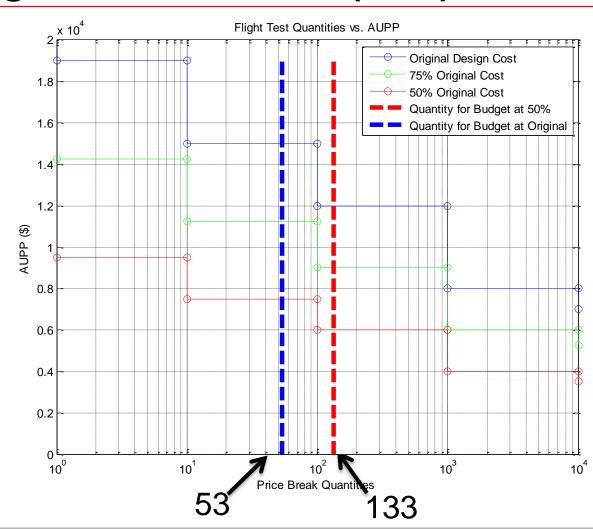


## **AUPP vs. Flight Test Quantities (cont)**

(Synthetic Information, Not Real Costing Data)

Example:
Achieving 50%
cost reduction
more than
doubles our test
articles at this
budget level,
because we hit
the next level of
price break.

Accelerates us into regime of finding/fixing the nitty-gritty 1% failures!



Incentive: Cost Reduction Increases Impact of Price Breaks on Test Article Quantities



### **How Do We Minimize Cost?**

- A Few Strategies Employed
  - Migration functionality of multiple CCA's into a single CCA
  - No wheel re-invention use of proven COTS component parts
  - Move from milled to extruded or cast metal parts where possible
  - Reduce number of metal parts
  - Phase in next generation component parts (vendor produces a lower cost alternative)
  - Minimize Test Equipment NRE
  - Automate assembly and test processes to reduce test time



#### Where We Are

#### Status

- Post-APMI Phase 1, team size was significantly reduced
- Reliability improvement work has continued on a shoe-string budget
- An unconventional first: This program validated improvements in flight test with reused spent flight hardware (shot out of a gun, impacted the ground), in one case with 3x re-use (guidance electronics only, no structural components). Third HW flight after problem fixes missed target by <1m!</p>
- We have conducted many recent successful firing tests, with major hardware components donated by suppliers!
- We wish to thank our supporters at Picatinny Arsennal, Yuma Proving Ground, and New Mexico Tech

### ■ 120GM Dagger<sup>TM</sup>

- Extended Range
- High Accuracy, Even in Moderate Winds
- No MET data required
- Tri-mode Fuze

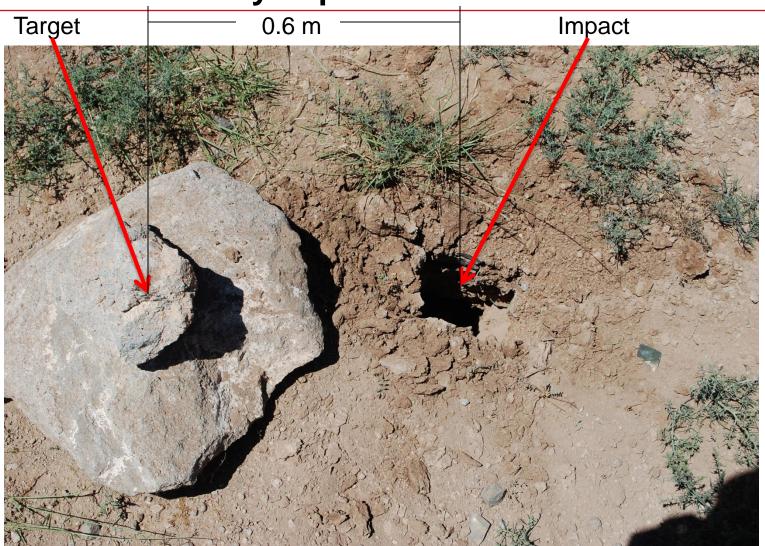


## Impact Video from APMI Shoot-Off



# Flight Test Results June 2010 Reliability Improvements





Fired with 2.5 deg ballistic azimuth offset from target!

**Energy On Target!** 



## **Conclusions - Necessary Mindsets**

- Drive Down Cost Early in the Design Cycle to Reap the Rewards of Economies of Scale
- Change is necessary to mature a product
- Challenge Consensus
  - The fact that 10 people believe something and agree with each other does not make them correct!
  - Just because something has always been done a certain way, does not imply it is correct!
  - Be the outlier…ask the question, even if you think you are going to get laughed out of the room!



## **Conclusions (cont)**

- Abnormal/variable product behavior under constant conditions, even if it does not result in a high level product failure is not ok!
  - Don't be the one who says: "Oh it's ok...it just does that sometimes..."



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