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# Product Line Software Engineering in Europe – Fundamental Concepts and Case Study

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# Outline

- Product Line Concepts
  - Definition
  - Approaching Reuse
  - Life cycle
- Case Study: Testo
  - Adoption
  - Quality Measurement at Architecture Level
  - Experience and Next Steps

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## Definition: Product Line

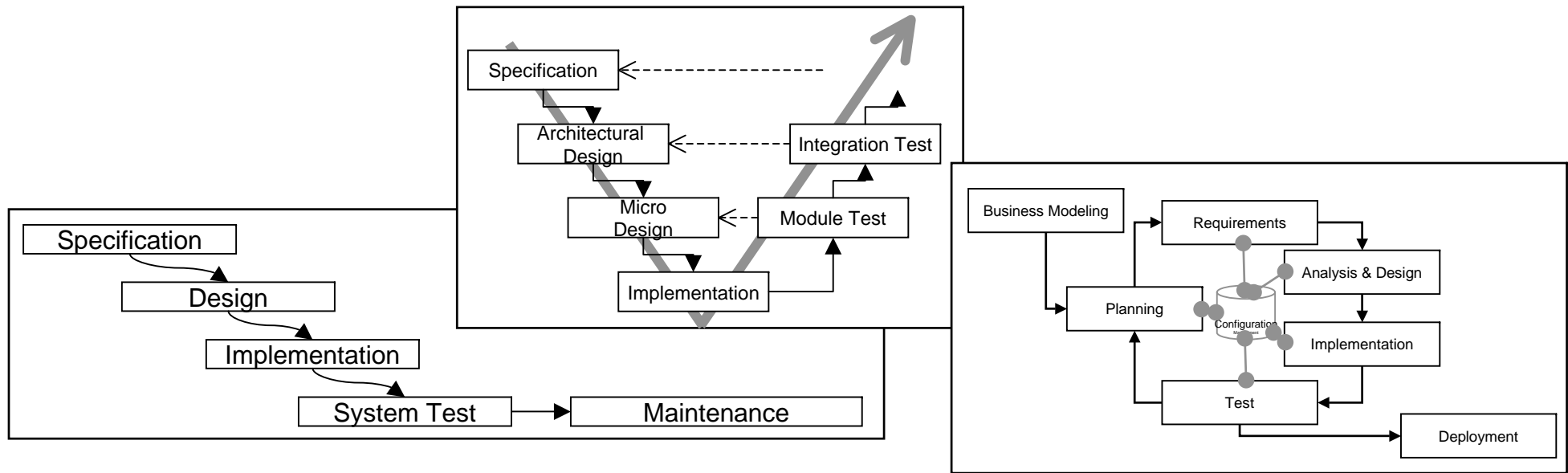
- Definitions: Product Lines
  - A product line is “a set of systems sharing a common set of features that satisfy the specific needs of a particular market segment”  
[Clements, Northrop]
  - A product line is “a family of products designed to take advantage of their common aspects and predicted variabilities”  
[Weiss, Lai]

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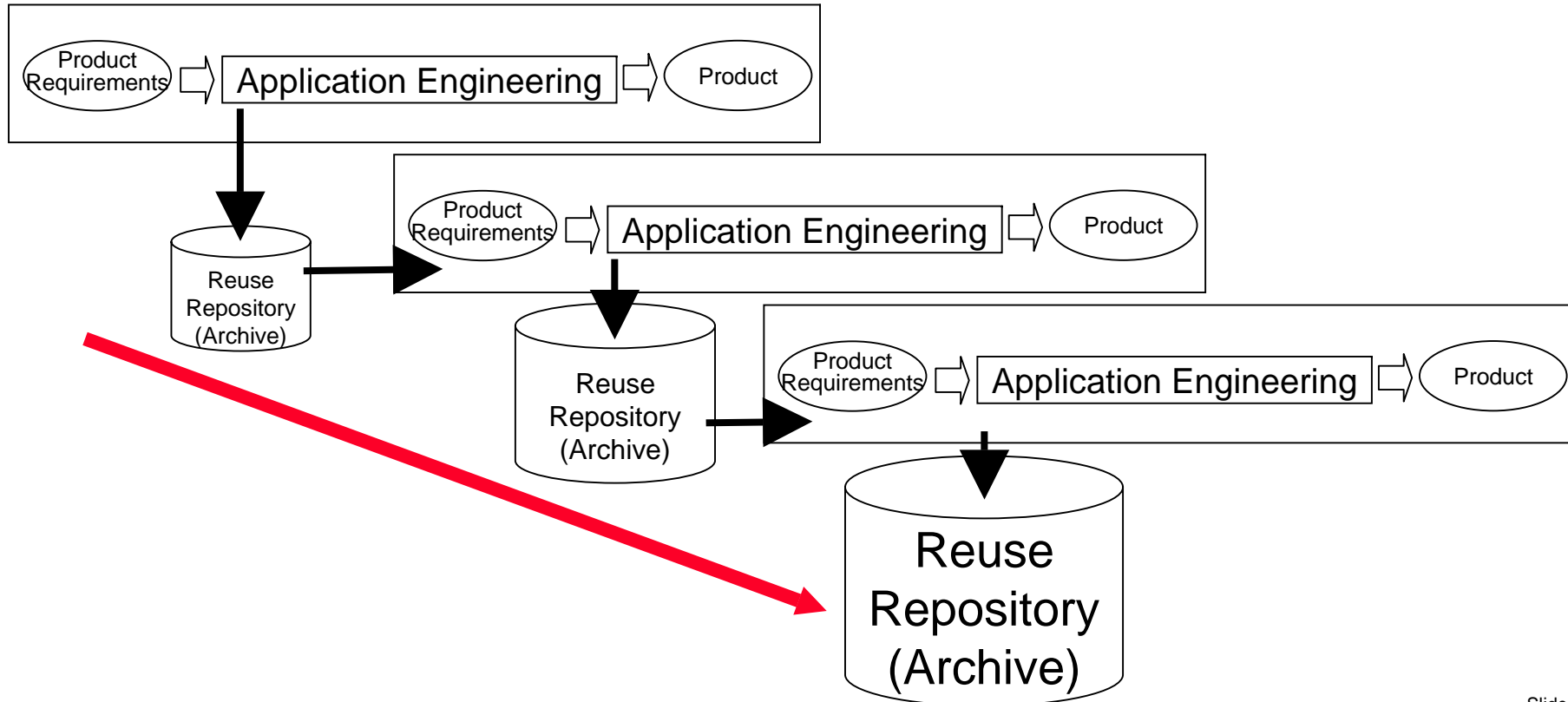
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# Application Engineering



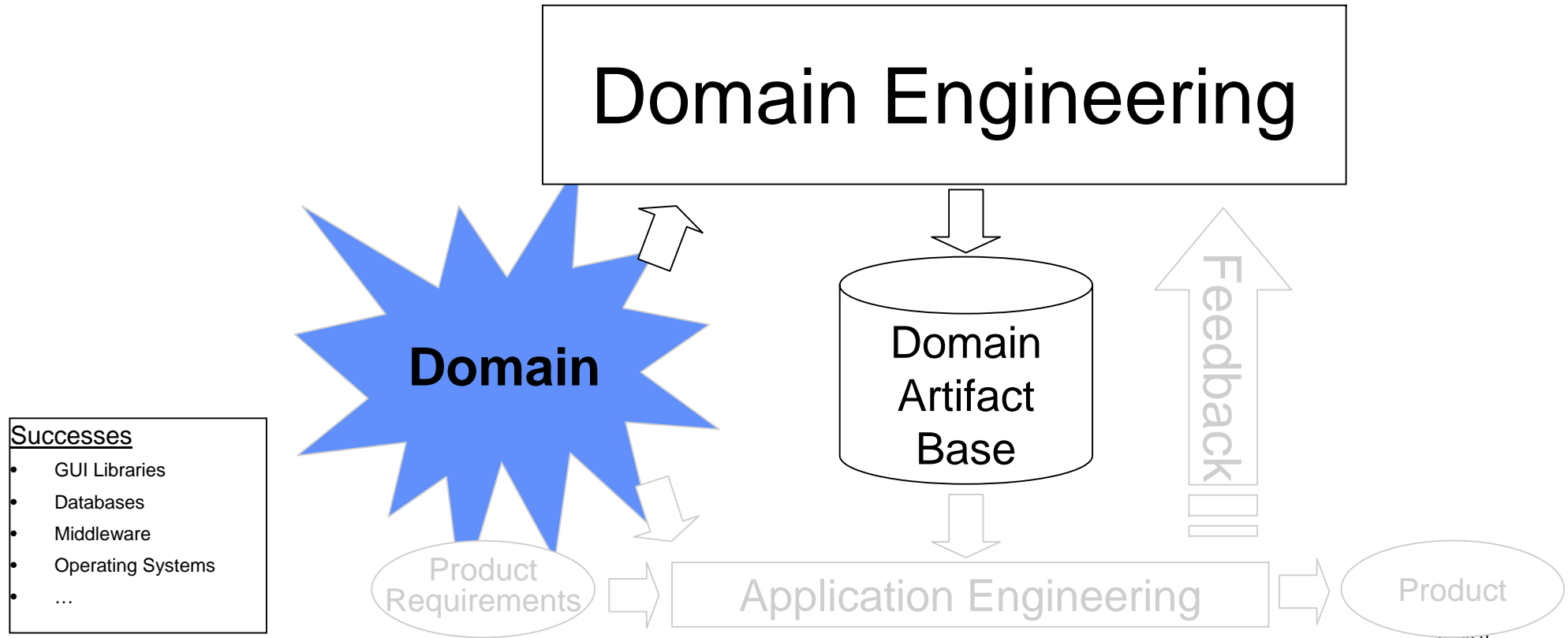
# Ad hoc Reuse



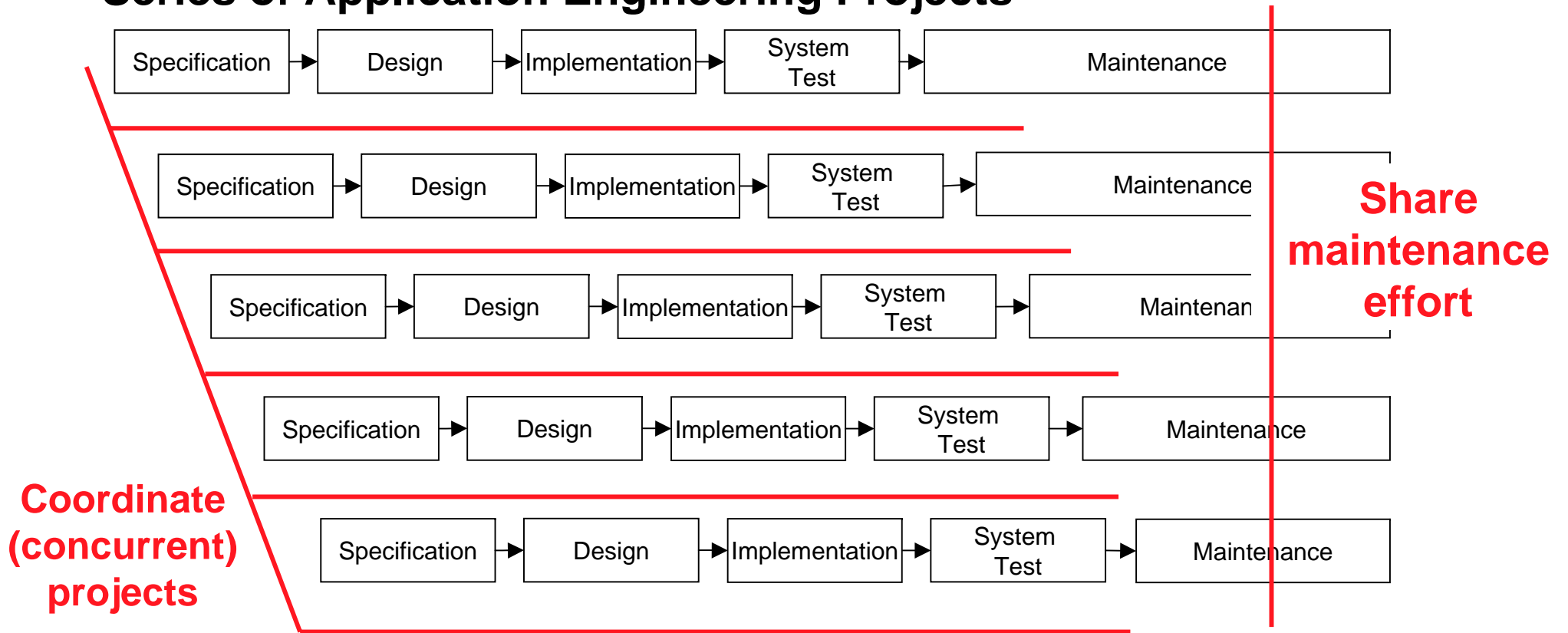
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# Domain Engineering



## Series of Application Engineering Projects

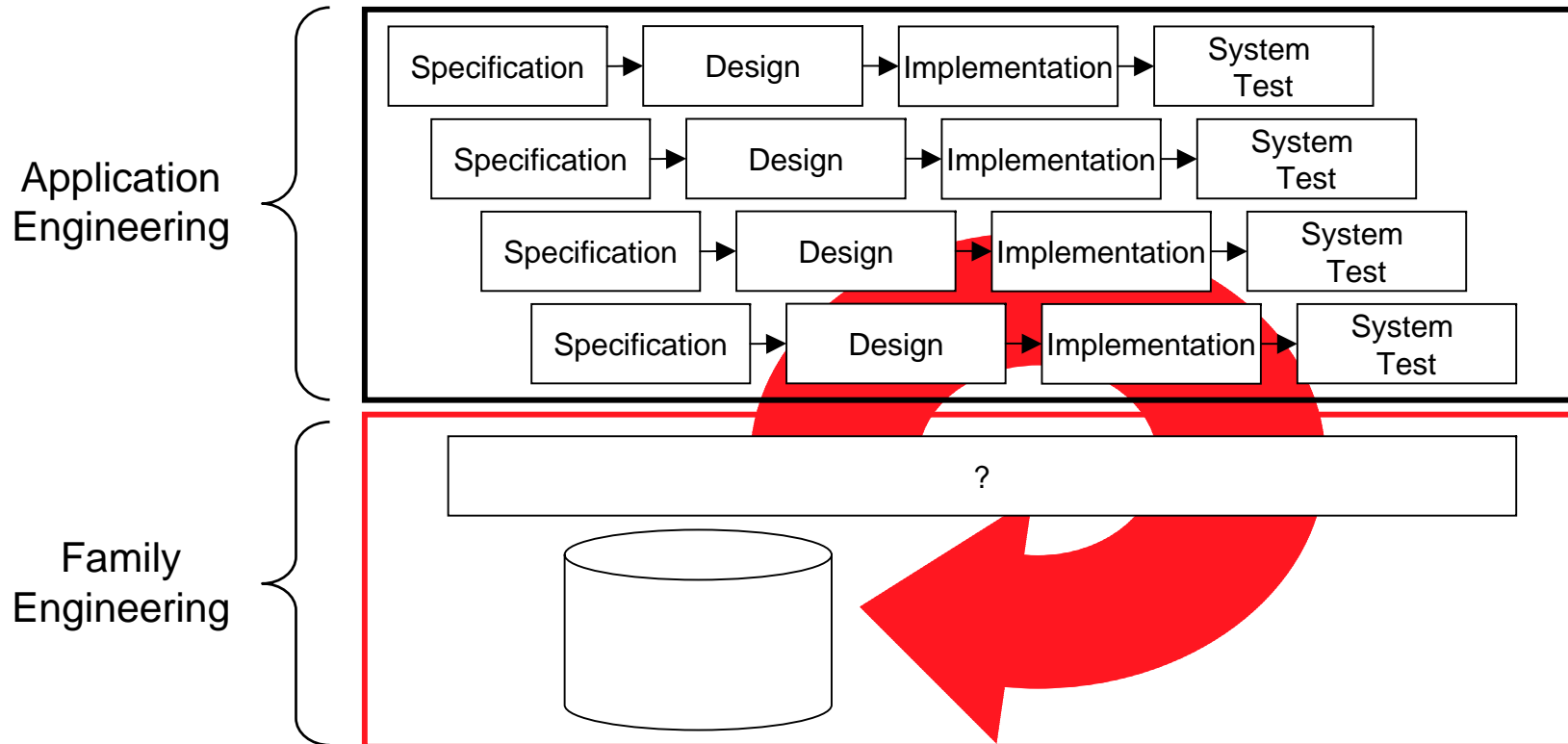


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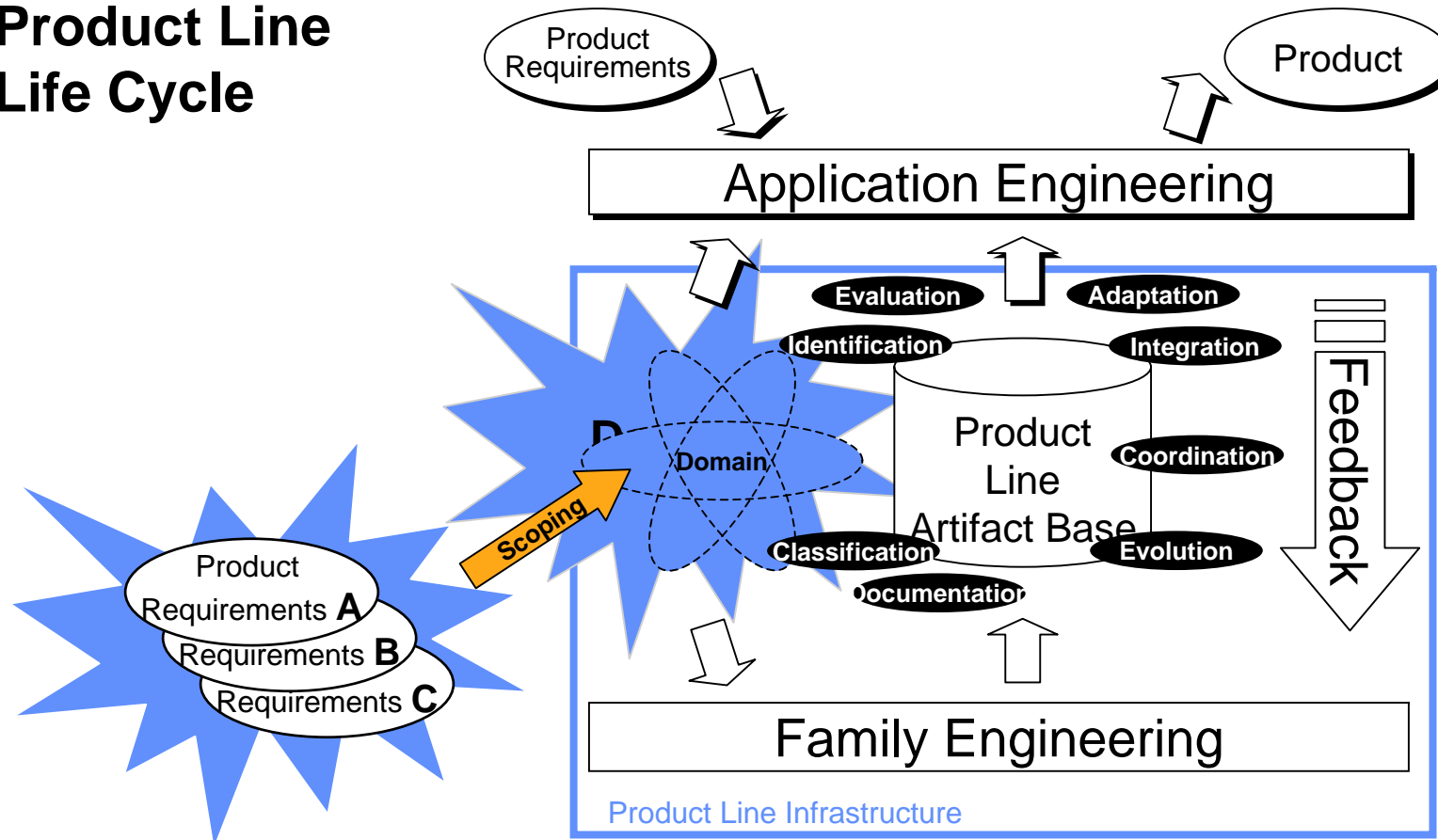
# Organizational Life Cycle



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# Product Line Life Cycle



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## Testo – Product Family

- Subject: climate and flue gas measurement devices
  - Domain: Embedded system
  - Programming Language: C
  - Product Line: ~ 100 – 600 KLOC per system
- Sample products:



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# Testo – Product Line Adoption

## Organizational Issues

Incremental introduction of product line concepts due to

- Limited resources
- Tight deadlines
- Learning process of engineers due to changed development paradigm

Establishment of a special team for maintenance and evolution of the framework

## History – Product line adoption

**2002** – Scoping

**2003** – Architecture development

**2004** – Development of first 3 commercial products as product line instances

**2005** – Update of product line architecture based on measured feedback from product developments

**2005/06** – Development of additional 7 products as product line instances

**2006/07** – Monitoring and analysis of product line performance

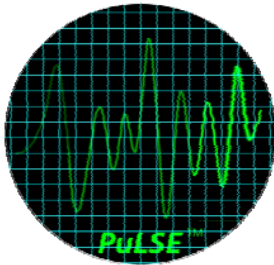
**-2009** – 2nd release of PL infrastructure

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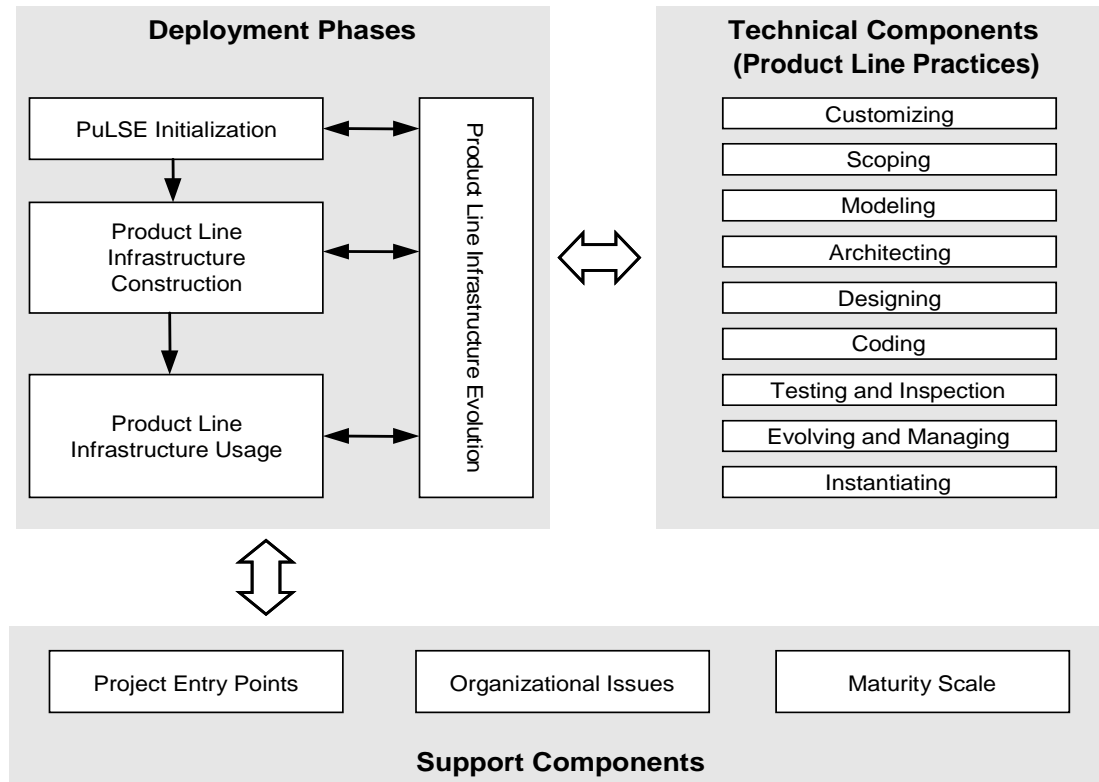
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# Testo – Product Line Methodology and Technology [Fraunhofer PuLSE™]

Applied research since 1997  
(= 3-4 innovation cycles)



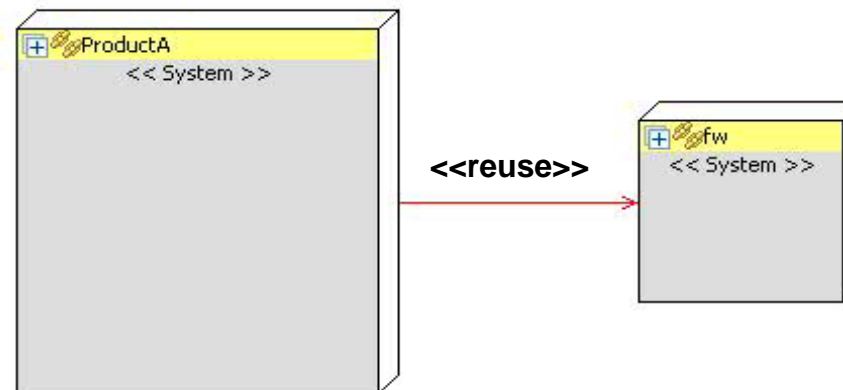
Industry Partners (selection)



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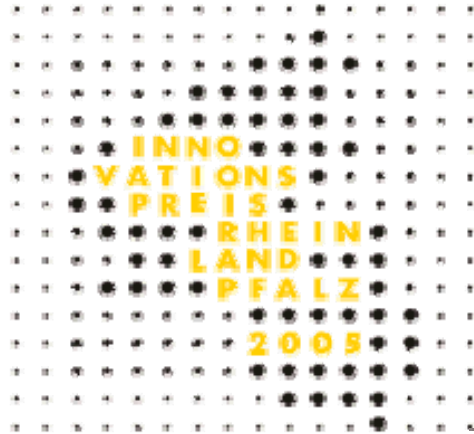
## Testo – Product Line Architecture and Framework

- All product line instances comply to a single product line architecture
- 1st Release of framework components cover ~ 40% of product implementation



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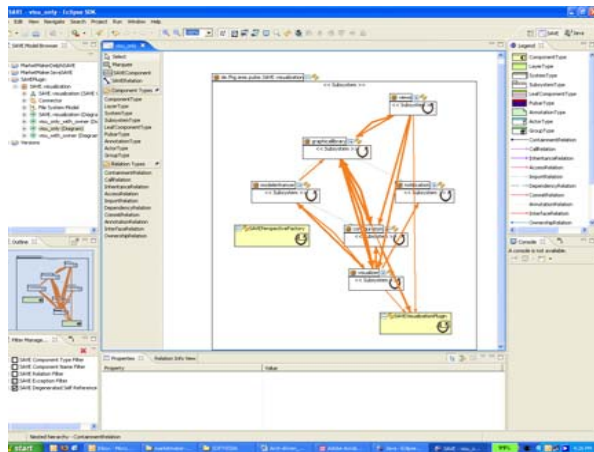
## Fraunhofer SAVE – Software Architecture Visualization and Evaluation



- Collection of eclipse plug-ins
  - Supported languages: Java, C/C++, Delphi
  - Computations of
    - Architectural compliance (implemented as specified)
    - Model transformations (lifting, manipulation)
  - Visualization
    - Graphical modeling of architectures
      - UML-based notation (extensible)
    - Exploration of extracted architectures
- Awarded the Innovation Price 2005 of Rhineland-Palatinate
  - Ministry of Economics, Transportation, Agriculture and Viniculture

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# Fraunhofer SAVE – Features



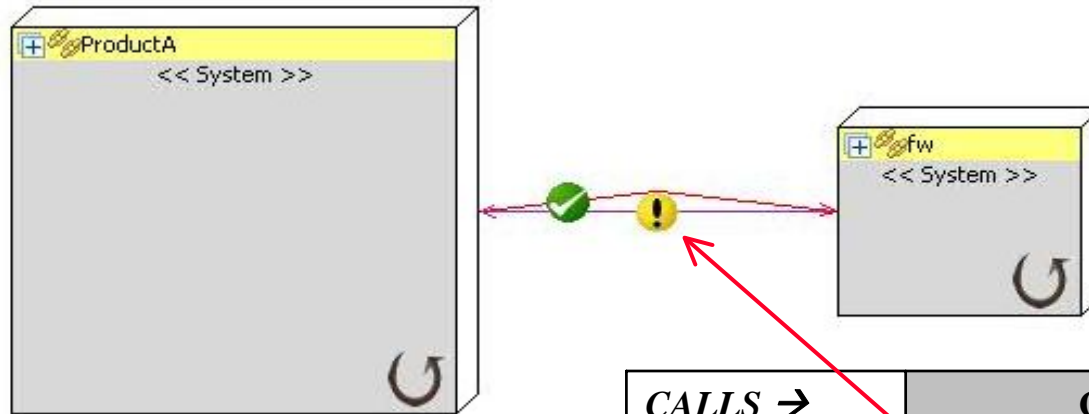
- Additional Features
    - Ownership computation
    - Rule-based evaluation
    - Visualization of deltas between two system states
    - Generic interface for multiple metrics
    - System environment analysis
  - Application Purposes
    - Evolution control
    - Comprehension
    - Re-documentation
    - What-if scenarios
- Instrument to support, control and evolve the architecture of a system or product line
- Hard connection between architecture definition and implementation!

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# Testo – Quality Measurement at Architecture Level (top level)



<i>CALLS →</i>	<i>CALLEE</i>		Total
<i>CALLER</i>	Product_A	Framework	
Product_A	9226	1021	10247
Framework	<b>58</b>	858	916
Total	9284	1879	11163

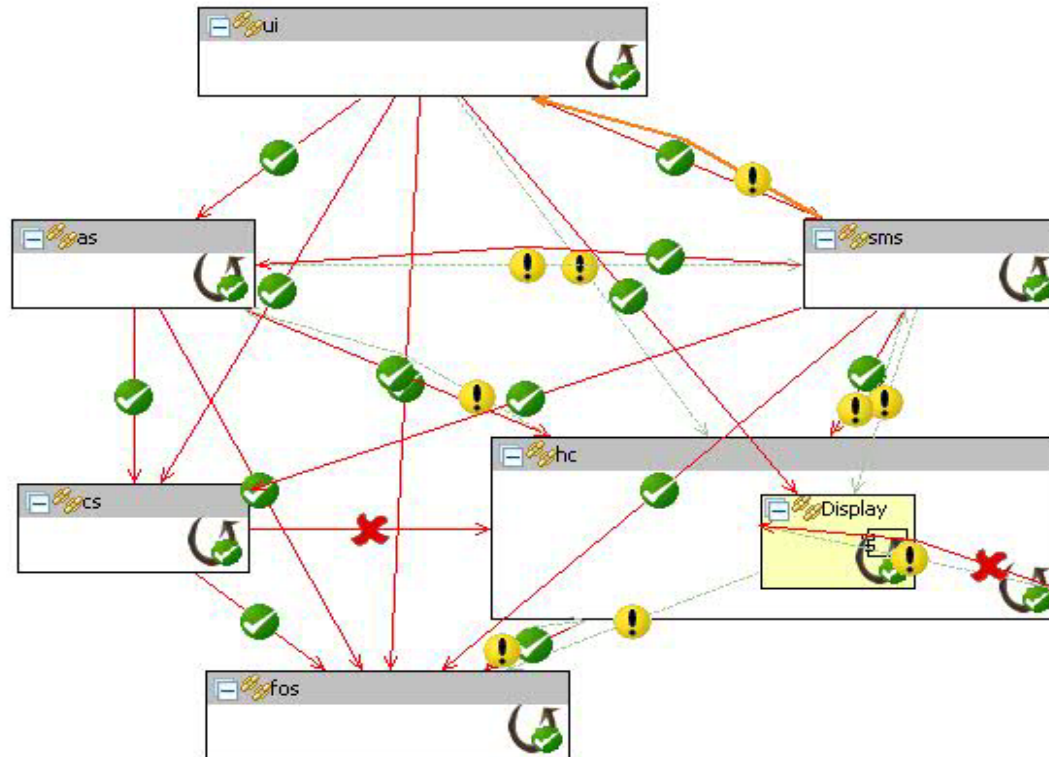
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# Testo – Quality Measurement at Architecture Level (refined level)



For illustration only!

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## Testo – Improvement Recommendations

- Decomposition structure
  - Reference architecture in place (with exceptions)
  - Improvements to framework to support the derivation of future products
    - Adaptation of either the framework or the product implementation
    - Refactoring of obsolete dependencies (e.g., includes, but no included element is used), as well as to encapsulate global variables.
- Documentation consistency
  - Documentation has not fully reflected implemented architecture

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## Testo – Currently Addressed Product Line Issues

- Maintainability in a product line context
  - Balancing of variability in components
  - Decision criteria for suitable framework component candidates
- Testability of new products reusing framework components
  - Reduction of test effort
- Monitoring the component quality for the identification of
  - inspection candidates
  - Subsystem interface refinements
- Measuring the efficiency and impact of applied actions

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**Thank you for your attention!**

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