

# Vehicle-Level Environmental Acceptance Testing in Full Rate Production

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# What is Full Rate Production (FRP) and why do we care?

- Highest level of manufacturing maturity (*for a product line*)
  - Low-Rate Initial Production (LRIP) achieved (MRL 9, test-centric production line)
  - Engineering or design changes are few and limited
  - All aspects of system meet requirements
  - All aspects of test and production in place and meet requirements
  - Rate production of system meets cost goals and is funded
  - Continuous improvement ongoing (process control-centric production line) → achieve MRL 10
- FRP is a key enabler for proliferated systems and building reserve capability (why we care)
- Historically, few space systems achieved FRP and produced at scale
  - Lockheed Martin Space history – Iridium (10 SV/month peak)
  - Near term candidates – Space Development Agency (SDA) programs
- All other aerospace sectors that produce at scale have FRP product lines
  - Within Lockheed Martin examples include Missiles (Hellfire, PAC-3), Airframes (F-35), etc.
  - Key feature: none use 100% environmental test to screen workmanship as part of FRP
  - We need to adapt and develop FRP for space systems

MRL 10 – Desired end state for all products that will be **produced at scale** (i.e., many per month)



Key Difference from LRIP: Shift from test-centric production to a process control-centric production line

# Proposed implementation of FRP at Lockheed Martin Space

- FRP shifts focus to process monitoring and control *rather than* product testing
  - Product testing must provide insight into process and design stability
  - Need a mathematically supportable sampling approach to prove that process monitoring is sufficient
- Candidate production lines and associated programs will need to meet “yes, if” criteria for FRP
  - MRL 9 achieved (design qualified and meets objectives, LRIP complete)
    - LRIP affirmed the design is producible, method of integration controlled and repeatable, and minimal nonconformances
    - Functional test program defined for each asset and data is tracked and trended
  - Relevant processes are in control
    - Identification of “Key Manufacturing Processes” (those that “create or substantially affect a key characteristic of a product”)
    - Completion of Process FMEAs on KMPs (see SAE J1739)
    - Identify, monitor, and react to Process Capability Indices,  $C_{pk}$ ,  $P_{pk}$ , etc., (see SAE AS9145)
  - Risk and value assessment complete to show acceptable mission assurance can be achieved in FRP
    - For example, factor the cost of an on-orbit failure against the savings achieved by omitting tests
  - Determine the optimal sampling plan for adequate surveillance of product performance in environments

Criteria defined to support implementation of FRP and Lockheed Martin Space is moving forward

# Sampling Problem Statement

- Sample-based environmental acceptance test (EATP) is independent proof of process control
  - Historically, EATP is proof of workmanship, consistent with staying at MRL 9 (LRIP)
- For N SVs (i.e. a lot of N):
  - How many do I need to test to ensure less than 'x' escapes? (more on next chart)
    - We developed an approach using hypergeometric statistics (sampling without replacement)
    - Approach is targeted at high reliability and “small” lots sizes (small relative to other FRP products like automobiles)
  - And how must I choose which units to test? (more on next chart)
    - Developed a selection approach that is both random and can be planned into a schedule
  - And how does that relate to mission-impacting issues?
    - For MRL 10, by definition, design is qualified and successfully achieved LRIP with minimal nonconformance
    - Nonconformance found in FRP should not impact mission (e.g., out of family perf., minor degraded performance)
    - Remember, these would only be discovery in environments. Still functionally testing every asset!
  - And what do I do if there are failures?
    - Nonconformance discovered in a sample is a big deal; it could indicate process breakdown
    - Need root cause and corrective action (RCCA) to isolate issue and determine what penalty the lot will face
      - Unverified failures will require separate focused scrutiny by the technical authority

Sample-based environmental test approach is a key feature of FRP

# Sample-based Environmental Acceptance Testing (EATP)

- Inputs into model, as follows:
  - Lot Size
  - Max. Possible Nonconformance (MPN)
    - Think of MPN as “what can you tolerate” in the lot
  - Required Sensitivity (test power) (P)
    - Probability of correctly detecting a defective lot
    - Set at 85% minimum for our approach
- Output = Sample Size

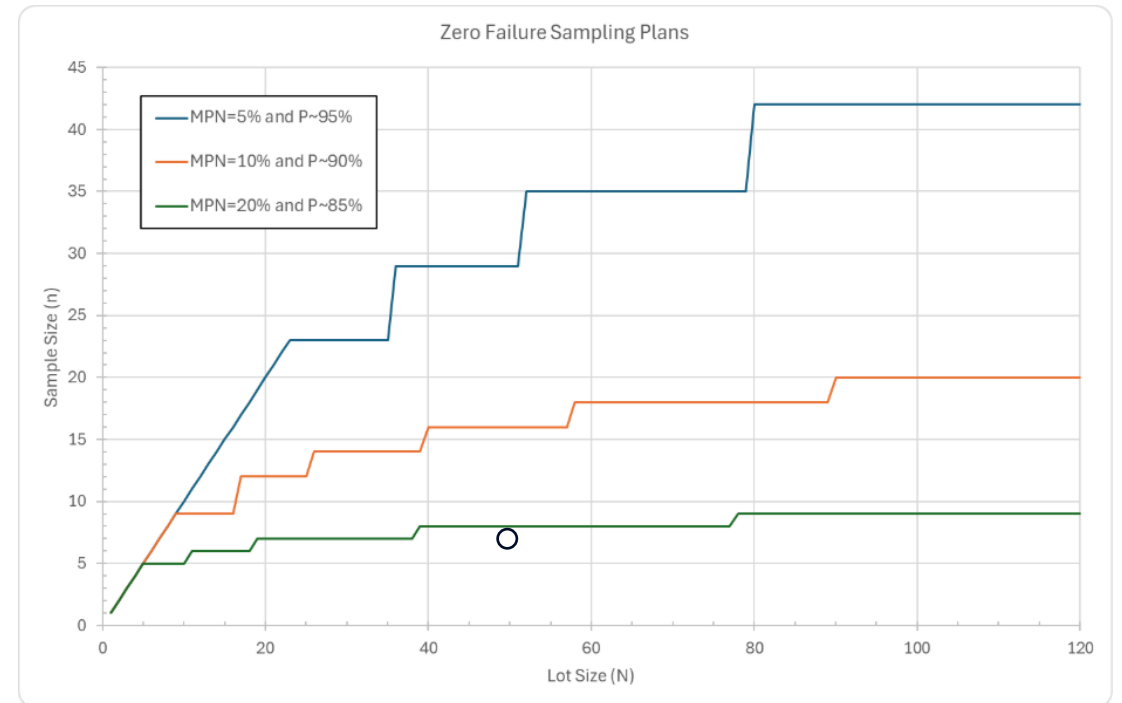
Example – A Class C mission with a 40 SV constellation will be delivered, and mission could tolerate 8 SVs with degraded performance. What sampling plan do they choose?

- Lot Size = 40 SV
- MPN = 8 (this corresponds to 20% ( $8/40 = 0.2$ ))
- Sensitivity = 85%

**Output = 8 SVs should receive EATP**

- Test cadence determined by 1) defining sub-lots:  $42/8 = 5.25$  (rounded to 5). 2) Randomly select first SV for test. 3) Then test every 5<sup>th</sup> SV until 8 are tested.
- Impact: If EATP costs \$0.5M per SV then total cost savings is \$16M. Also, significant schedule and capital benefit.

Program must select sampling plan based on risk and value assessment (i.e., what is acceptable)



Sample-based EATP produces significant reduction in test scope while meeting mission need

# Summary and Next Steps

- In summary, Lockheed Martin Space has developed an approach to FRP to implement across the enterprise
  - Leverages process control, sampling and robust functional test to reliably accept space systems
  - Includes a risk and value assessment to ensure the FRP approach delivers acceptable mission assurance

## Next Steps

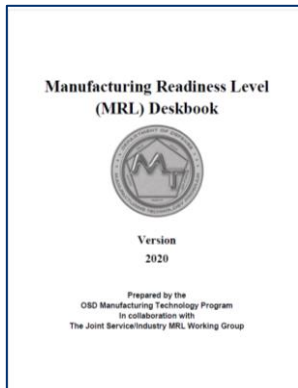
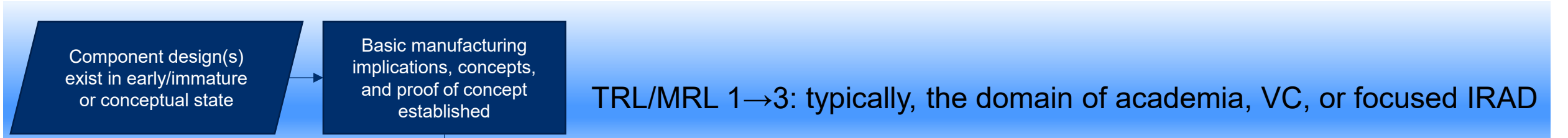
- Request feedback from the community on this approach to FRP
- Lockheed Martin Space is working to define and allocate roles and responsibilities for process control
  - Ensure that we can support and execute the requisite process control program

Lockheed Martin believes the industry needs to adopt risk-appropriate MRL 10 imperatives to enable FRP

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# Back Up

# Not an abstraction, MRL is associated with a specific product!

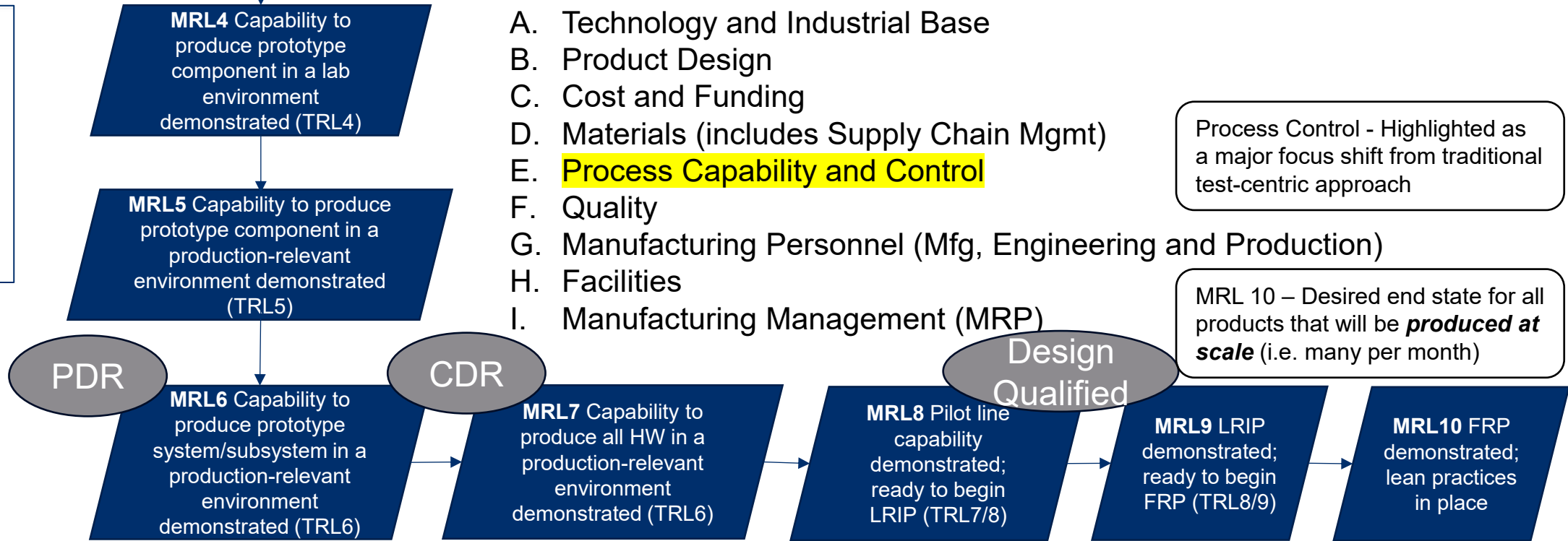


DoD MRL Deskbook defines 9 “threads”:

- A. Technology and Industrial Base
- B. Product Design
- C. Cost and Funding
- D. Materials (includes Supply Chain Mgmt)
- E. **Process Capability and Control**
- F. Quality
- G. Manufacturing Personnel (Mfg, Engineering and Production)
- H. Facilities
- I. Manufacturing Management (MRP)

Process Control - Highlighted as a major focus shift from traditional test-centric approach

MRL 10 – Desired end state for all products that will be **produced at scale** (i.e. many per month)



Full Rate Production requires achieving MRL 10; MRL 10 enables production at scale