Applications of Concurrent Engineering (CE) in Wind Turbine Design

John Leahey
Composite Design Engineer
Vestas Turbines R&D

Leahey.John@gmail.com

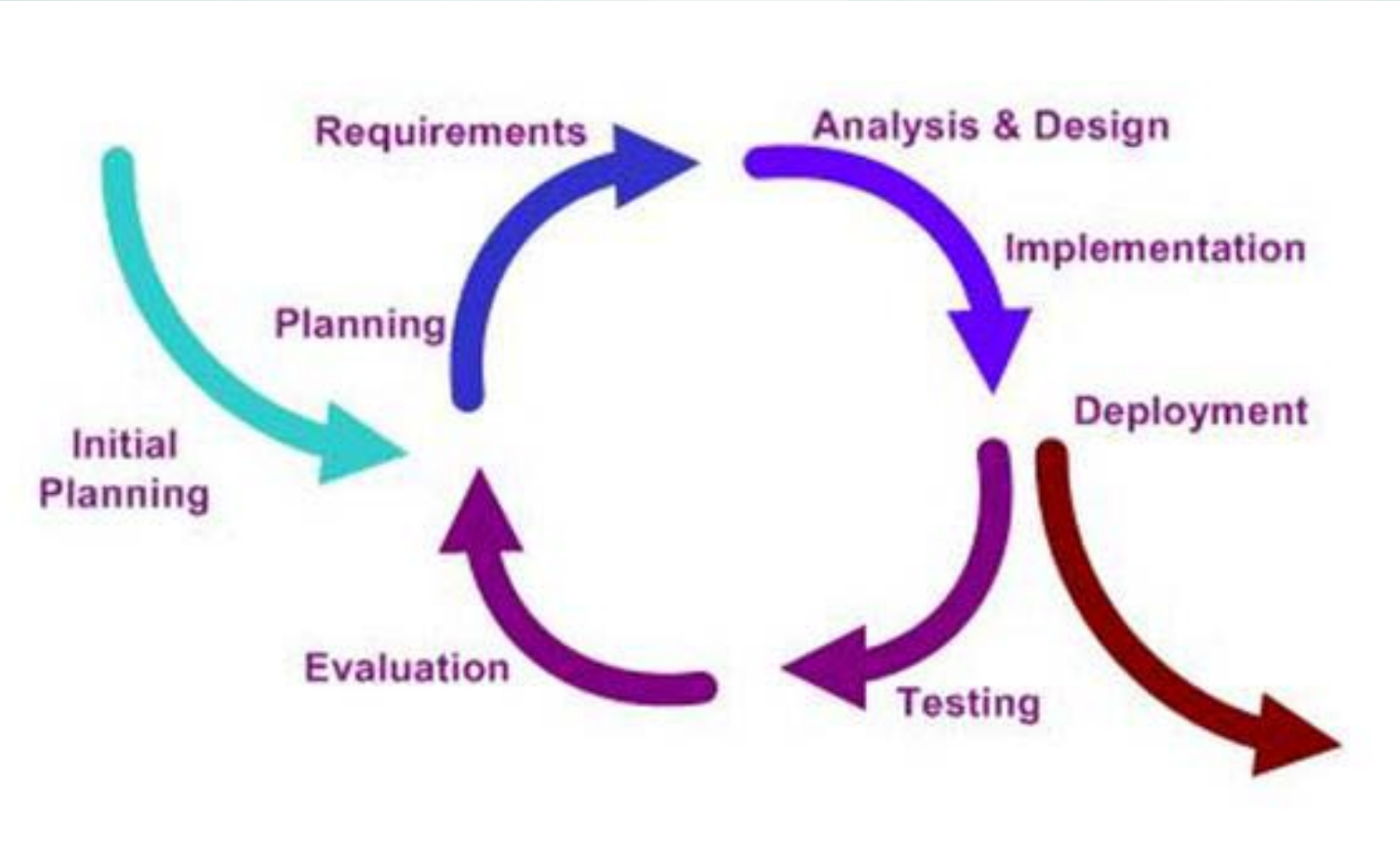
Agenda

1. What is Concurrent Engineering (CE)?
2. Why consider adopting CE?
3. How do you implement CE?

What is CE?

What is CE – Holistic Design Process

<u>Concurrent Engineering</u>: The integrated design of products and processes, including manufacture and support.



What is CE – Holistic Design Process

<u>Concurrent Engineering</u>: The integrated design of products and processes, including manufacture and support.

Historical Examples → Naturally Concurrent

- Small, integrated teams
- Broadly experienced leadership

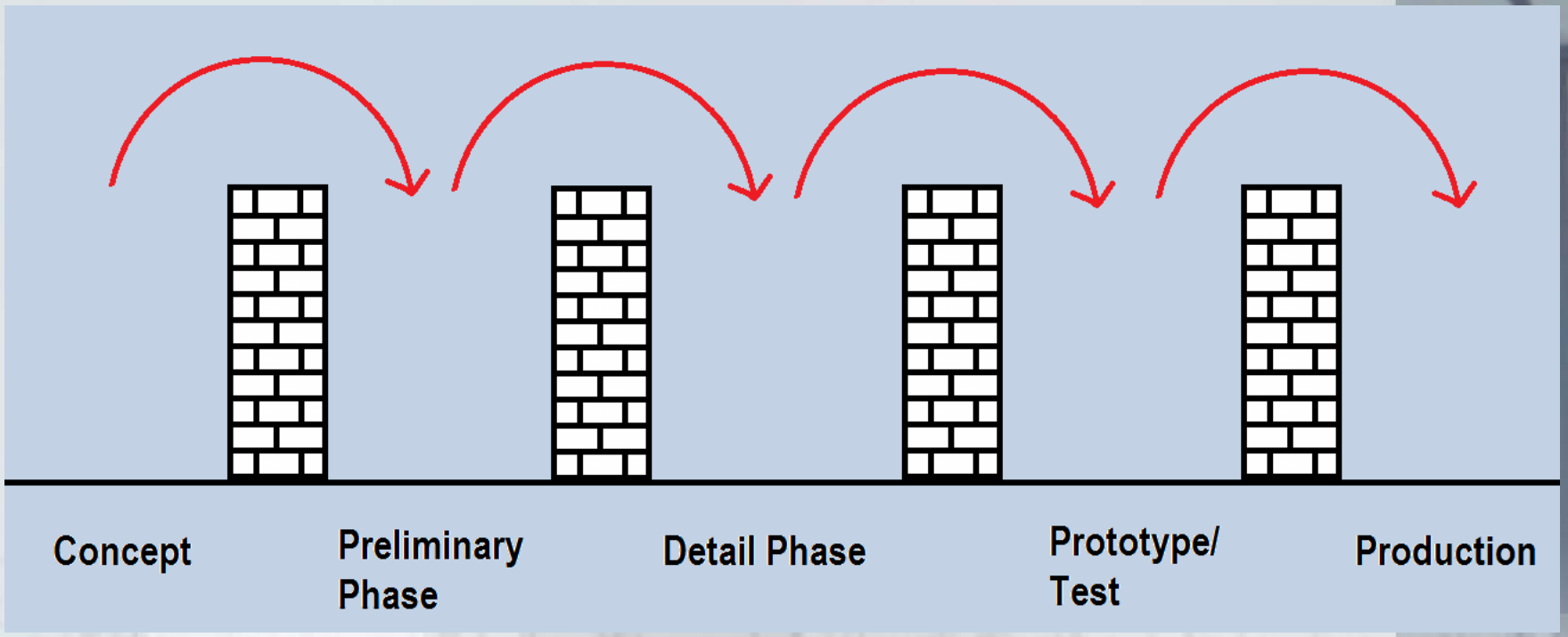
CE versus Typical Methods

"Over-the-wall" Engineering

- Sequential Engineering (SE), Serial Design, Waterfall Engineering

Why Sequential Engineering?

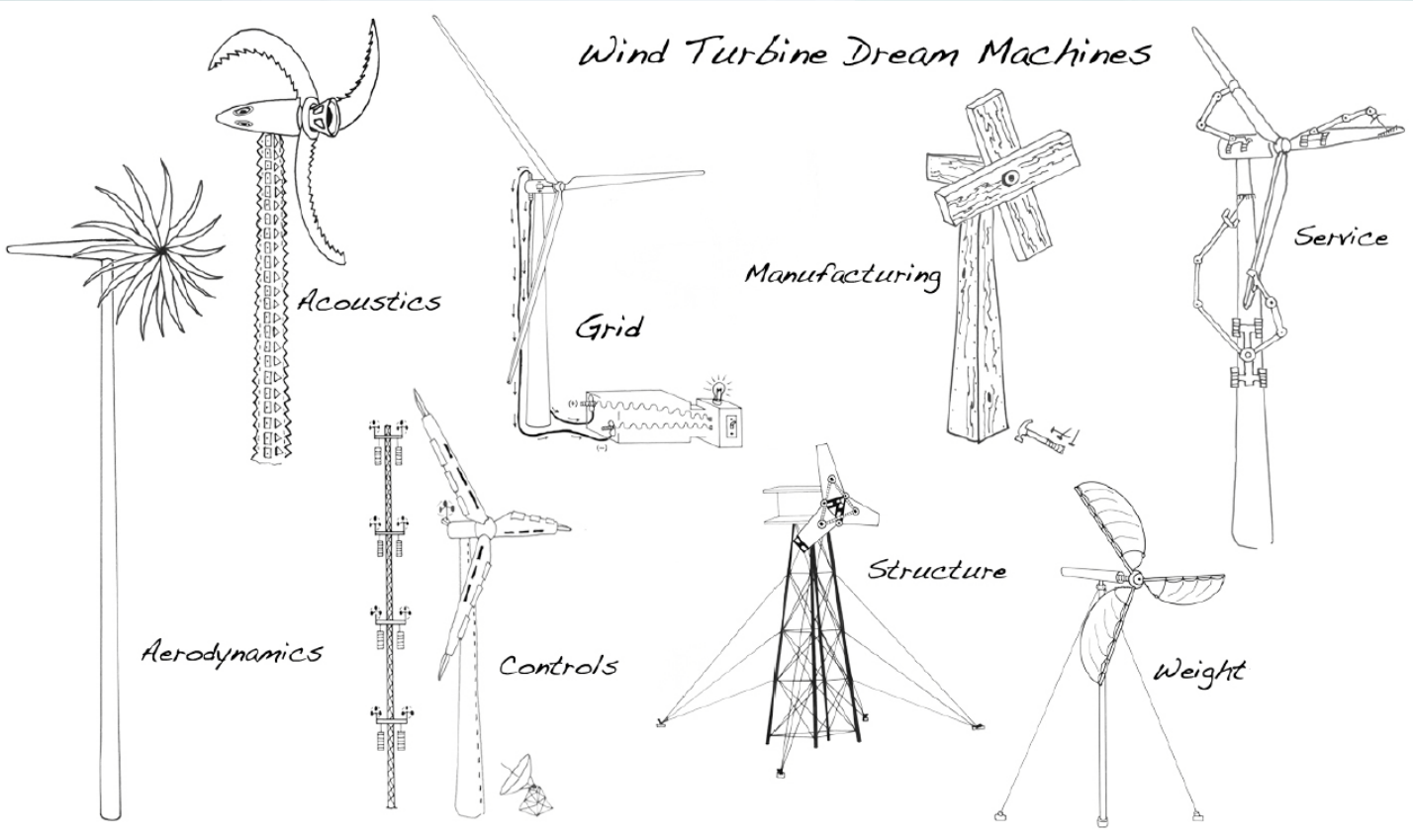
- Dispersed Supply Chain → Drift to SE methods in Post WWII era



CE versus Systems Engineering & MDAO?

<u>Systems Engineering</u> – Can be Serial or Concurrent

- Can "fall down" at sub-assembly or component design



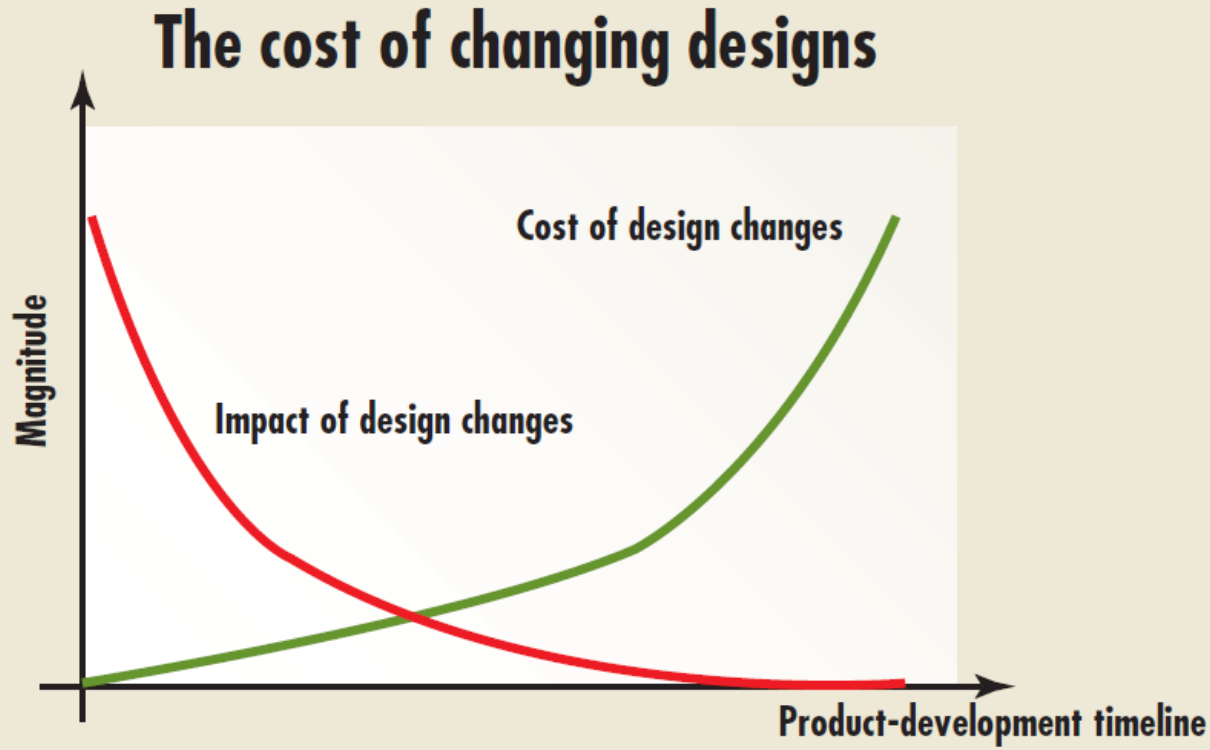
<u>MDAO (Muli-Disciplinary Analysis & Optimization)</u> – CE Subset

- Stitches together multi-disciplinary tools
- What about <u>people</u>?

Why consider CE?

Why CE – Costs Committed Before Design Understood

Sequential Engineering Problems



Most design costs are committed during preliminary design, even though little is typically known about a design at this stage, according to a study by Boeing during the 1960s. As design moves from concept towards production, redesign costs skyrocket while flexibility plummets.

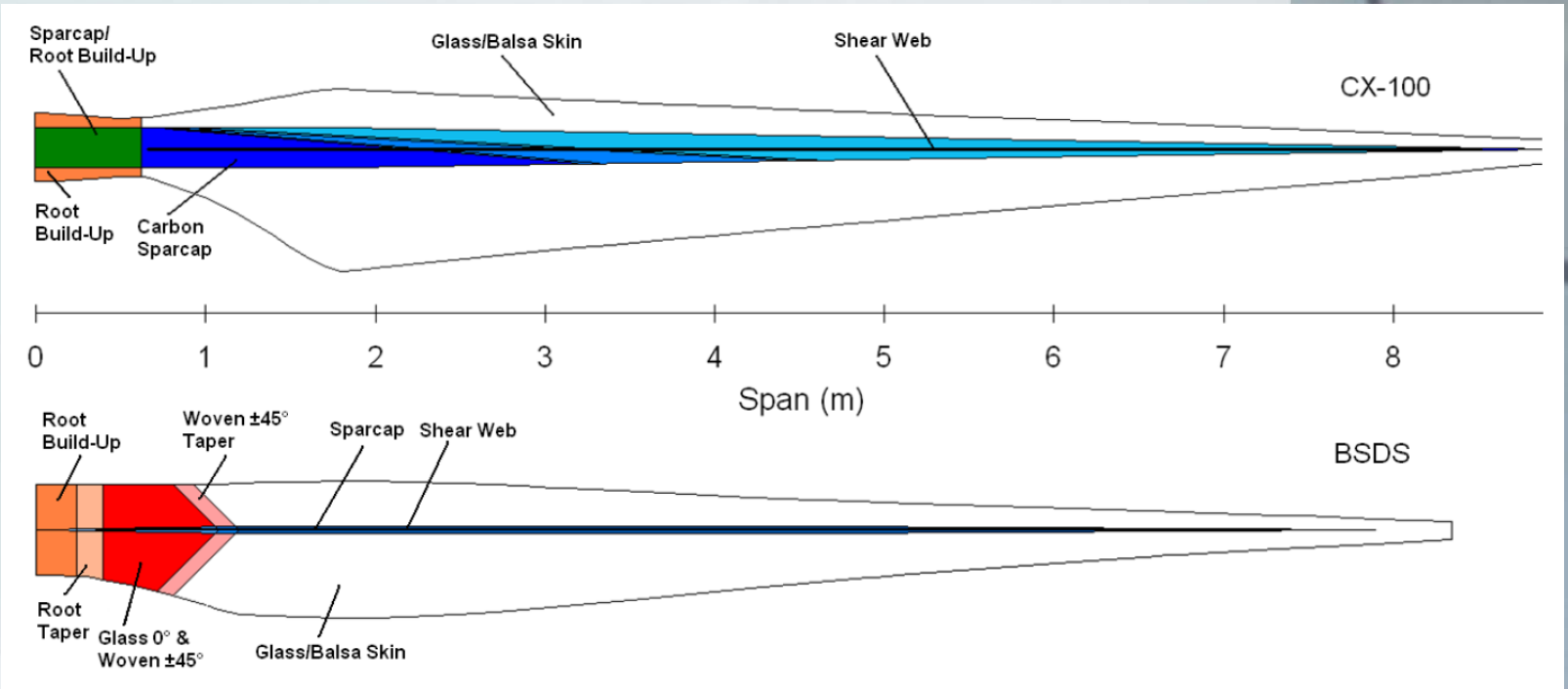
Why CE – BSDS Blade Example

<u>BSDS</u> – NREL/Sandia Blade System Design Study

- http://energy.sandia.gov/?page_id=3057#BSDS

<u>CX-100</u>
Sequential
Design

<u>BSDS</u>
Concurrent
Design



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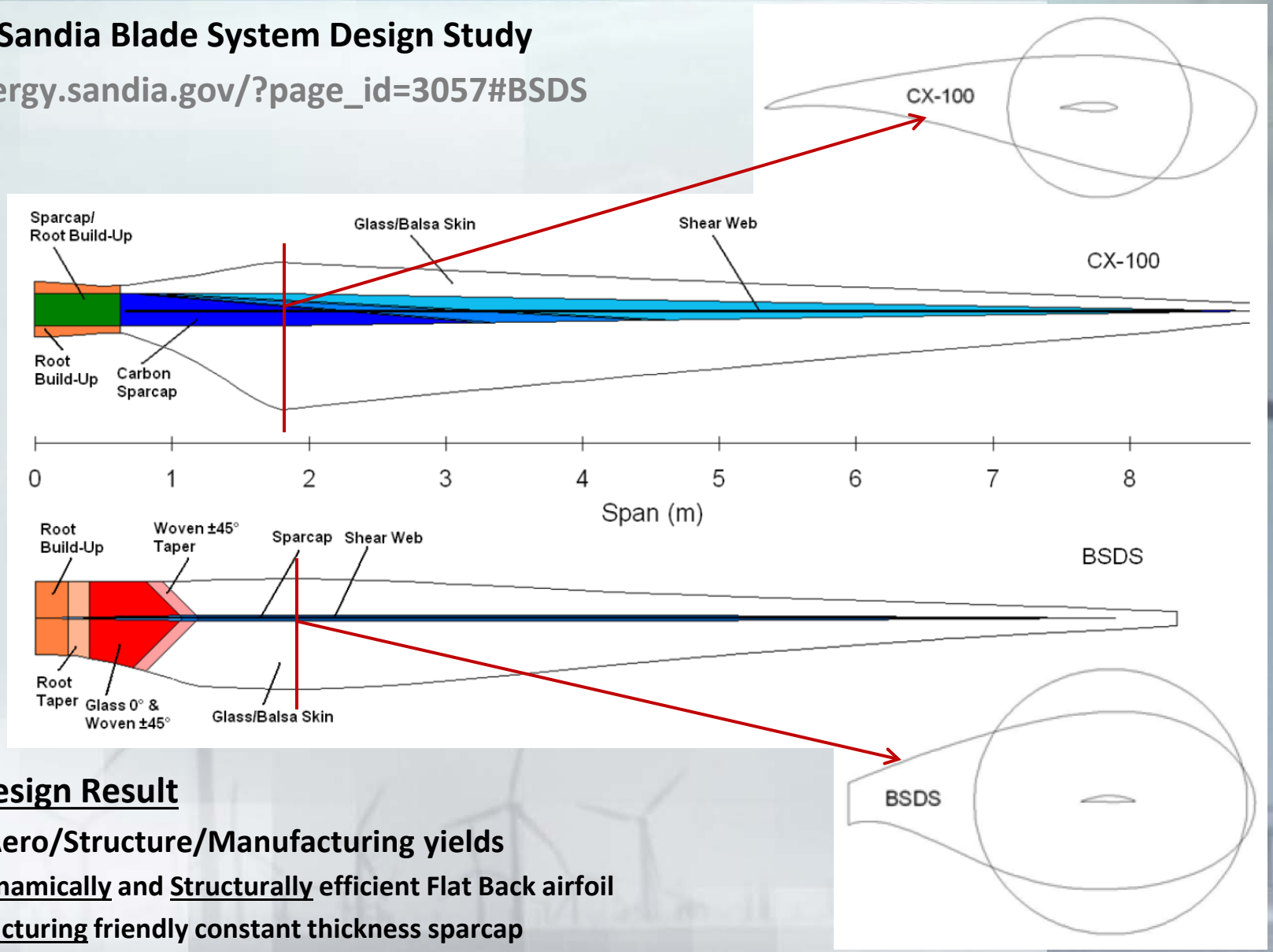

<u>BSDS</u>
Concurrent
Design

<u>Concurrent Design Result</u>

- **Balancing Aero/Structure/Manufacturing yields**
  - **<u>Aerodynamically</u> and <u>Structurally</u> efficient Flat Back airfoil**
  - **<u>Manufacturing</u> friendly constant thickness sparcap**

Why CE – BSDS Blade Lessons

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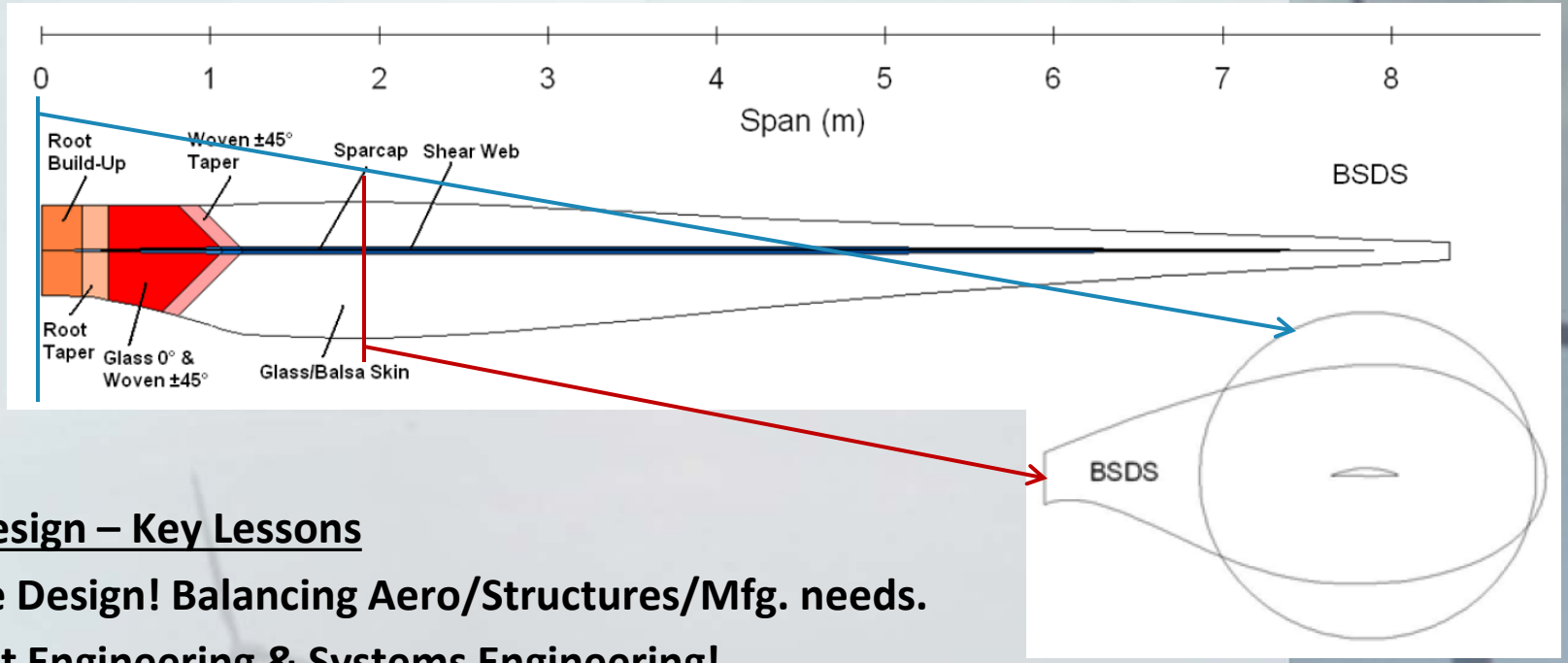

<u>Concurrent Design – Key Lessons</u>

- **Innovative Design! Balancing Aero/Structures/Mfg. needs.**
- **Concurrent Engineering & Systems Engineering!**
  - **Blade Root Diameter Increase**
- **Importance of Research (Internal, Academic, National Labs, etc.)!**
  - **Availability of Flat Back Airfoil**

How to deploy CE?

How deploy CE – Lessons from Success

- **Collaborate!**
  - **Organizational Paradigm Shift**
- **Communicate**
  - **Collocated, Cross-Functional Teams**
- **Cross Train Silos**
  - **Broadly experienced leadership**

How deploy CE – Collaborate

- **Paradigm Shift – Allocate more time for conceptual design**
  - **Typical Program Management wants to speed past early design phases**
  - **Crucial Stage for Concurrent Engineering!**
- **Cooperate, don't Compete!**
  - **Silos leads to "hoarding" margin**

How deploy CE – Communicate

- **Q: What do these have in common?**

How deploy CE – Communicate

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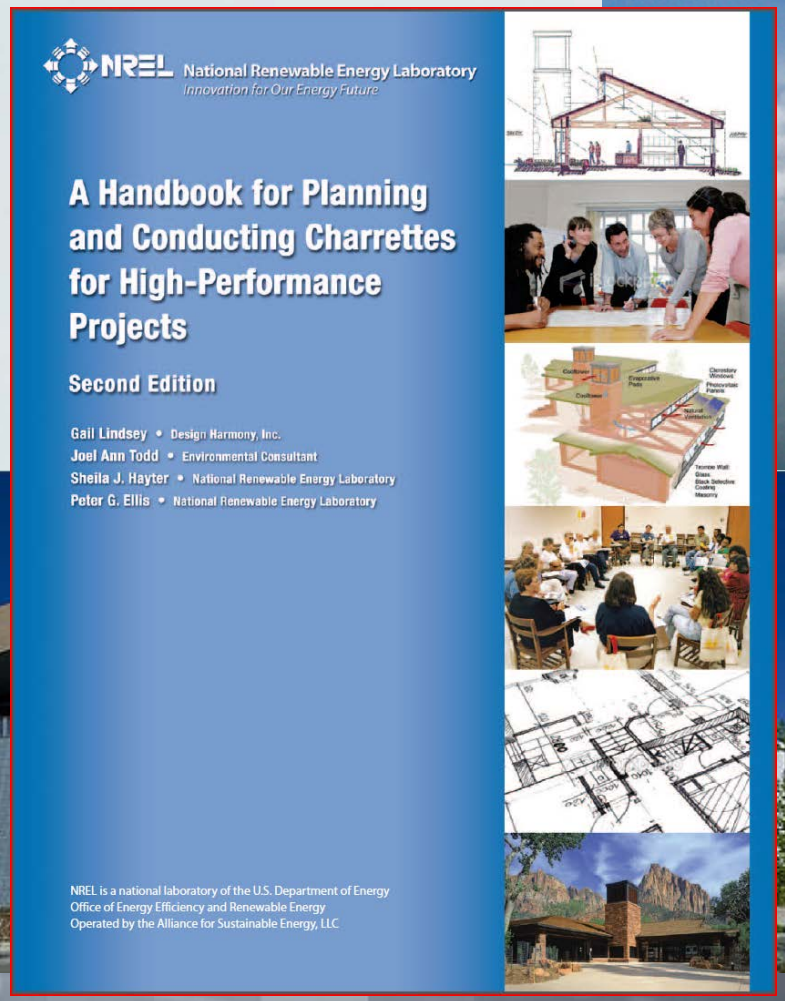
- **A: Complex Multi-disciplinary Design**

How deploy CE – Communicate

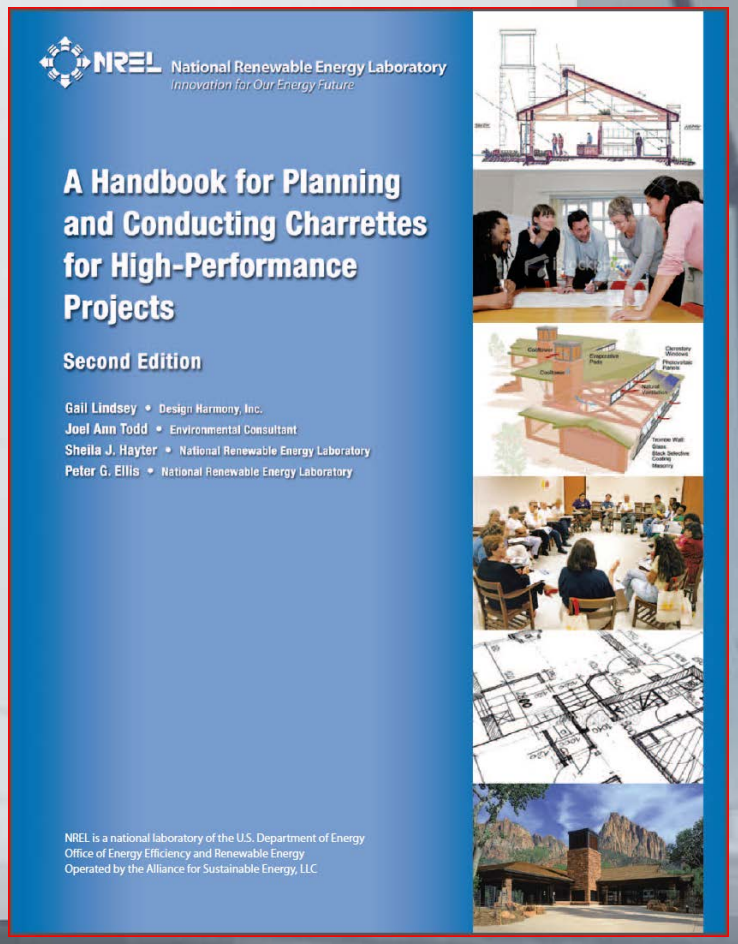
- **Q: What do these have in common?**
- **A: Complex Multi-disciplinary Design**
- **Cross-Pollinate: Design Charrette**



How deploy CE – Communicate

<u>Design Charrette</u> – Communication & Collaboration Strategy

- **Focused, multi-day workshop with collaborative approach to create realistic, achievable designs**
  - **Develop early consensus about project priorities**
  - **Create project vision & design goals**
  - **Initiate an integrated design process**
  - **Form a strong, inclusive project team**
  - **Agree on project schedule and budget**



http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/44051.pdf

How deploy CE – Communicate

- **Collocate if possible**

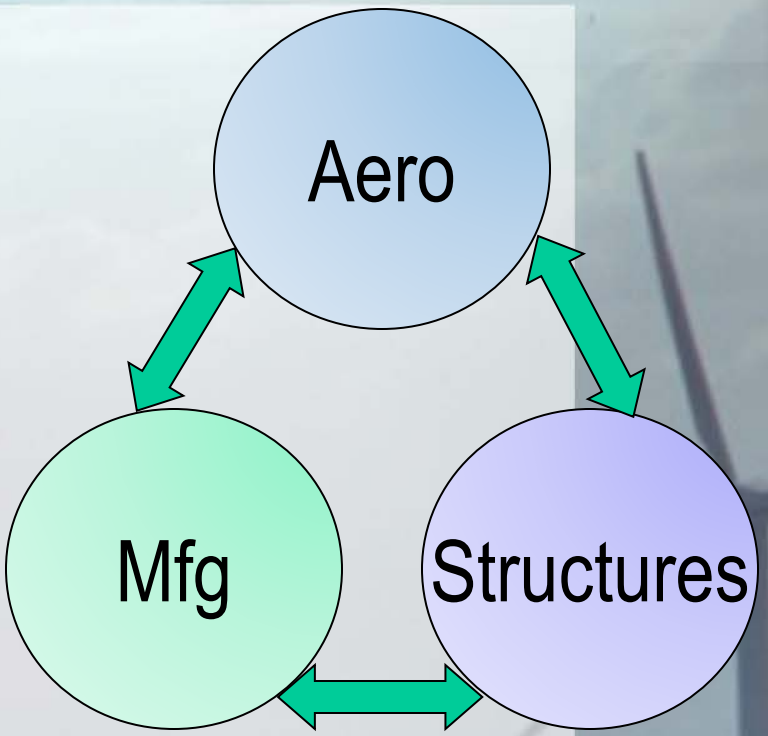
How deploy CE – Communicate

- **Collocate if possible**

- **Leverage IT – "Virtual" Collocation**
  - **VOIP, Videoconference, Skype, etc.**

How deploy CE – Cross Train "Silos"

- **Historical Examples**
  - **Broadly experienced leadership**
- **Learn about other "Silos"**
  - **Understand each others pain**
- **Benefits of Cross-Training**
  - **Improves Collective Intuition!**



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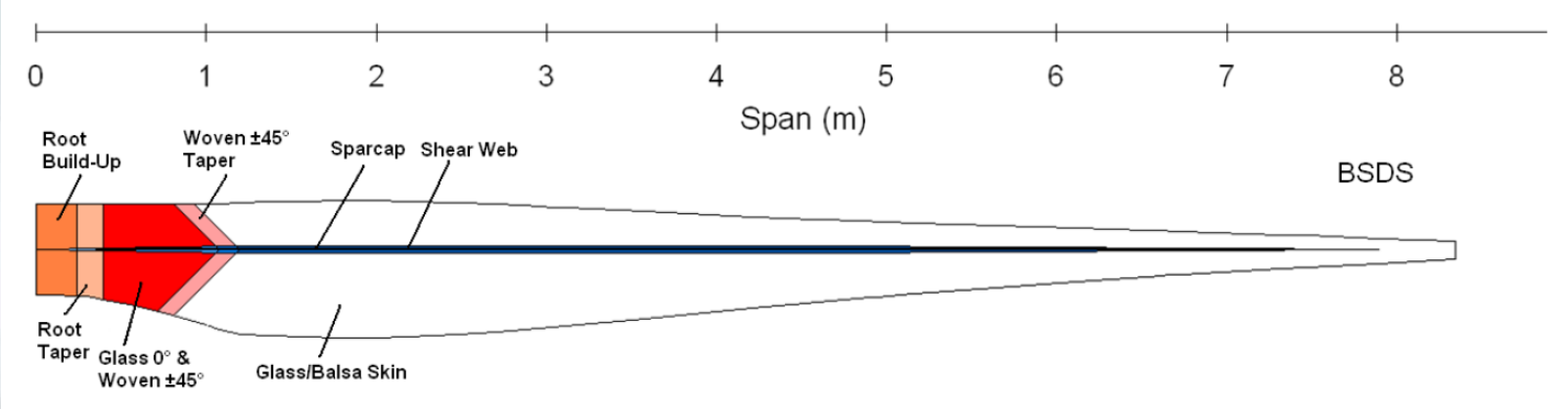

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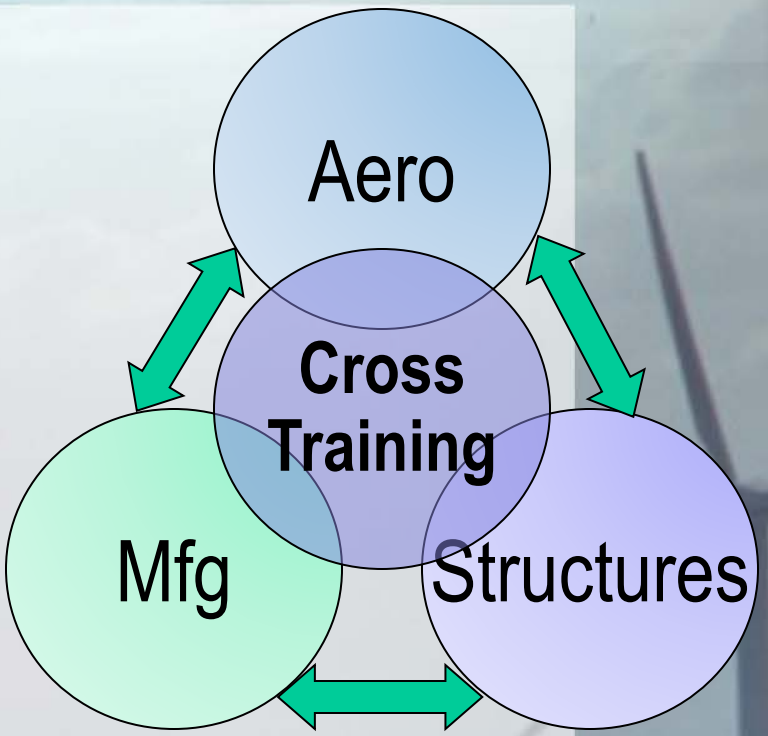

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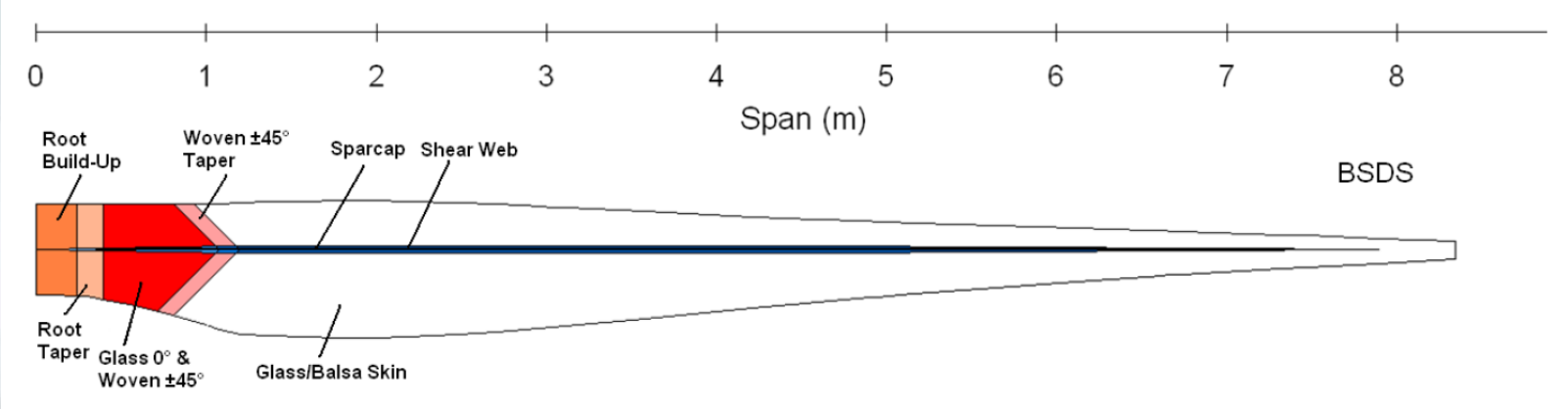

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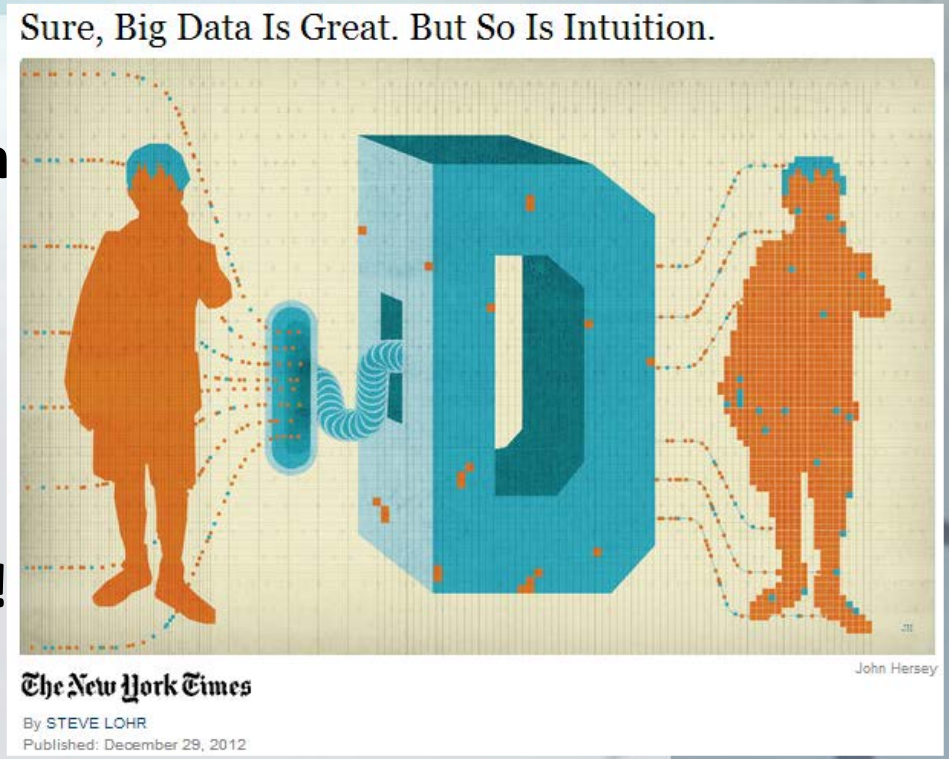

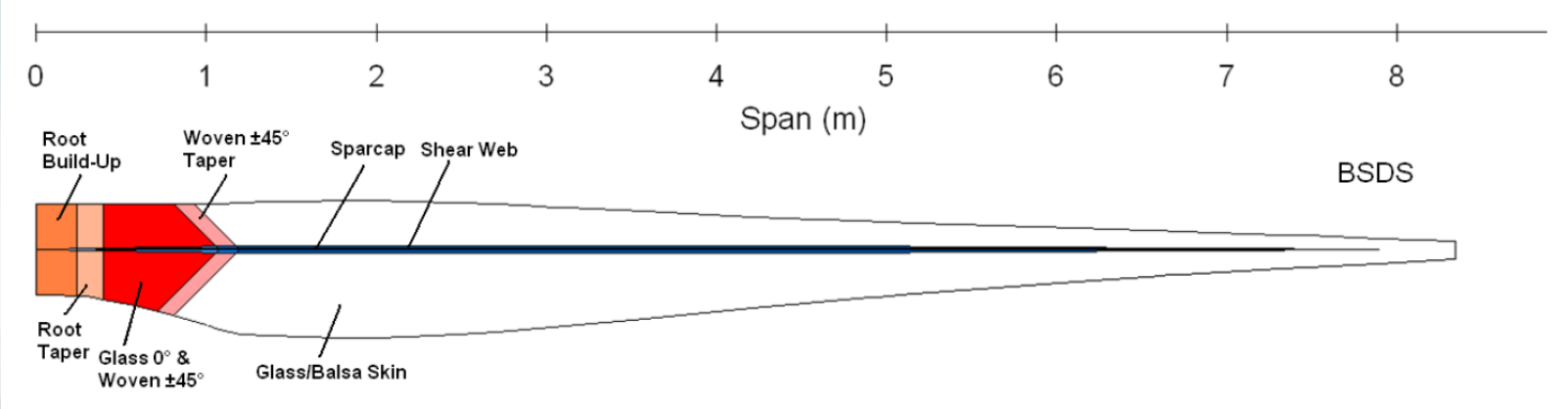

BSDS
Concurrent Design

How deploy CE – Resources

- **NREL/Sandia BSDS**
  - http://energy.sandia.gov/?page_id=3057#BSDS
- **Concurrent Engineering Links**
  - **CE Journal**
    - http://cer.sagepub.com/
  - **Integrated Concurrent Engineering (ICE)**
    - http://web.mit.edu/~tcoffee/www/docs/lai-cet-rsp-ICEToolsStudy-tcoffee-8a.pdf
  - **CE Deployment Strategies**
    - http://www.revistaproducao.net/arquivos/websites/32/v06n2a02.pdf

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Thank You!

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