### **ITOS EMSIG 2015**



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The wireless revolution in hearing aids

Moving towards higher efficiency

Case study



### THE HISTORY OF GN STORE NORD - MORE THAN 140 YEARS OF COMMUNICATION

### From industrial conglomerate...



... to focused technology leader in personal communication



## GN STORE NORD GROUP STRUCTURE







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### THE WIRELESS REVOLUTION IN HEARING INSTRUMENTS





### THE WIRELESS REVOLUTION IN HEARING INSTRUMENTS

### - Hearing Aids

- Ultra small embedded system containing:
  - Processor(s)
  - Wireless radio
  - Power management
  - Transducers
- Ultra low power
- Hearing aid to hearing aid (ear to ear) communication
- Linking to the Internet through mobile devices

#### - System design challenges

- Increasing complexity
- Integrating technology advances from other domains
- More partners
- Limited resources in hearing aids:
  - Battery power
  - Memory
  - MIPS
  - Physical size





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#### Systems Engineering (SE) in GN ReSound was established in 2009 with the purpose of:

- Assisting R&D development teams in managing the increased complexity – primarily as a consequence of the wireless revolution in hearing instruments

#### SE is today responsible for

- Concept development
- Requirements engineering
- Definition and specifying high level systems architecture
- Systems verification

#### SE follows a traditional document-centric approach

- Writing product requirements documents
- Writing System design and architecture documents,
- Performing "manual" system and architecture analysis
- Writing system verification specifications and verification plans & reports

#### The SE function is successful but constantly challenged by:

- Escalating number of requirements
- Increasing complexity especially within embedded systems
- Unlimited appetite for inclusion of new innovative concepts and technologies in current and future platforms
- The need for reducing cost and time to market to stay competitive

# => Challenges calling for new efficient SE work methods to stay successful the question is just which?





Transition from document-based to model based SE seems mandatory – but may be an overwhelming task, due to the tremendous number of available:

- Methodologies
- Modeling languages
- Modeling tools



Analysis of modeling needs and feasible modeling setup is workload intensive but important in getting the setup right the first time.

Choosing the wrong setup may have severe impact on the success of the organization and be costly.

A structured method for identifying modeling needs and feasible modeling setup has been developed in a research project between DTU and GNR by Allan Munck.





Method for identifying modeling setup.



Knowledge and understanding of the modeling disciplines shown below is essential for using the proposed method.



Fundamental modeling (FM). Behavioral simulation modeling (BSM). Architectural analyses modeling (AAM). Architecture/behavior co-modeling. (ABCM)

Coherent modeling (CM). Integrated engineering (IE). Enterprise modeling (EM).



Method for identifying modeling setup.



| Discilpines and needs                         |          |         |        | Corrolation |          |         |           |             |
|---|----------|---------|--------|-------------|----------|---------|-----------|-------------|
|   | Need     | SysML   | AADL   | UPPAAL      | SystemC  | PLM     | Plugins   | Correlation |
|   | Priority | Tool #1 | Osate2 | + SMC       | +TLM/AMS | Tool #2 | 4 Tool #1 | table       |
| Architectural analyses modeling               |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Interactive analyses                        | Maybe    | ***     | x      | x           | ***      | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Automated analyses                          | Yes      | ***     | *****  | +           | +        | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Sensitivity analyses                        | Yes      | ***     | **     | *****       | **       | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Dynamic architecture modeling               | Maybe    | +       | *****  | +           | ***      | NA      | N.A       |             |
| - Easy standard analyses                      | Maybe    | ż       | *****  | ***         | ż        | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Customized analyses                         | Yes      | *****   | **     | ****        | ***      | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Fault propagation and impact analyses       | Later    | +       | ****   | **          | **       | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Easy architecture overview                  | Yes      | ******  | *      | *           | *        | NA      | NA        |             |
| Architecture/Behavior co-modeling             |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Homogeneous systems simulations             | Yes      | *****   | x      | х           | ****     | NA      | *****     |             |
| - Heterrogeneous systems similations          | Yes      | **      | +      | +           | ***      | NA      | **        |             |
| - Code generation                             | No       | -       | -      | -           | -        | -       | -         |             |
| Cohenerent modeling                           |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Master model needed                         | Yes      | ****    |        |             |          | NA      | *****     |             |
| - Slave models needed                         | Maybe    |         | +      | ****        | **       | NA      | *****     |             |
| Integrated engineering                        |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Integrate modeling and requirements tools   | Later    | ***     | *      | *           | *        | *****   | *****     |             |
| - Integrate different modeling tools          | Later    | ***     | ?      | ?           | ?        | *****   | *****     |             |
| - Integrate modeling with other R&D artifacts | Later    | ***     | ?      | ?           | ****     | *****   | ***       |             |
| - Enterprise modeling                         | No       | -       | -      | -           | -        | -       | -         |             |
| Beyound modeling                              |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Software in the loop                        | No       | -       | -      | -           | -        | -       | -         |             |
| - Hardware in the loop                        | No       | -       | -      | -           | -        | -       | -         |             |
| - virtual reality scenarios                   | No       | -       | -      | -           | -        | -       | -         |             |
| General questions                             |          |         |        |             |          |         |           |             |
| - Affordability                               | Yes      | **      | ****   | **          | *****    | *       | **        |             |
| - Predefined libraries available              | Maybe    | +       | **     | +           | **       | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Traceability                                | Yes      | *****   | x      | ×           | x        | NA      | NA        |             |
| - Tool availablity, trustworthiness, etc      | Yes      | *****   | **     | ***         | ****     | *****   | *****     |             |
| Verdict                                       | NA       | Yes     | Maybe  | Yes         | Later    | Later   | Yes       |             |



By following the proposed method and the results shown in the correlation table the following set of technologies were identified for GN ReSound:

- SysML or MARTE
- (UPPAAL or SystemC or Ptolemy-II or VHDL-AMS) and PLM and Plugins

We found SysML more attractive due to the steep learning curve using MARTE

Also – UPPAAL was found more attractive than the alternatives due to its unique formal and statistical model checking features.





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### CASE STUDY

Purpose:

- Try the identified set of technologies
- Try the TD-MBSE approach on real SE architecture analysis task
  - Is the TD-MBSE able to handle the complexity and solve the task?
  - Compare TD-MBSE results with results obtained using classic approach
  - Identify the modeling effort
- To get some "hands-on" experience on using a modeling tool
  - Ease of use / learning curve
  - Tool capabilities / performance
  - Tool limitations





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## **KEY LEARNINGS**

- A modeling setup for GN ReSound could be identified using the proposed method
- TD-MBSE / TD-DSE methodology was used for architectural analysis with success
- Results show that TD-MBSE/TD-DSE methodologies have no problems handling the complexity
- Results also show that all use cases executed on the changed architecture passes without dead locks or data being lost - in fact plenty or margin was identified
- Compared with the classical approach, results from the modeling approach provides more accurate and complete information on system performance
- The case study work was time consuming. Much of the effort went into understanding and defining use cases and tool hands on
- The modeling task was relatively small for an experienced modeller.



### **KEY LEARNINGS**

- Next steps:
  - Introduce MBSE in SE (small scale)
  - MBSE training of systems engineer(s)
    - Modeling techniques
    - Tool training
  - FM and BSM of new module for future product





