Model-based Test Development with ATML Pad

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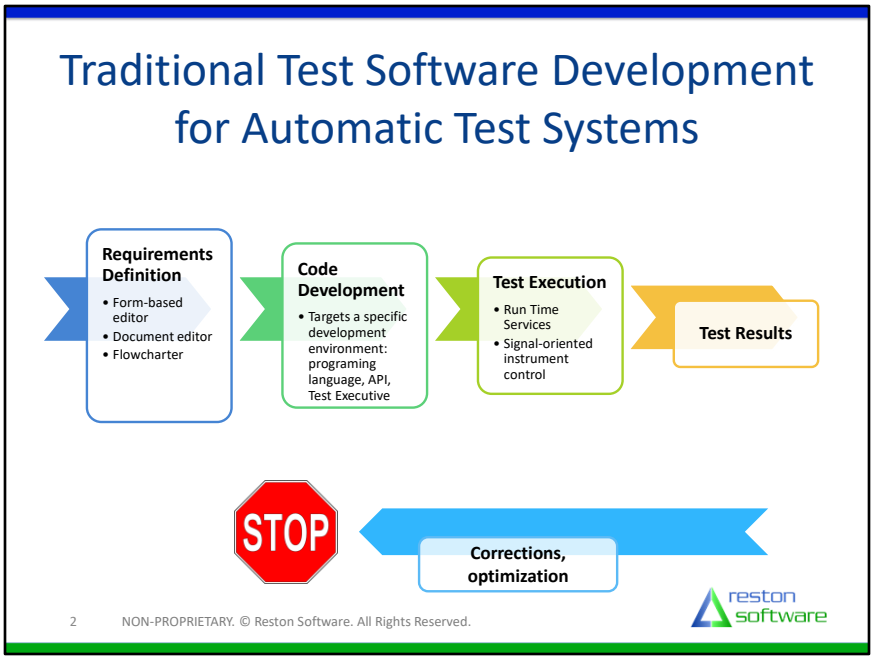
Ion Neag
Software Architect
Reston Software
ion.neag@restonsoftware.com

Chris Gorringe
Technical Director
Spherea UK
chris.gorringe@spherea.co.uk

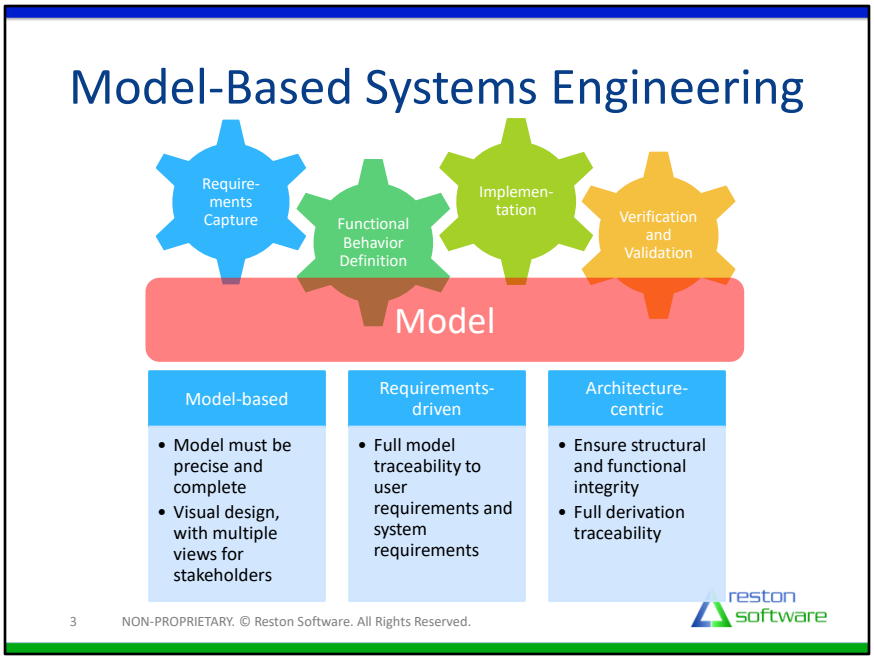
ATML Pad is a development environment for test descriptions, using the ATML Test Description standard format

This presentation discusses the use of standards and software tools in model-based development of test programs for Automatic Test Equipment (ATE)

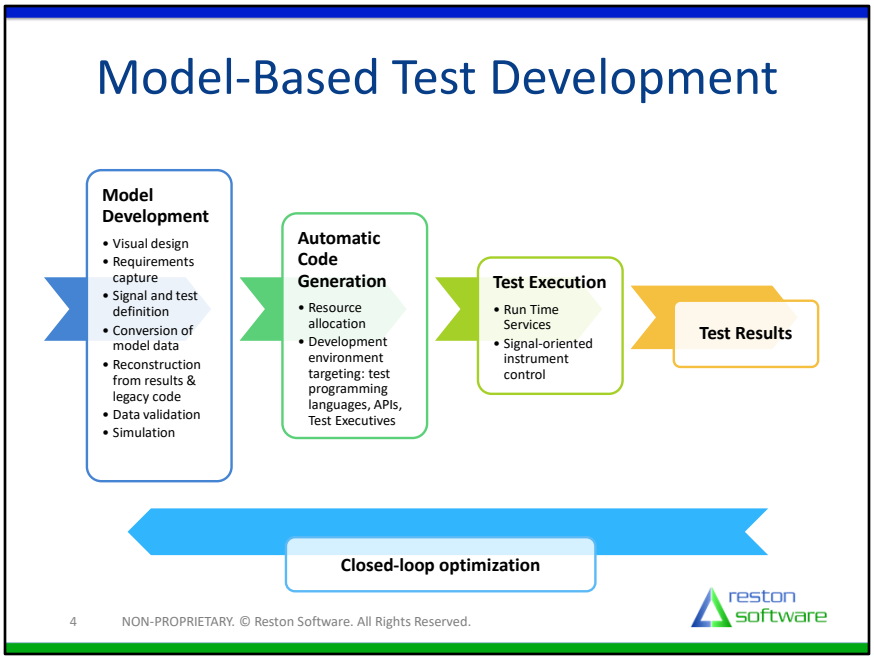


Problem: corrections and optimizations are made in code and not in requirements.

- In time, the code diverges from requirements
- Original requirements become obsolete, can no longer be reused to support code changes during code maintenance, rehosting, or conversion



The discipline of Model-Based Systems Engineering advocates the use of a common digital model to support all phases of the System Engineering process



Making use of model-based systems engineering principles, the test development process can be modified as shown.

Model development

Models for UUT, Test Requirements, ITA, Test Station, Instruments, …
Graphical / visual design
Model data import from: EDA, systems simulation, diagnostic modeling, legacy systems
Model extraction / reconstruction from: test results, non-standard models (ex. TRD), unstructured legacy data (ex. ATLAS code)
Data validation
Simulation

Automatic code generation

Resource allocation – targeting implementation to a specific ATE
Targeting implementation to a specific test development environment: test programming languages, APIs, test executives

Test execution

Run-time signal services
Signal-oriented instrument control

Generation of test results

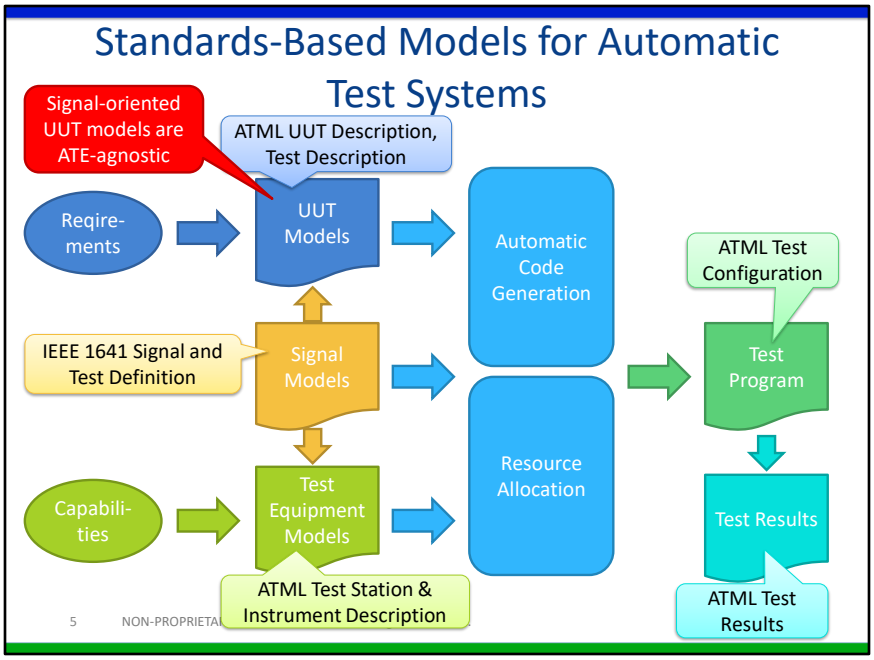
Closed-loop optimization of

Maintenance

Diagnostics

Test

Closed-loop optimization is performed on the Model, not on code. The code is regenerated automatically.

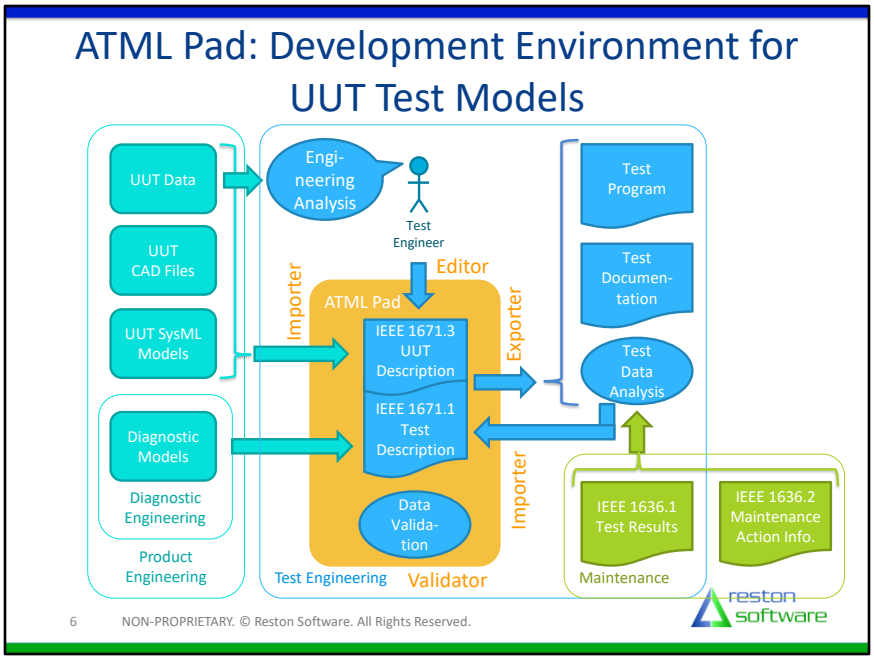


What standard data formats are available for modeling Automatic Test Systems?

- IEEE 1671 ATML (Automatic Test Markup Language)
- IEEE 1641 Signal and Test Definition

Signal-based models tell you what to do, but not how to do it (in terms of instrument operations). This allows them to be implemented & re-implemented on a variety of ATE platforms.

Resource Allocation is the selection of an instrument or instrument subsystem for each signal operation.

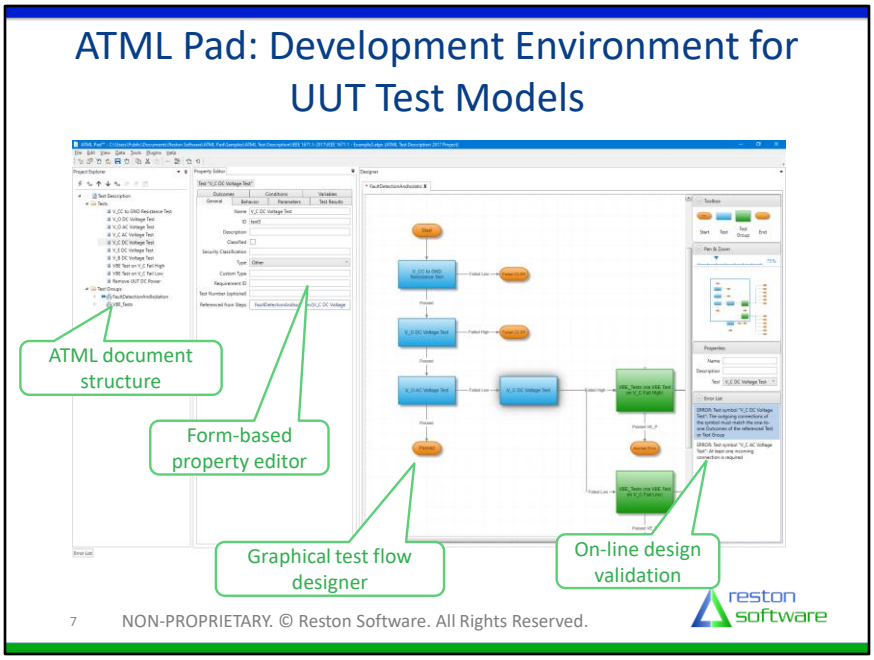


Use cases

- Create UUT and Test Description through test engineering analysis, from UUT data and
- Import UUT & Test data (limited)
- Validate UUT and Test Description
- Generate test program (automatic code generation, resource allocation, switch path calculation, …)
- Generate test program documentation
- Input to test data analysis (ex. for test & diagnostic improvements)

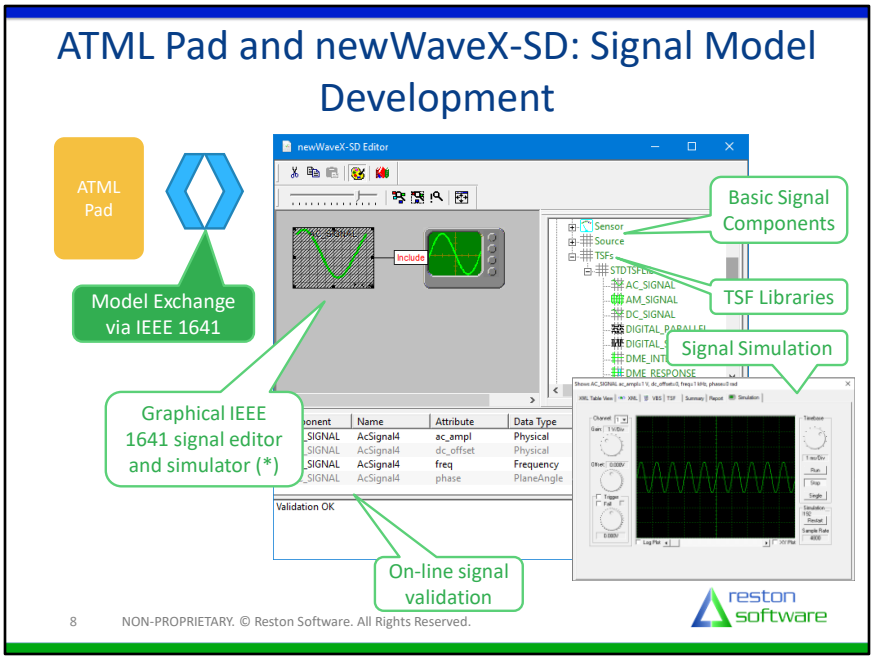
ATML Pad is:

- Editor
- Validator
- Data Converter (Import & Export)



Visual editor features:

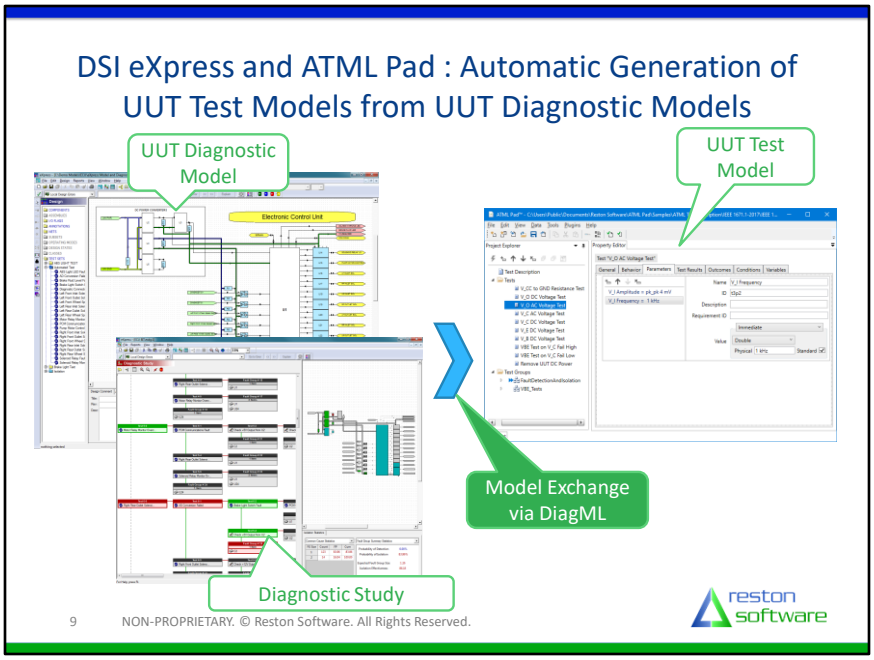
- Document structure (tests, test sequences, etc.)
- Item properties
- Graphical design of test flow
    - Drag & drop color-coded symbols from toolbox
    - Pan & zoom controls
- On-line design validation: missing items, missing connections, and other design problems are displayed dynamically in the error list. This feature guides beginner users through the design process, helping them understand and apply the design rules.



newWaveX-SD (Signal Development) is a graphical design environment for signal-based test & measurement developed by Spherea Technology. It provides the facilities to design, build and simulate test signals prior to their inclusion in a test program.

newWaveX-SD is integrated natively within **ATML Pad** through the standard format.

- Signal definitions can be viewed and edited in a pop-up windows that displays the **newWaveX-SD** signal editor.
- The editor is used to configure signals, create new signal definitions, and simulate signals.



eXpress is a model-based *diagnostics engineering* application developed by DSI International. **eXpress** supports the design, capture, integration, evaluation and optimization of system diagnostics, prognostics health management (PHM), systems testability engineering, failure mode and effects analysis and system safety analysis.

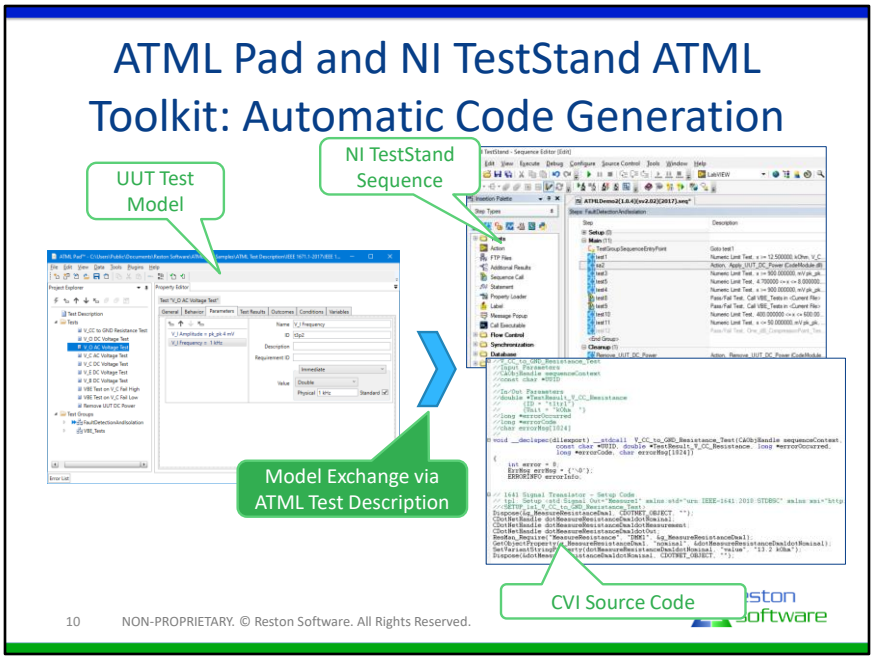
eXpress is integrated with **ATML Pad** through ***DiagML***, an open XML-based format used to represent UUT, test, and diagnostic data. ***DiagML*** is a precursor of ATML Test Description.

Design-to-test development flow using eXpress, DiagML, and ATML Pad:

1. Import UUT design data from CAD, SysML, or spreadsheets to eXpress (optional)
2. Develop diagnostic model in eXpress, adding functional dependencies, failure information, …
3. Develop diagnostic study in eXpress, generating fault trees from the diagnostic model
4. Export fault tree data to DiagML
5. Import DiagML into ATML Pad. The ATMl document will contain “sequence” test groups, tests, and test points. The test behavior will be undefined.
6. Use ATML Pad to add detailed test information: test operations, signals,

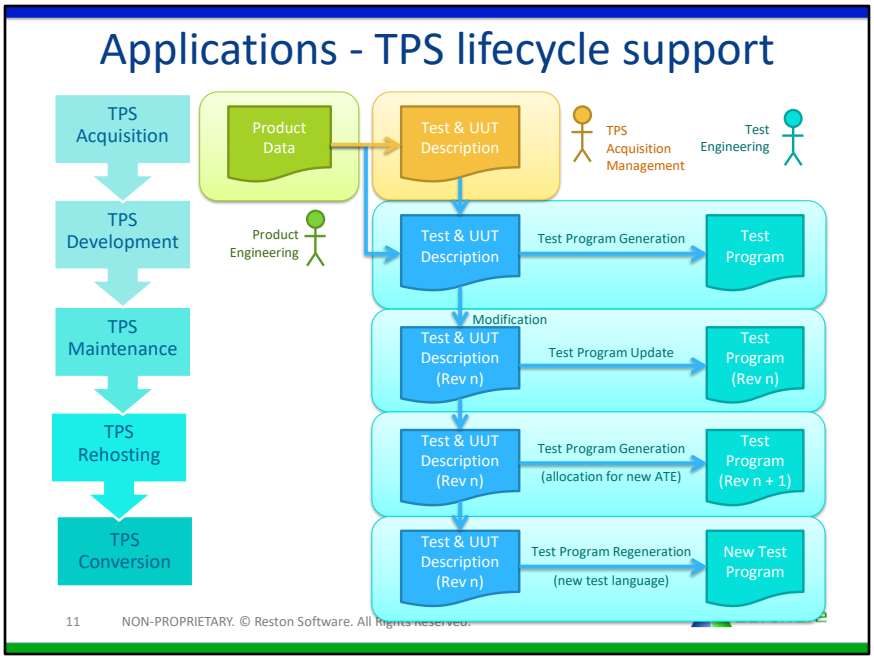
measurements, limits, …

7. Export ATML Test Description from ATML Pad
8. Use ATML Test Description to generate test programs



The **NI TestStand ATML Toolkit** is an add-on component of National Instruments (NI) TestStand. It allows TestStand to translate ATML Test Description documents into TestStand sequences and code modules written in LabVIEW or LabWindows™/CVI.

The **NI TestStand ATML Toolkit** is integrated with **ATML Pad** through a plug-in, using the standard ***ATML Test Description*** format. ATML Pad invokes the translator on the model that is currently loaded. The translator generates the test program and opens the generated sequence file in TestStand.



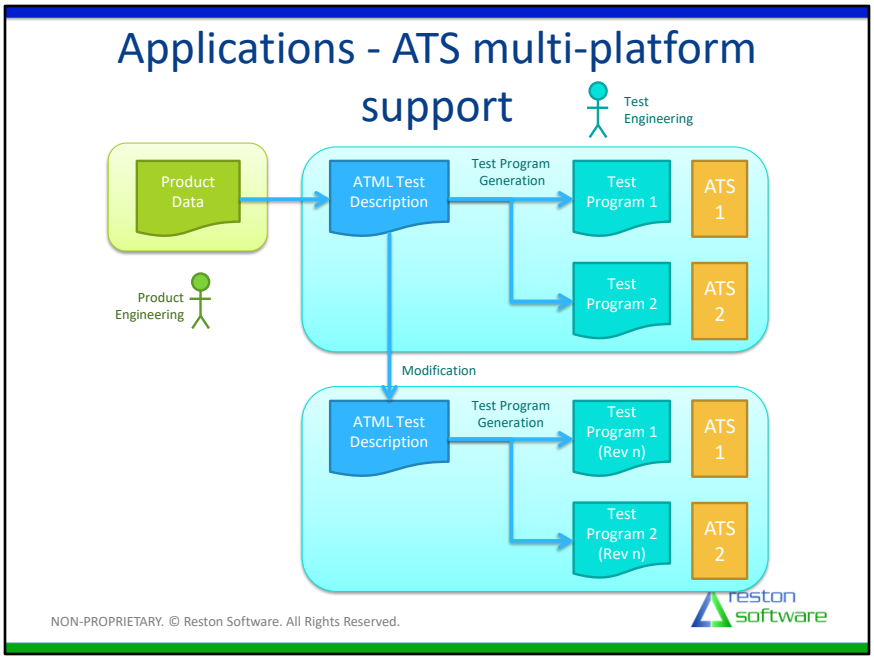
TPS Acquisition: An initial, high-level Test Description is created. This includes, for example, power requirements, signal requirements, and a test list. The high-level description allows the estimation of development time, cost, risk, and reuse potential through comparison with past developments.

TPS Development: Details are added to the Test Description. This includes test parameters, test results, test sequences, and detailed test operations. The description has a sufficient level of detail to enable automatic test program generation.

TPS Maintenance: Changes are made to the Test Description; the auto-generated test program is updated automatically. This ensures consistency between the Test Description (and thus test program documentation) and the test program.

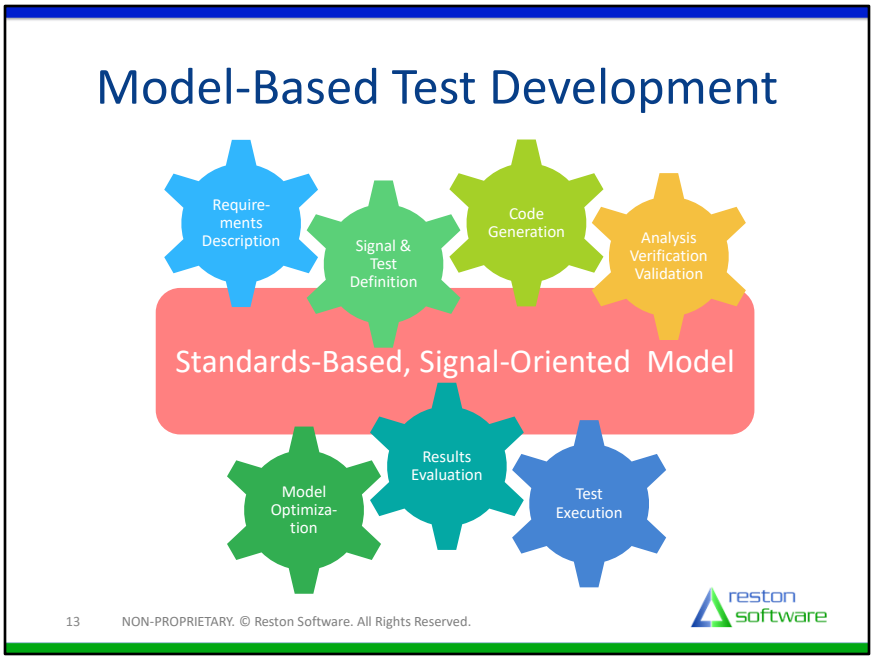
TPS Rehosting: The test program requirements are re-allocated to the capabilities of a new ATE. A new revision of the test program is generated.

TPS Conversion: New code is generated in a different test language. A new test program is generated.



1. From a common set of requirements, two test programs are generated, targeting two different hardware platforms (ATS 1 and ATS 1)
2. If a modification is needed (ex. correction or optimization), the modification is performed on the Test Description model. New revisions of the Test Programs are auto-generated.

This approach eliminates the need to modify two different test programs and preserves their consistency automatically.



All stages of test program development (requirements analysis, design, implementation, use, maintenance, and optimization) are based on a *common model*, using *industry-standard formats* and *signal abstractions*.

Summary: COTS Tools and Industry-Standard Data Formats

Storage of UUT, Test, and Maintenance data in vendor-independent formats	• Data ownership • Long-term sustainability of Automatic Test Systems
Model-based test development	• Automatic code generation • Full traceability to requirements
Signal-oriented models	• Multi-platform support
Multi-vendor solutions	• Through-life support for UUTs • Feedback loops to optimize design, test, and maintenance

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Glossary & Abbreviations

- **UUT = Unit Under Test**: The entity to be tested. It may range from a simple component to a complete system
- **Test program**: A program specifically intended for the testing of a **UUT**
- **TPS = Test Program Set**: The complete set of hardware, software, and documentation needed to evaluate a **UUT** on a given test system
- **ATE = Automatic Test Equipment**: a system providing a test capability for the automatic testing of one or more **UUTs**. The ATE system consists of a controller, test resource devices, and peripherals. The controller directs the testing process and interprets the results. The test resource devices provide stimuli, measurements, and physical interconnections.
- **ATS = Automatic Test System**: Includes the **ATE** as well as all support equipment, software, **test programs**, and adapters.
- **ATML = Automatic Test Markup Language**: a family of standards specified in IEEE 1671, IEEE 1636.1, and IEEE 1641

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Thank you!

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