

# A Modular Ground Segment Environment for Effective Space-Link Security Protocol Validation

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# Agenda



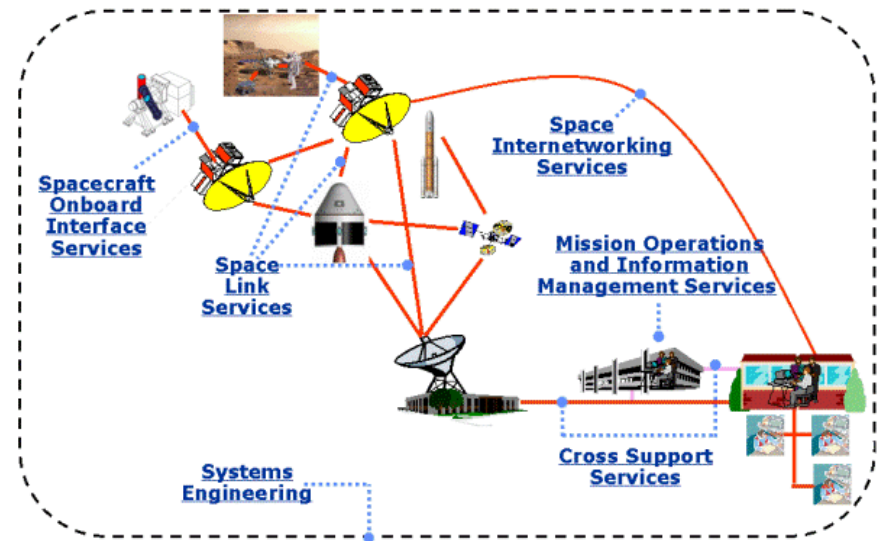
- Motivation: CCSDS Space Data Link Layer Security Protocol Interoperability Testing Campaign
- Concept:  
A Generic Approach for security testing
- First Use Case: SDLS Extended Procedures Interoperability Testing
- The Way Ahead



# CCSDS & Interoperability Testing



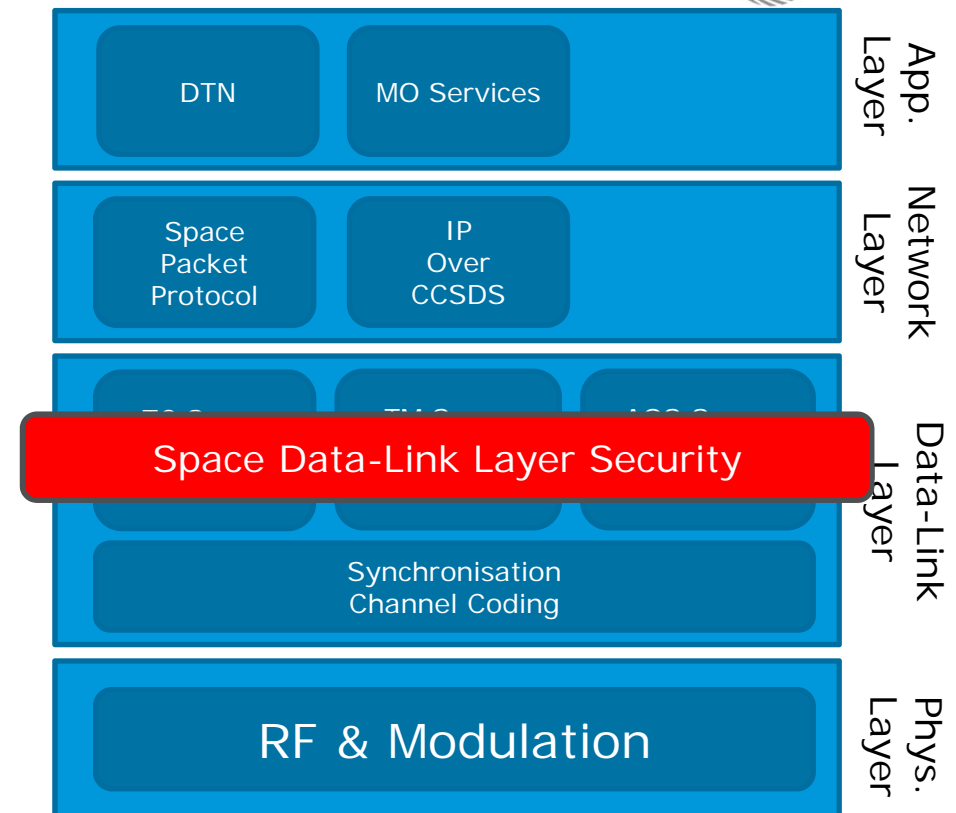
- CCSDS = The **C**onsultative **C**ommittee for **S**pace **D**ata **S**ystems
- CCSDS is an international committee for the development of standards in space communications and data systems
  - 11 Members and 29 Observers
  - More information: [www.ccsds.org](http://www.ccsds.org)
  - Serving 500+ missions
- New CCSDS standards require two independent implementations that complete a series of interoperable test cases between each other



# Space Data-Link Layer Security (SDLS) Protocol

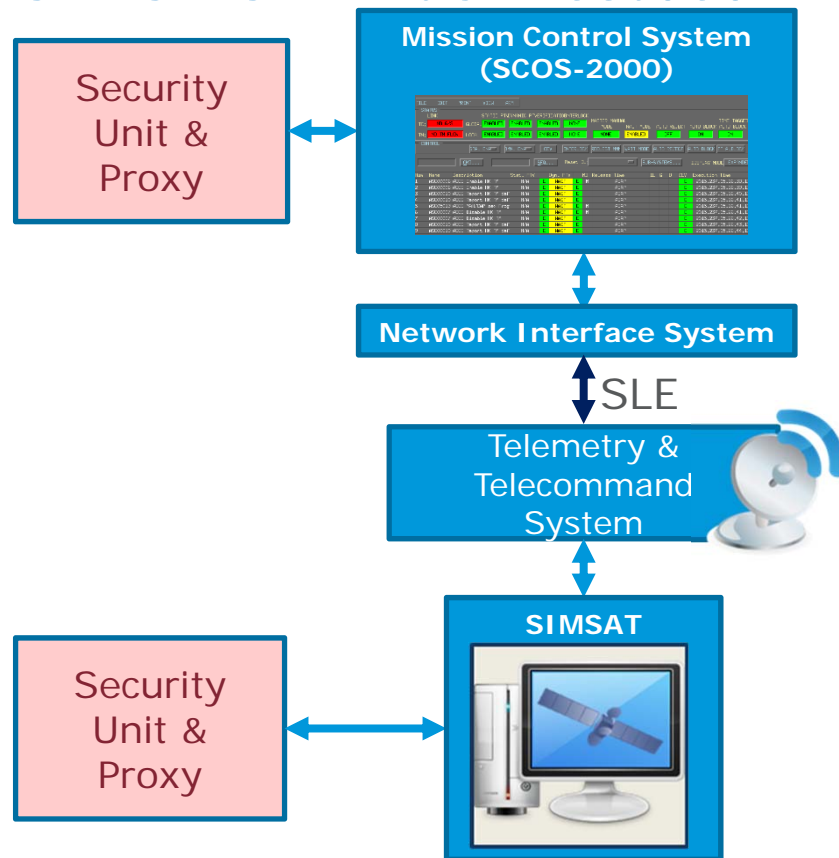


- SDLS is a data-link layer security service protocol that provides:
  - Authentication
  - Authenticated Encryption
- Designed to be compatible with:
  - TC (VC/ MAP)
  - TM (VC)
  - AOS (VC)
  - (USLP)





# SDLS ESA Initial Testbed

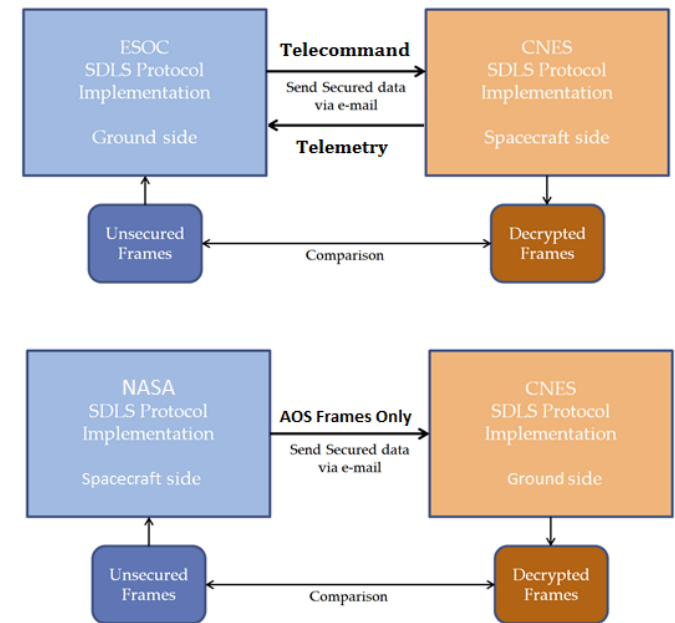


- ESA SDLS interoperability testing prototype
  - Deployment of a realistic command & monitoring chain
  - Using the operational software products & configurations
  - Full simulation of space segment through operational simulator
  - Support for CCSDS Telemetry & Telecommand protocol suites

## SDLS Interoperability Testing - Limitations



- SDLS Interoperability Testing Approach (ESA/NASA/CNES)
  - Offline test execution
  - Exchange of recorded TM/TC/AOS frames via secure email
- Interoperability Testing Immediate Problems
  - Firewall and network restrictions for interconnectivity of two testing environments
  - Differing data policies
  - Software Licenses
- This approach would not work for more complex testing campaigns
  - E.g. SDLS Extended Procedures
  - Any kind of communications performance testing



# Security Testing Environment Requirements



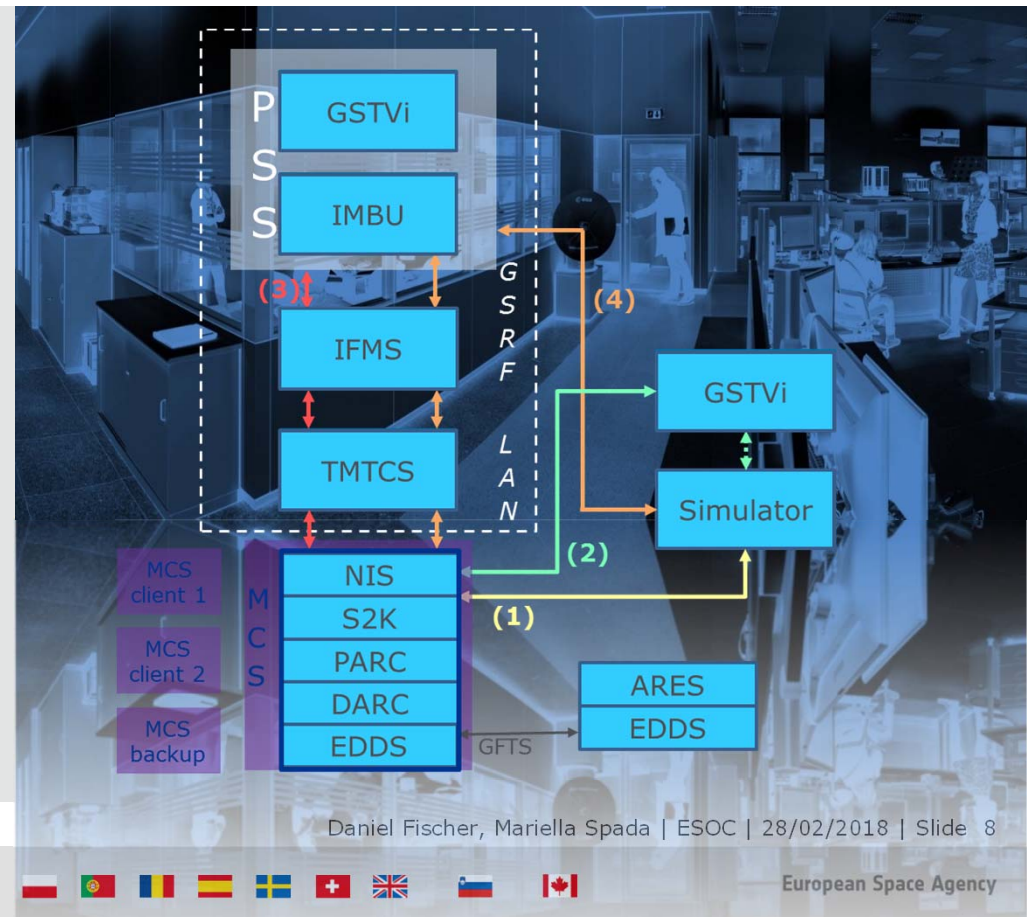
- What should the environment support?
  - ✓ Validate space-link security protocols and contribute to interoperability testing
  - ✓ Execute other security testing campaigns
    - Security configuration tradeoff
    - Security performance testing
  
- This environment should be
  - ✓ Fully representative of the operational environment(s)
  - ✓ Flexible and modular
  - ✓ Allow easy accommodation of new interfaces



# The ESA OPS Engineering Development Lab



- ESA lab for ground systems integration testing
- Fully representative end-to-end test & validation environment
- Capable of implementing different end-to-end chains
- Capable of integrating real hardware components e.g. from ground stations
- Software systems fully virtualized
- Fully automated GUI-based end-to-end integration testing capabilities



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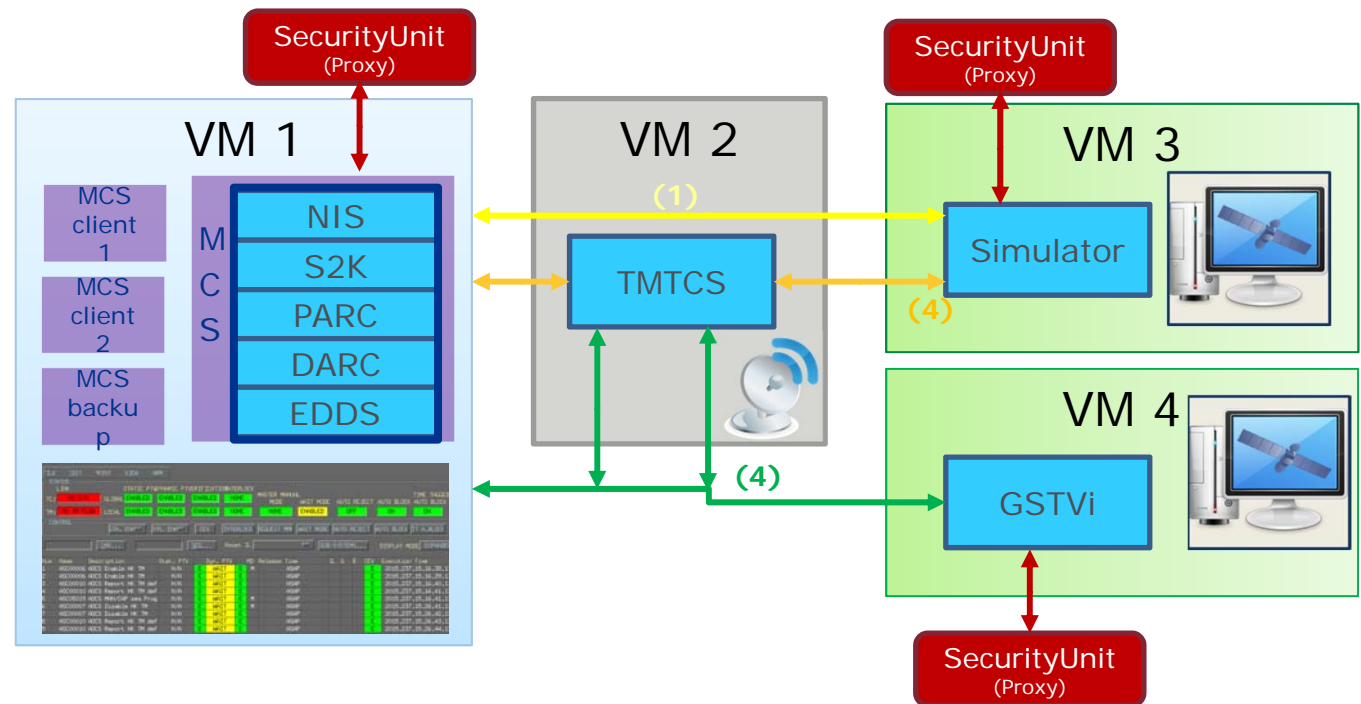


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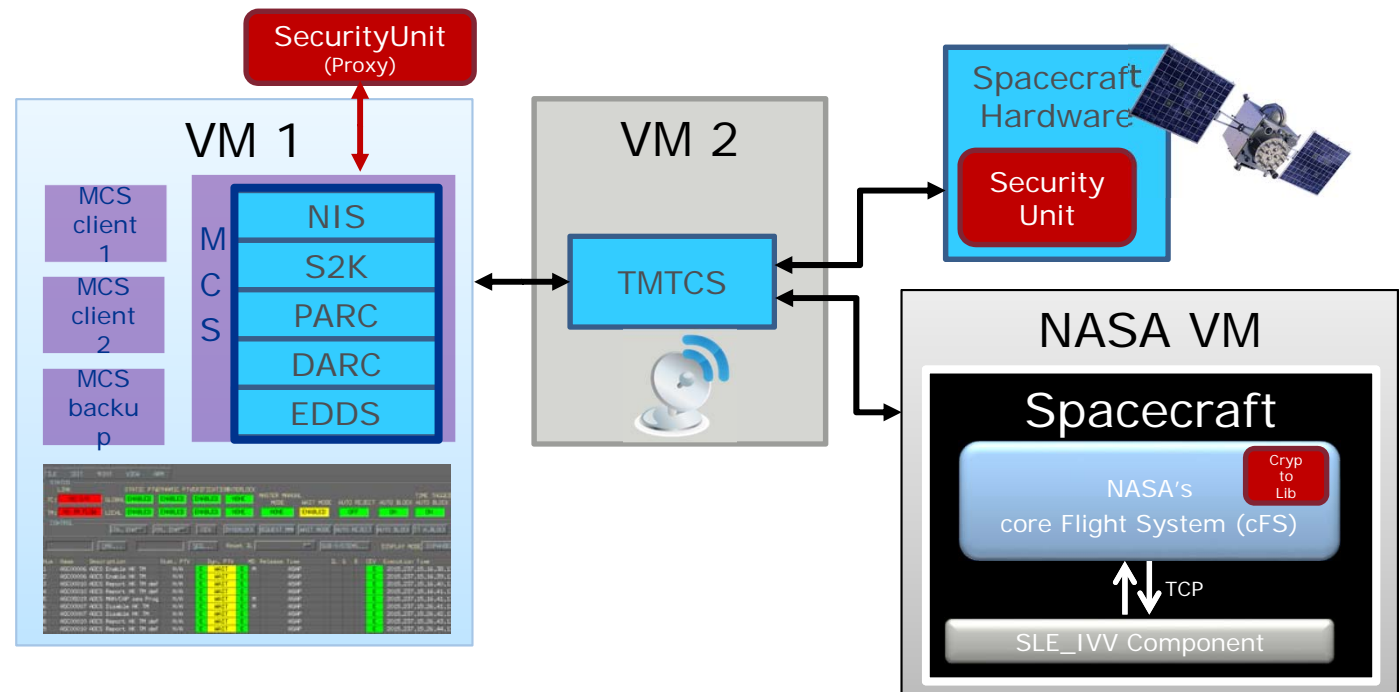
# Architecture & Modularity

- **Flexibility**  
requires  
modularization →  
component-based  
design using  
virtualization  
technology
- Integration of  
**interfaces** for  
security units



# Architecture & Modularity

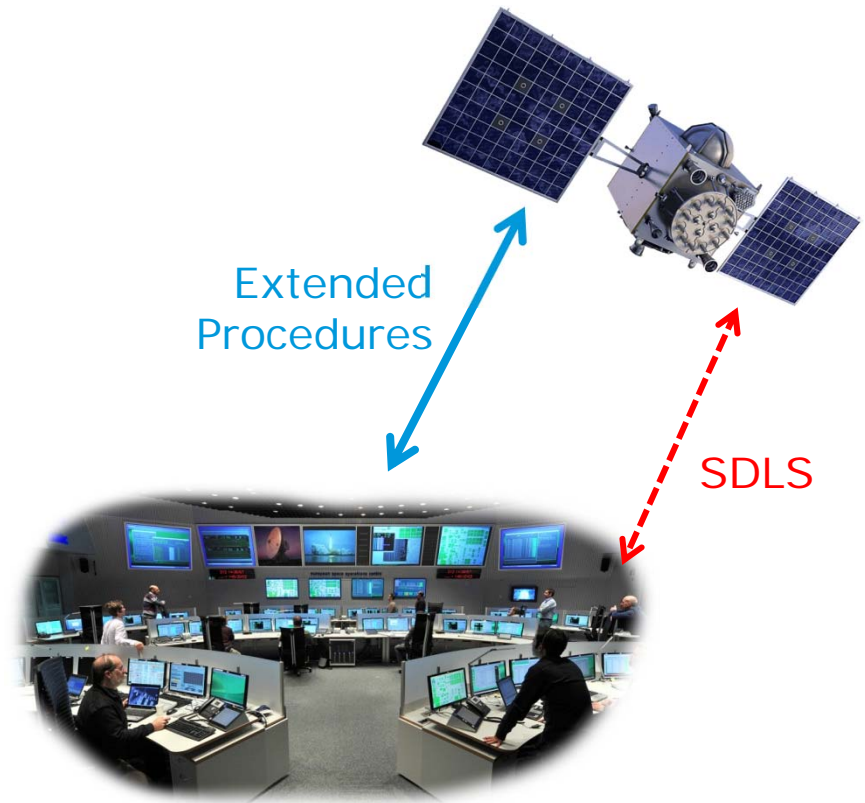
- Modular approach allows easy replacement of components
- Enabling new components (SW/HW) validation
- Enabling interoperability testing



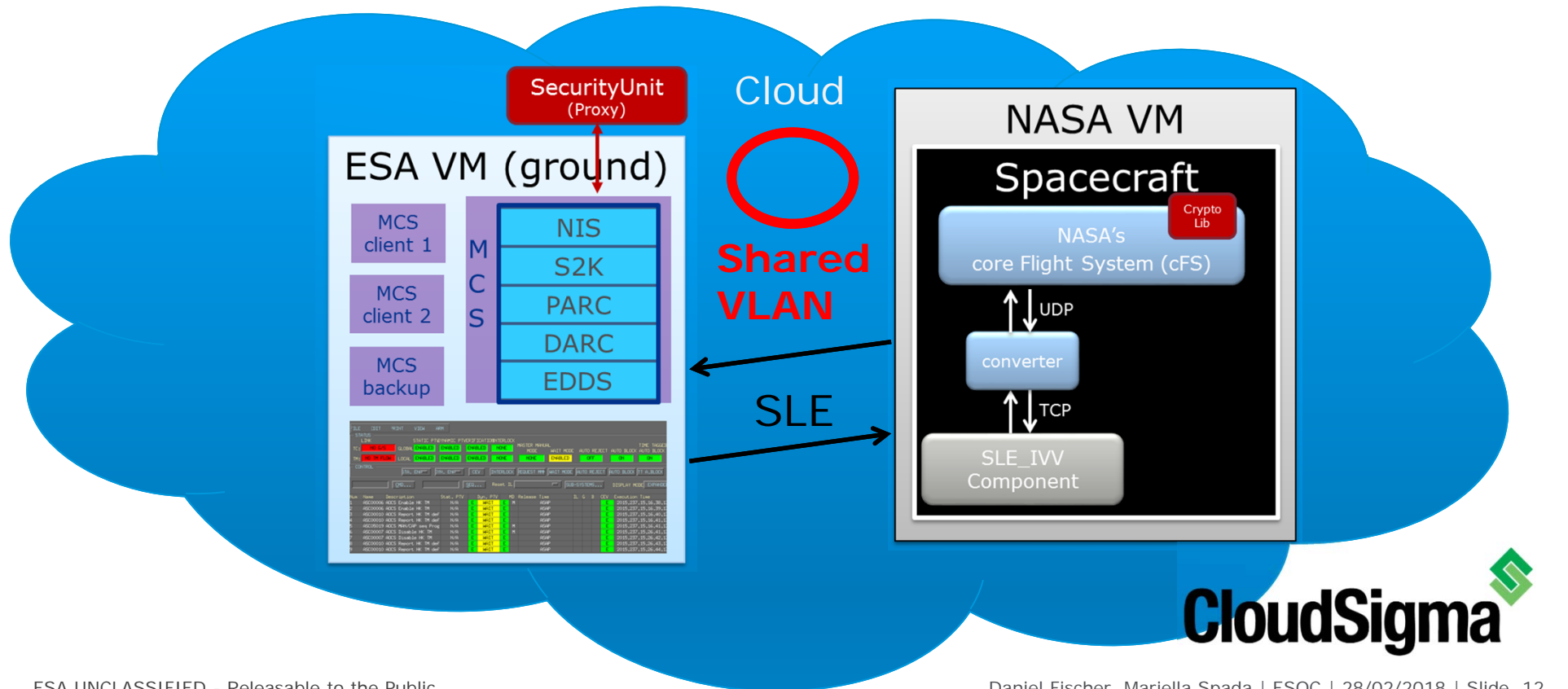
# First Use Case: SDLS Extended Procedures



- SDLS Extended Procedures provide security management services for SDLS
  - How to synchronize the SDLS configuration → [Security Association Management](#)
  - How to monitor the security unit → [SDLS Monitoring & Control](#)
  - How to manage the cryptographic keys used for security operations → [Key Management](#)
- New TM OCF Type 2 for security status reporting
- Currently under agency review, publication expected for 2018



# SDLS Extended Procedures Cloud Testing



**CloudSigma** 

## First Use Case: SDLS Extended Procedures

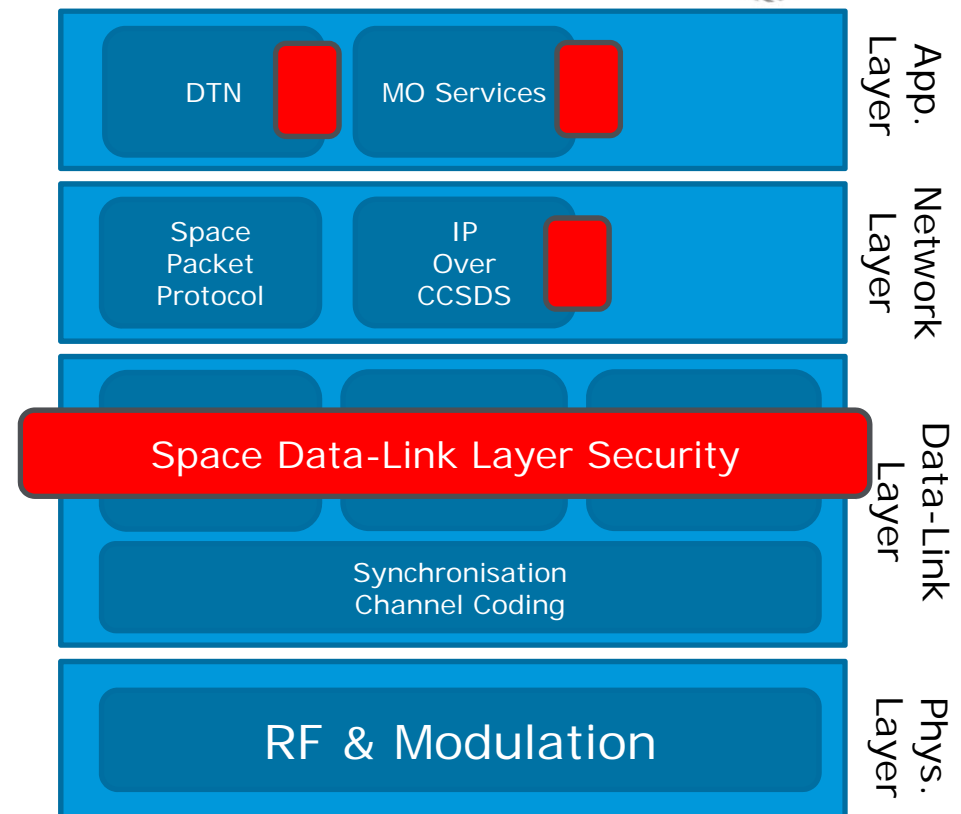
- SLDS Extended Procedures testing was a full success
  - Setup of the cloud environment took less than a day
  - SLE set up took some time but ultimately was not an issue
  - Much more extensive testing as with the previous setup was possible
  
- What did the new modular and flexible design actually add?
  - Easier transition into the cloud (VM can just be cloned)
  - Modularity allows easy switching of roles (space / ground)
  - Other space-link security protocols (e.g. network layer security, or bundle security) can easily be added



# The Way Ahead - Secure Communications Testing



- Validation of emerging space-link security standards
  - IPsec over CCSDS IP Encapsulation
  - DTN Bundle Security Protocol
  - Mission Operations Services Security
- Security Performance Testing Campaigns
  - Performance Trade-Off for crypto algorithms and algorithm configurations
  - Testing of various security services approaches e.g. for key management



# The Way Ahead – Secure Systems Engineering



- Exploitation of engineering development lab capabilities for security testing
  - Use of the sophisticated automation technologies
  - Security testing for all lab components
    - ➔ Enabling of automated security and security performance testing for future mission ground segments
- Contribution to Security Education and Training
- Use of secure systems engineering security services

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Ground System Architecture  
Workshop 2018

Thank You for  
your Time!

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