Ground Systems Standardization and Commonality: Continuing the Dialogue

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Agenda

- Review of last year’s conclusions
- Introductory remarks by panelists
- Discussion

Panelists

- Jonathan Gal-Edd, NASA GSFC
- Michael Hogan, The Aerospace Corporation
- Mario Merri, European Space Agency
- Deane Sibol, JHU/APL
- Joe Wysocki, Scitor

Consensus: Benefits

- Cost control
- Technology insertion
- Interoperability
- Reliability
- Ease of use
- Facilitating competition
- Knowledge management
- Don’t need to spend time on the trivial

Consensus: Risks

- Picking wrong standard (immature, obsolescence)
- Outliving their useful life, staleness
- Standardizing things that don’t need to be

Consensus: Obstacles

- Need for continued support of legacy systems
- Who pays for it?
- Need for buy-in from both sides of interface (e.g. space segment as well as ground)
- Resistance to not being in charge
- Time to get consensus
- May not get optimum capability (best is enemy of good enough)
- Competing standards

Observations

- Standards should not be for their own sake; need to solve an actual problem
- Standardize interfaces, not applications
- Start small
- Need advocate – leadership with $
- Need business case
- Should not require extensive tailoring – standards need to be directly applicable to business agreements