

# Intro to DDS (Data Distribution Service)

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Provided by the RTI University Program

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Delivered by Dr. Kyle Benson, Sr. Research Engineer [kyle@rti.com](mailto:kyle@rti.com)

# Talk Outline

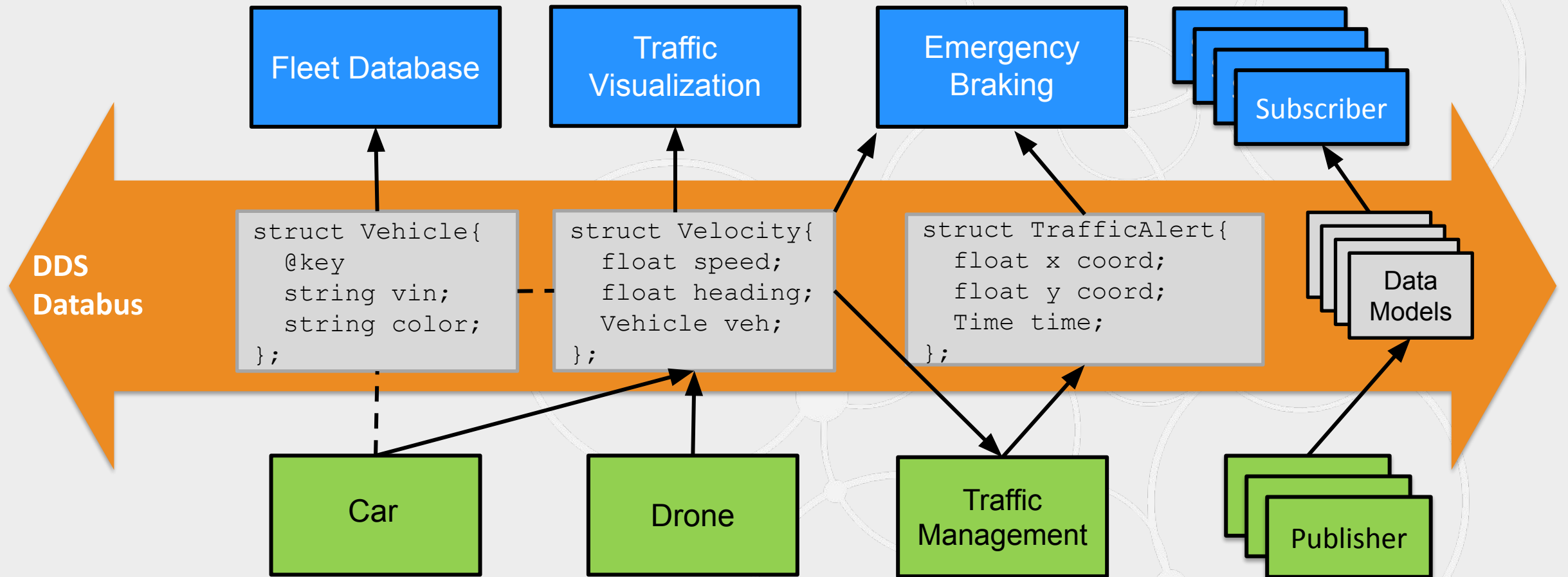
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- What is DDS?
  - Databus for data centric communications
- How is it used?
  - Layered databus for IIoT "Systems of Systems"
  - Quality of Service (QoS)
- DDS is an open standard; RTI extends it
- RTI is hiring! [www.rti.com/careers](http://www.rti.com/careers)



# What is DDS?

# DDS is for Real-time Applications that Use Data



Data-centric systems communicate via data  
DDS is the open standard that defines a real-time *databus*

# Different Styles of Distributed Communications

## Tightly-Coupled

### Point-to-Point



### Client/Server



## Loosely-Coupled

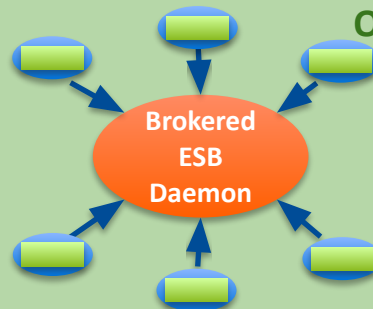
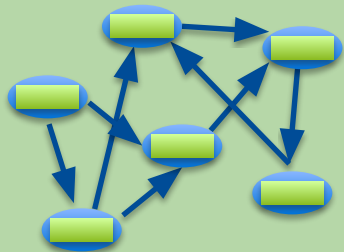
### Queuing



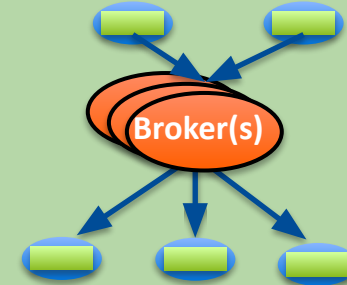
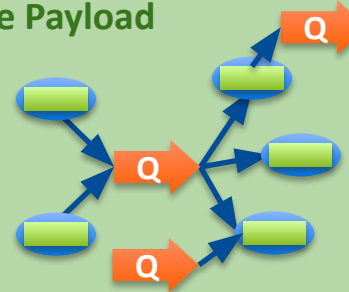
### Publish/Subscribe



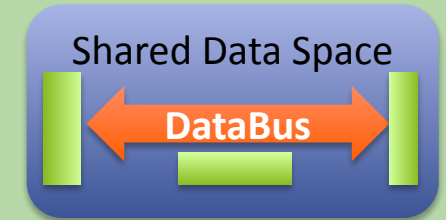
### Data-Centric



### Opaque Payload



### Transparent Payload



TCP/UDP Sockets  
SMS

RESTful: HTTP/CoAP  
XMPP  
OPC  
CORBA  
RPC

AMQP  
Active MQ

Kafka  
MQTT  
JMS  
CANbus

DDS



# Database and Databus are *Data Centric*

Database

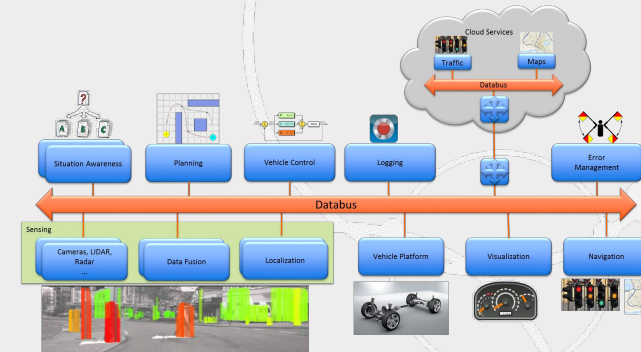


Stores & searches old data

```
SELECT * FROM VehicleData
WHERE color='RED'
AND top_speed > 150;
```

Why Data Centricity?

- Common data format for integration
- Common “truth” for distributed apps



Databus

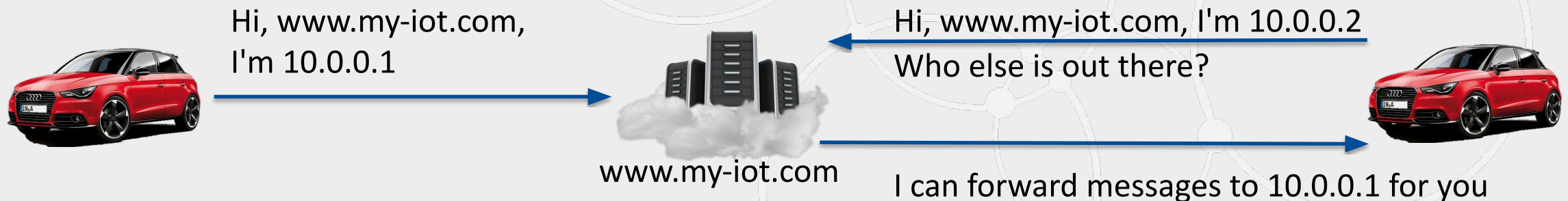


Seeks & filters future data

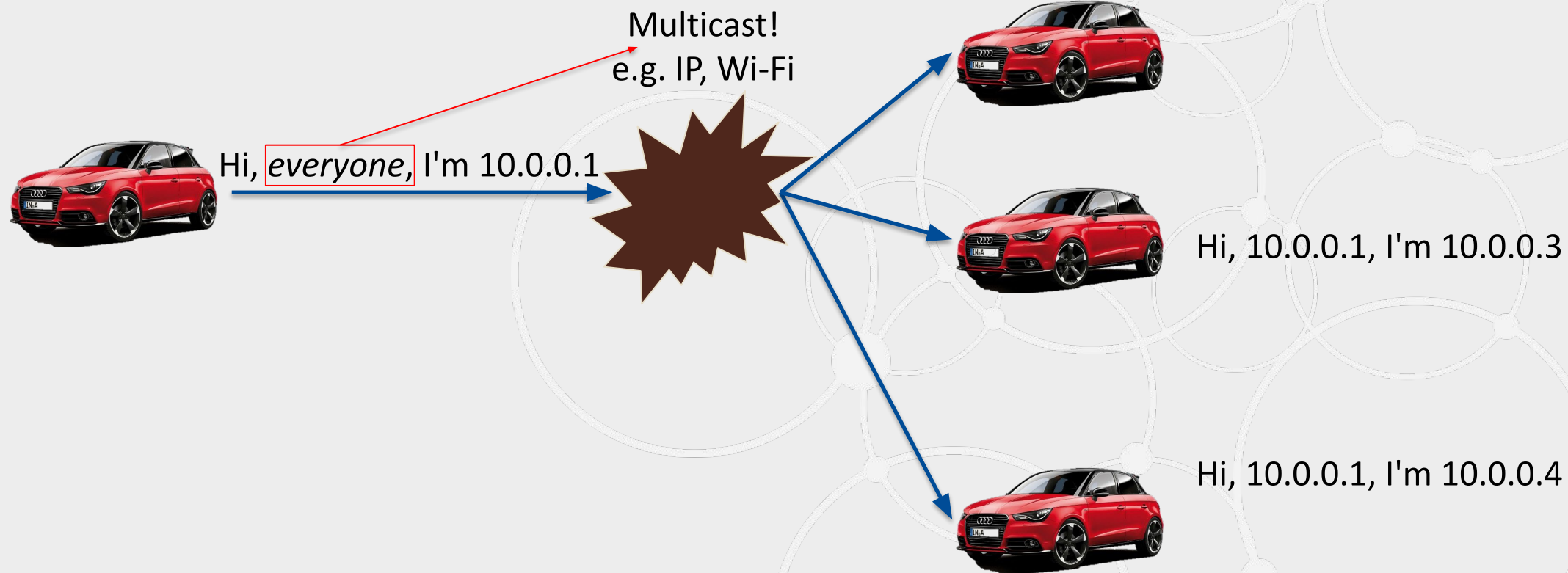
```
cft = ContentFilteredTopic(...
    "(color MATCH 'RED') AND
    (top_speed > 150)");
subscriber.subscribe(cft);
```

# So How Does a Databus Work?

- DDS is basically pub/sub on topic + type + QoS [+ content]
- DDS only specifies the protocol and APIs: not architecture
  - Hence it can be peer-to-peer: no centralized server/broker!
  - No single point of failure, bottleneck, etc...
- How does an application *discover* other apps/services?
  - Other distributed systems middlewares use the broker/server as a *rendezvous point*:

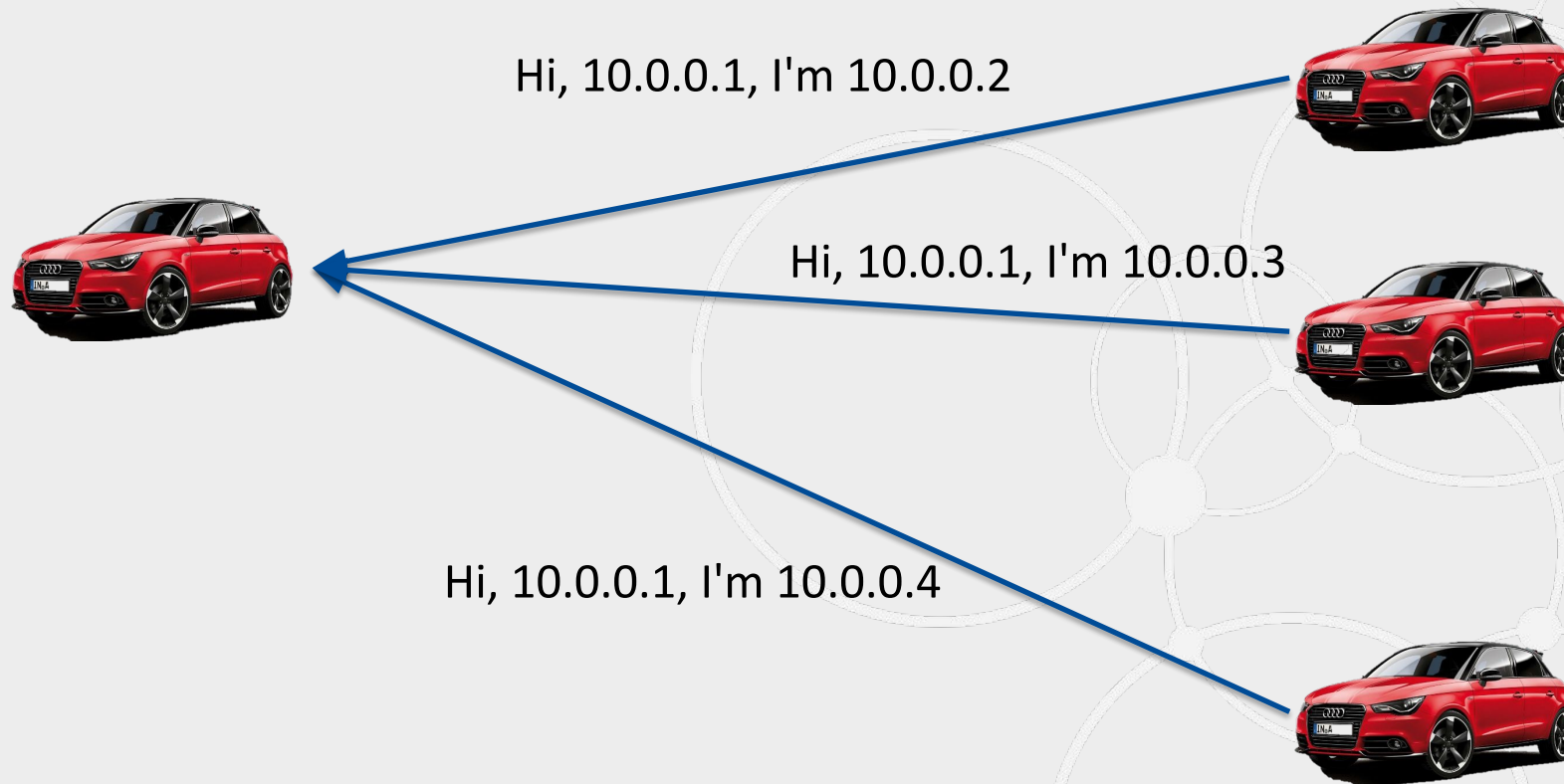


# Endpoint *Discovery* in DDS





# Endpoint *Discovery* in DDS



# Endpoint *Discovery* in DDS



Hi, 10.0.0.2, do you have any *VehicleData* for me? It looks like *this* and this is *how* I want to receive it:

```
struct VehicleData{  
    Velocity velocity;  
    @key  
    int64 obj_ID;}
```



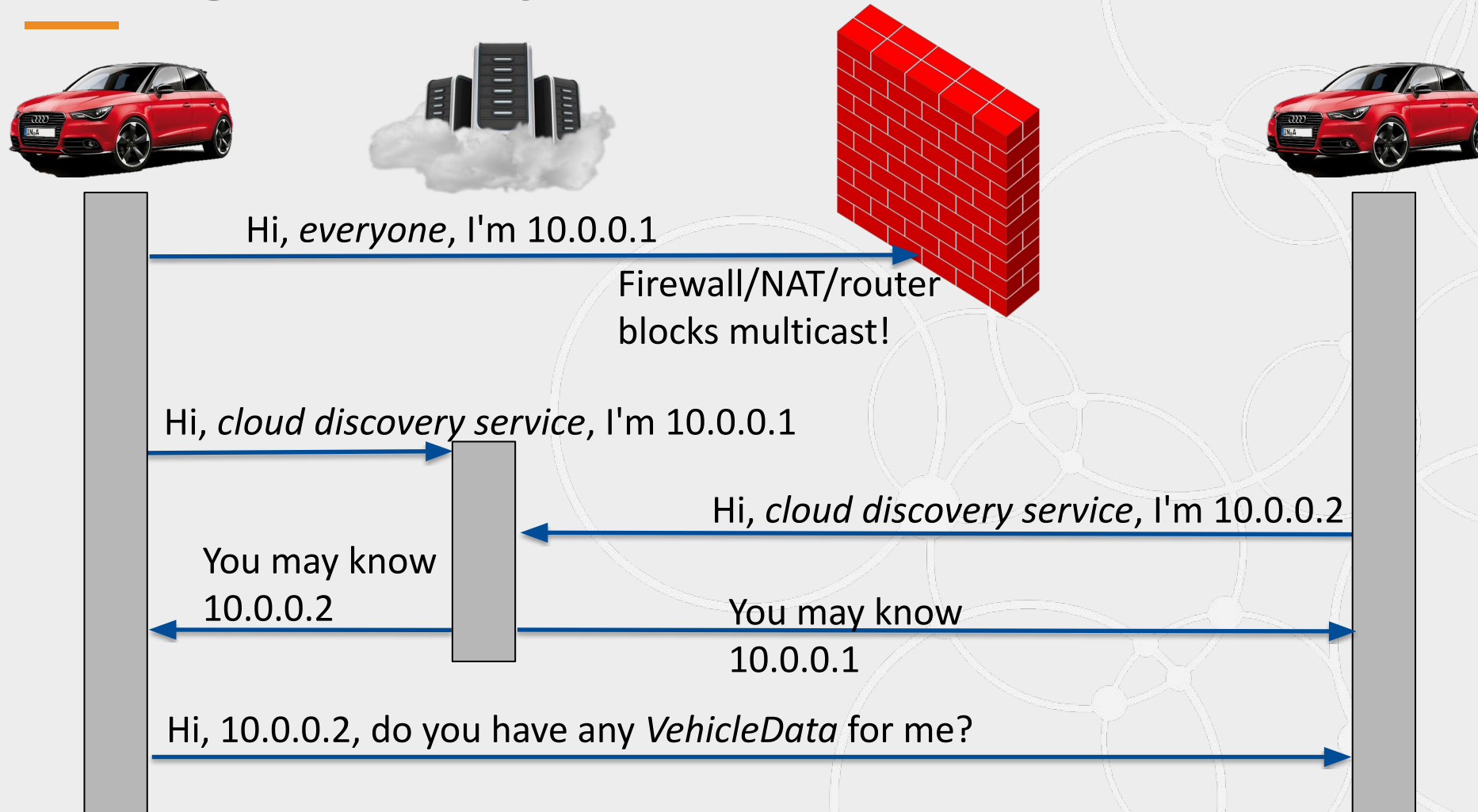
QoS params

Sure, 10.0.0.1, I have *VehicleData* for you. Here's *how* I can send it.

That works for me!

Great! Here's what I have...

# RTI Cloud Discovery Service for Subnet/NAT Traversal During Discovery





# How do IIoT Systems use DDS?

# The *Industrial* IoT is about *Systems of Systems*

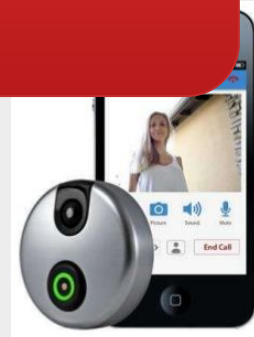
Consumer Internet of Things (CIoT)



80% of hype



novel automation, UIs, comforts



Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT)



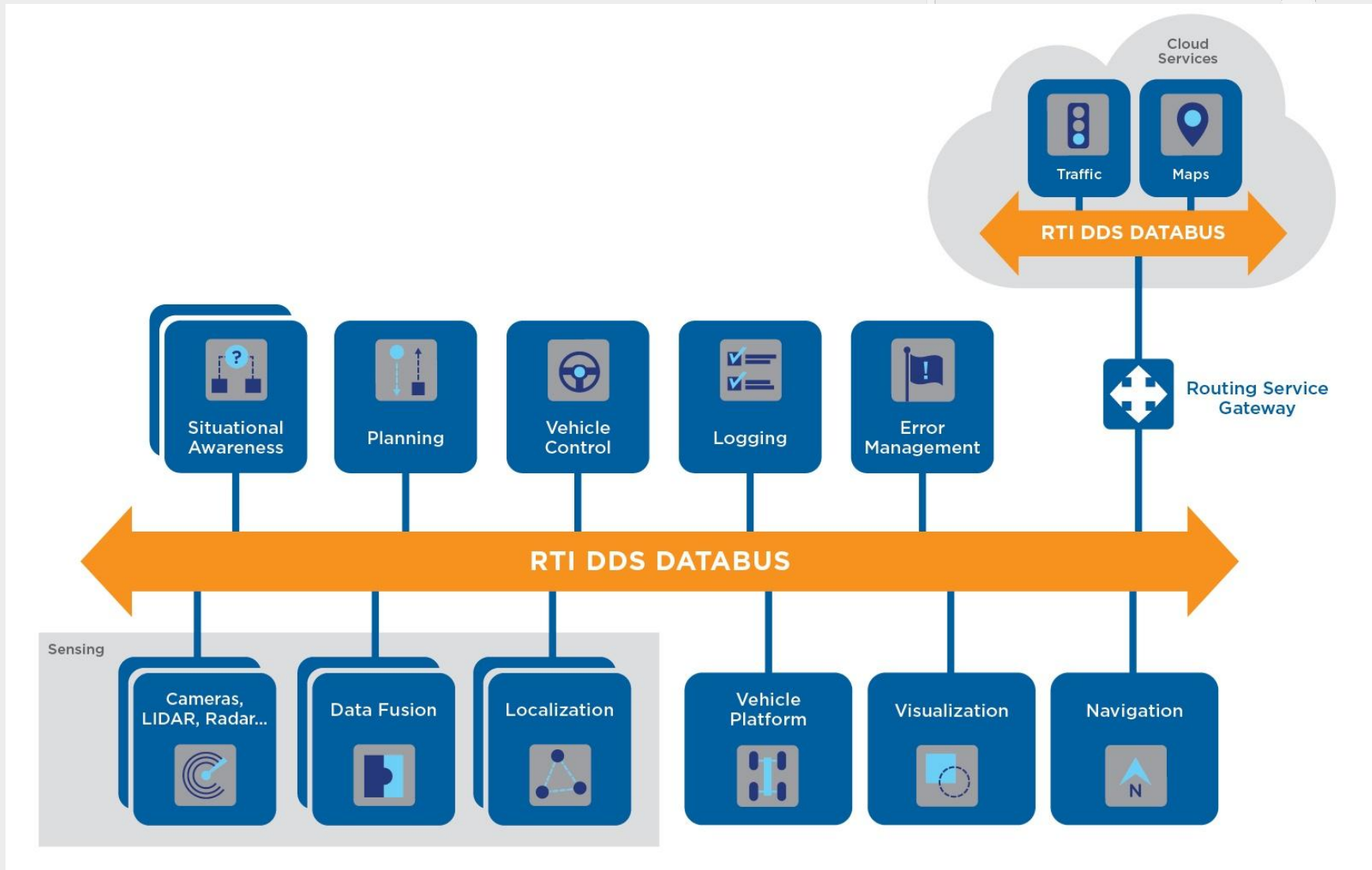
80% of value



real-time, safety-critical, quality of life  
a.k.a. Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)

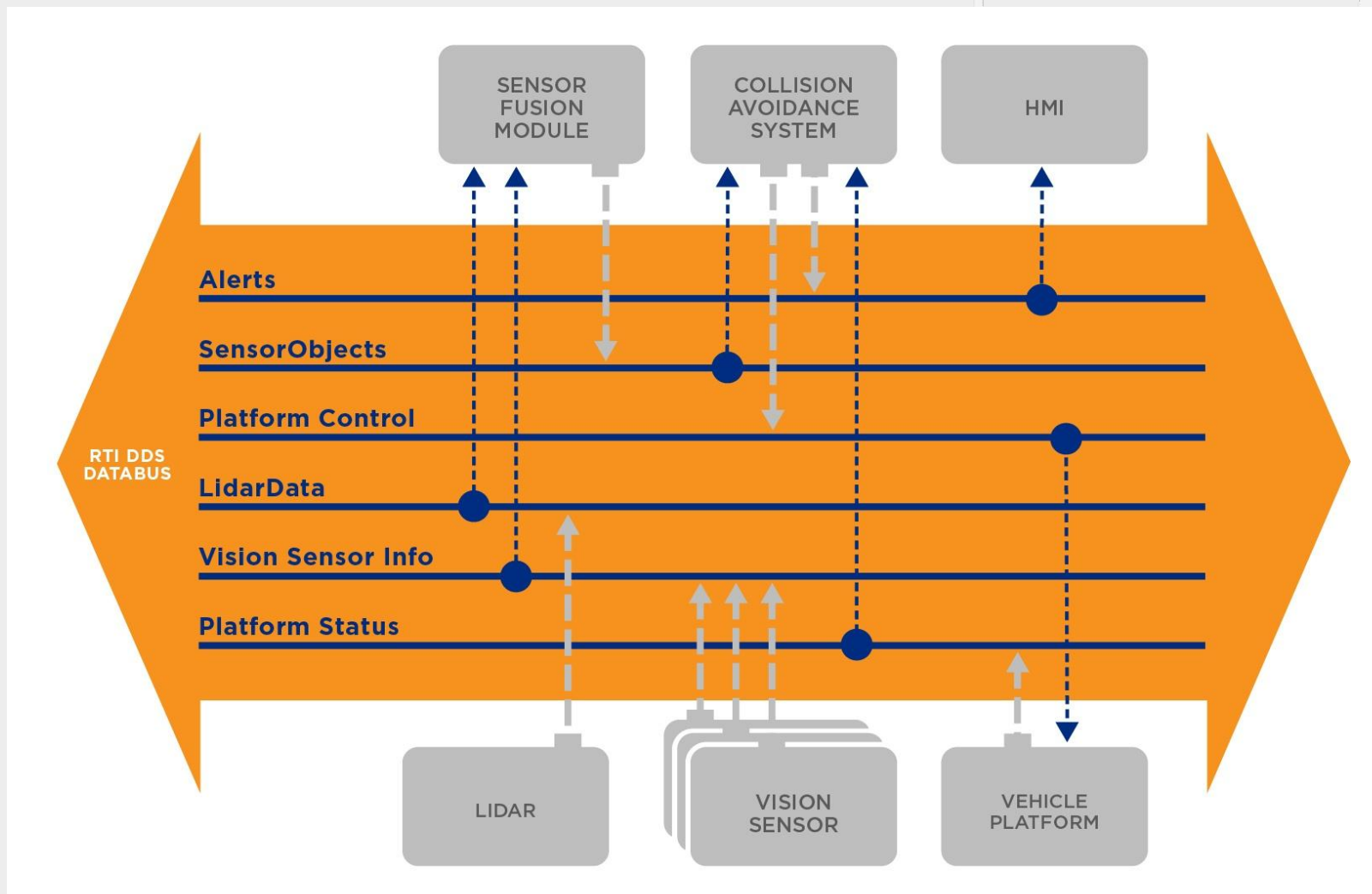


# Example: Autonomous Vehicles

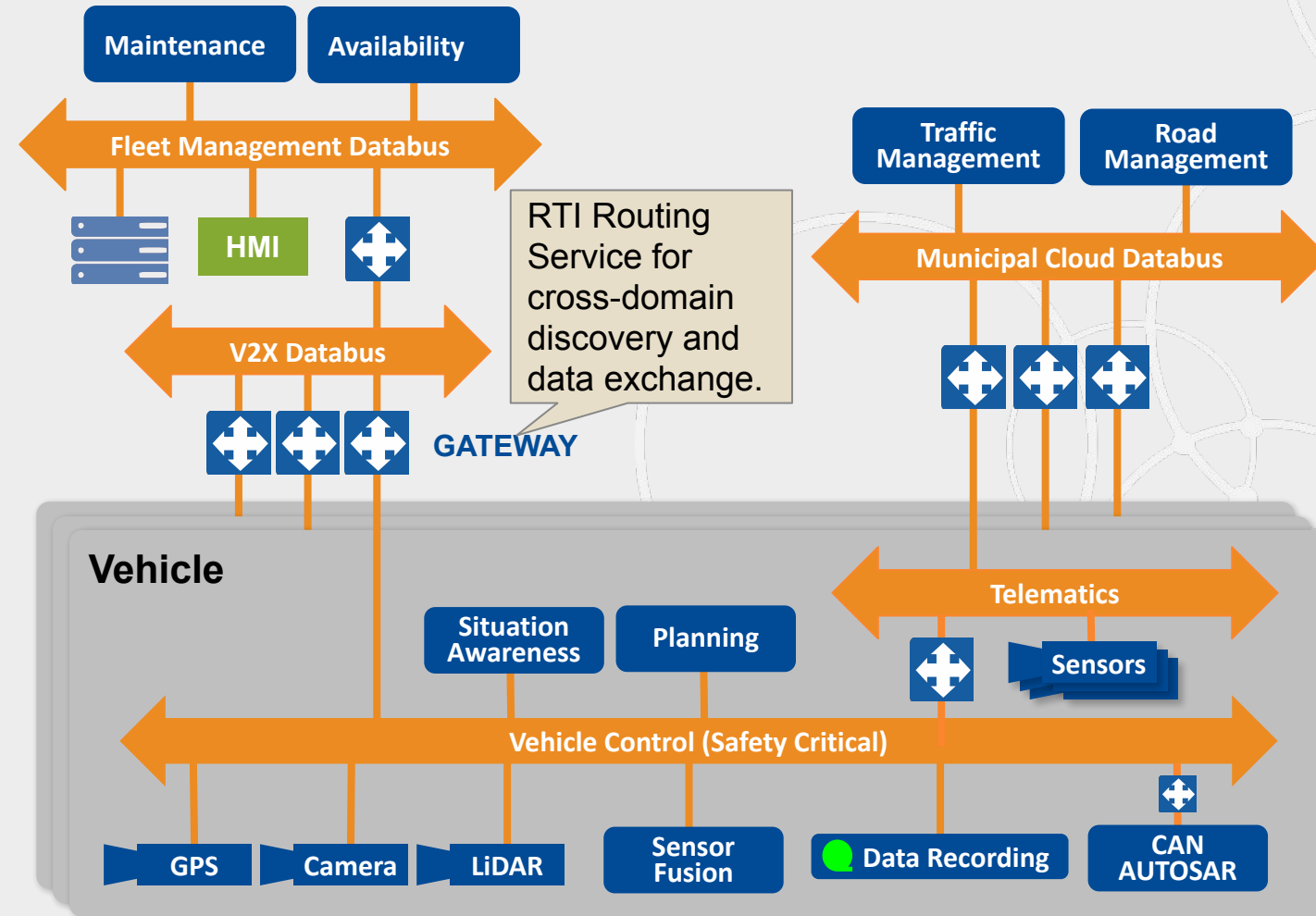




# Example: Autonomous Vehicle



# Scaling IIoT Systems with a Layered Databus Arch.



# DDS Quality of Service (QoS)

Quality of Service		Quality of service
Volatility	DURABILITY	USER_DATA
	HISTORY	TOPIC_DATA
	READER DATA LIFECYCLE	GROUP_DATA
	WRITER DATA LIFECYCLE	PARTITION
Infrastructure	LIFESPAN	PRESENTATION
	ENTITY FACTORY	DESTINATION ORDER
	RESOURCE LIMITS	OWNERSHIP
Delivery	RELIABILITY	OWNERSHIP STRENGTH
	TIME BASED FILTER	LIVELINESS
	DEADLINE	LATENCY BUDGET
	CONTENT FILTERS	TRANSPORT PRIORITY

User  
Presentation  
Redundancy  
Transport



# QoS Example: Reliable alarms/events

Store samples for  
late joiners

Volatility

Infrastructure

Retransmit if  
sample not ACKed

Delivery

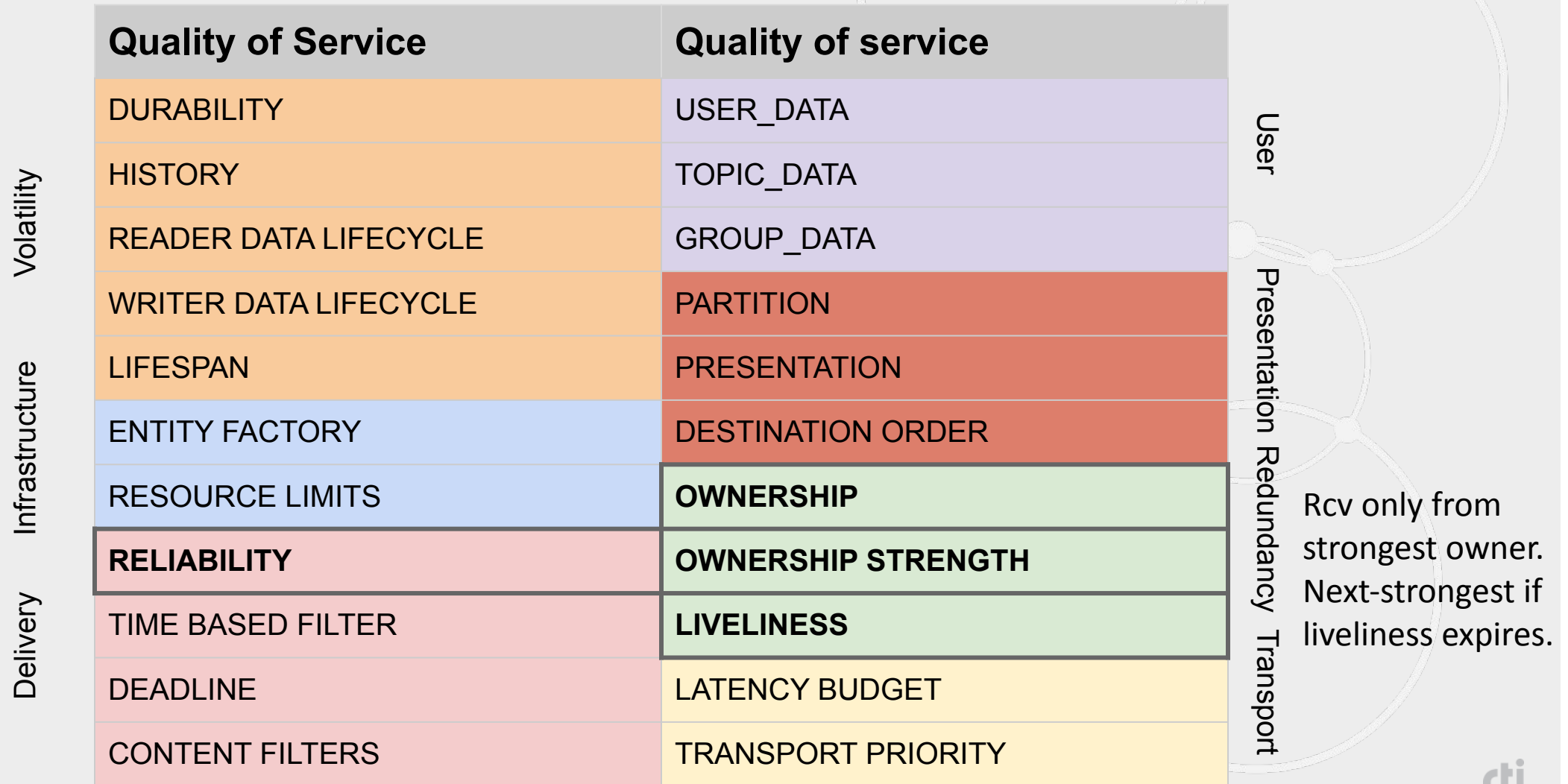
Quality of Service	Quality of service
<b>DURABILITY</b>	USER_DATA
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TIME BASED FILTER	<b>LIVELINESS</b>
DEADLINE	LATENCY BUDGET
CONTENT FILTERS	TRANSPORT PRIORITY

User

Presentation Redundancy Transport

No alarm !=  
everything's fine

# QoS Example: Data Redundancy

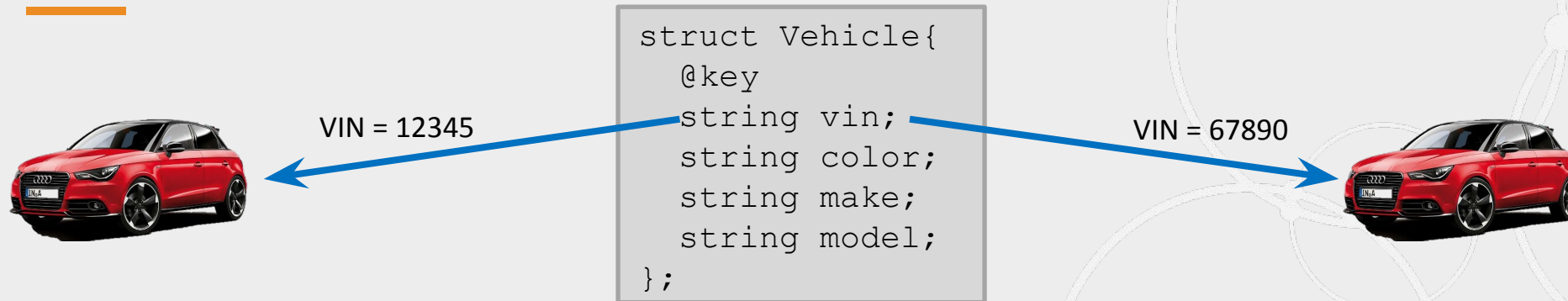


# Tuning Real-time Systems

- In *real-time* systems, predictability is key!
  - Knowing *when* a response will be available. (DEADLINE)
  - Knowing *how much* of a resource to allocate. (RESOURCE LIMITS)
    - Especially pre-allocating buffers to avoid dynamic memory usage.
  - Real-time control loops have to "keep up".
  - Difficult to debug without *reproducibility*.
- Minimizing resource usage and overhead
  - Pre-allocating buffers to receive samples without requiring. (RESOURCE LIMITS)
  - Multicast-based data dissemination to all subscribers.
  - Only send updates every few seconds. (TIME BASED FILTER)



# Managing Instances of Real-World Objects



- How to distinguish these two cars? How does the DMV do it? By a unique *key*: the vehicle identification number (VIN)
- Why use keys/instances?
  - Avoid proliferation of topics e.g. "sensors/temp/id/12"
  - Managing ownership e.g. handing off a vehicle to another depot
  - Content filtering for only relevant data
  - Remember the DURABILITY and HISTORY QoS options? Do we keep 10 of the last Vehicle updates? Or 10 for each *instance*?

# Try at Home Demo!

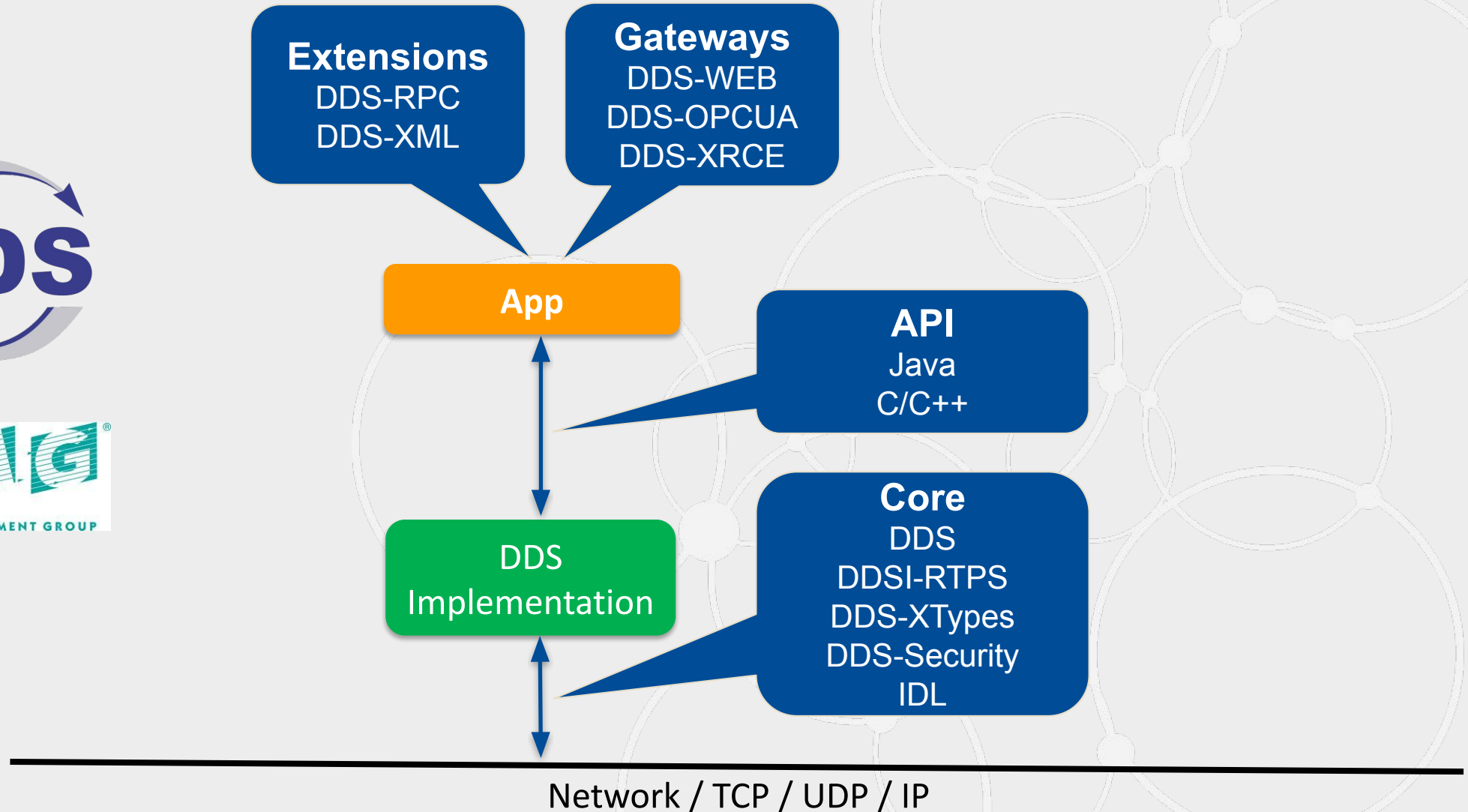
by downloading our Shapes Demo:  
[www.rti.com/free-trial/shapes-demo](http://www.rti.com/free-trial/shapes-demo)

It runs on Java... and yes RTI has a DDS library  
for distributed data-centric Android apps!



# Extensions to the DDS standard

# Open Standards - OMG DDS Specifications





# RTI Connex DDS - an Open Standards-Based Commercial Connectivity Framework for IIoT

Visualization,  
Debugging,  
Logging Tools

Recording  
& Playback  
Services

Application  
Prototyper

Data  
Modeling  
Tools

Cross-Platform  
Code  
Generation

**Tools &  
SDKs**

**Standard APIs** (C, C++, Java, .NET, ADA, Javascript, Python...)

Publish-Subscribe

Request-Reply

Discovery

Exception  
Handling

**Governance**

30+ Quality of  
Service (QoS)  
Options

**Databus**

**Data-centric Resource Model**

Data Type  
System

State  
Management

Data Instance  
Lifecycle (CRUD)

ID and  
Addressing

Fine-grained  
Security

Cross-Platform  
Interoperability

Reliability

**DDS-RTPS Messaging Protocol**

Timeliness

Content Filtering

Protocol  
Adapters

Low  
Bandwidth

Connectivity  
Gateway

Database  
Integration

Persistence  
Service

UDP

TCP

IP Multicast

Satellite

Tactical Radio Networks

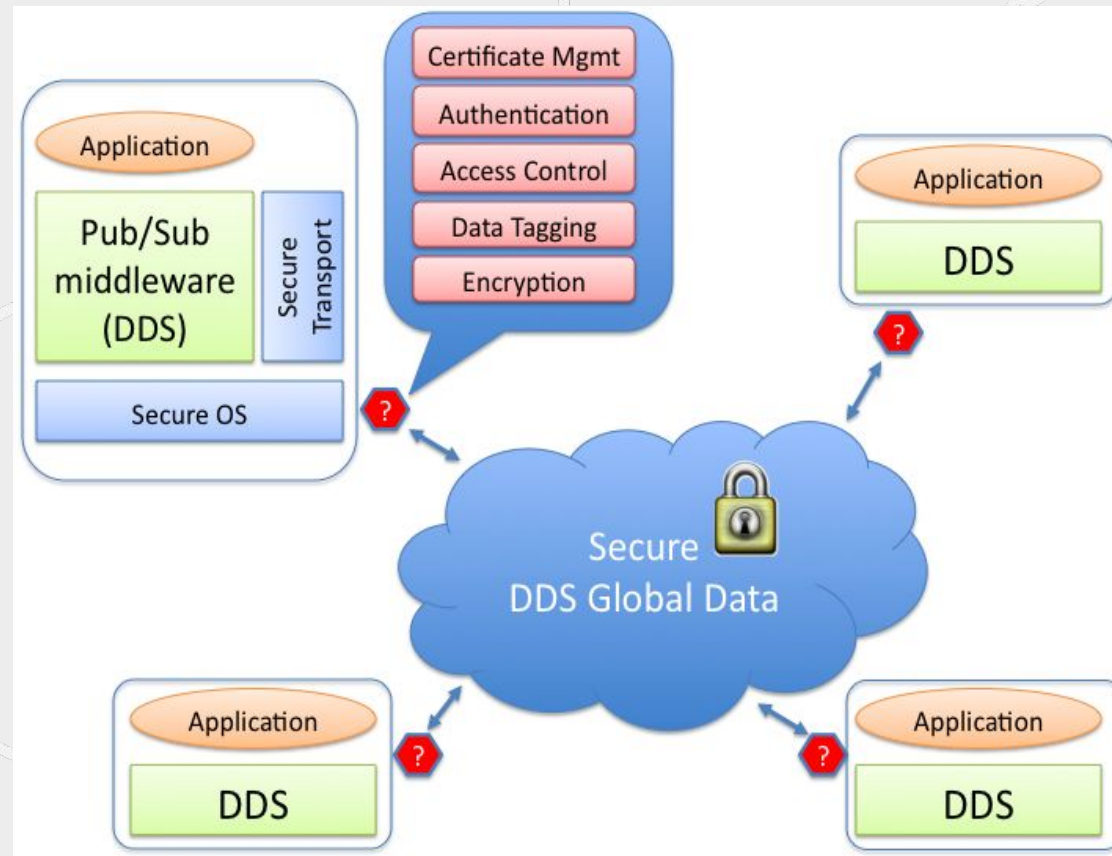
**Pluggable  
Connectivity  
Services**



rti

# Security in DDS

- DDS enables true add-on PKI-based security:
- DDS entities are **authenticated**
- DDS enforces topic-level **fine-grained access control**
- DDS maintains data **integrity** and **confidentiality**
- DDS enforces **non-repudiation**
- DDS provides **availability**



...while maintaining DDS interoperability & high performance

# RTI Connex DDS Product Suite - Tools, Alternative DDS Implementations, Safety Certifications, and More...

- RTI Research is exploring safety-certifiable code generation for autonomous systems, in particular [Urban Air Mobility \(UAM\)](#).
- The goal is to enable the design of safety-critical distributed communications according to a well-defined certifiable process.
- Our customers will generate the middleware boilerplate code along with safety certification evidence provided by our code generator that understands the requirements of different safety certification processes as well as the particulars of the customers' platforms.
- This lowers the barrier to entry for autonomous systems startups.



Code  
Generation



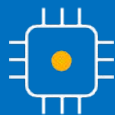
Data  
Routing



Sheet  
Generation



3<sup>rd</sup> Party  
Integrations



**Connex DDS Micro**

Designed for resource-constrained systems.

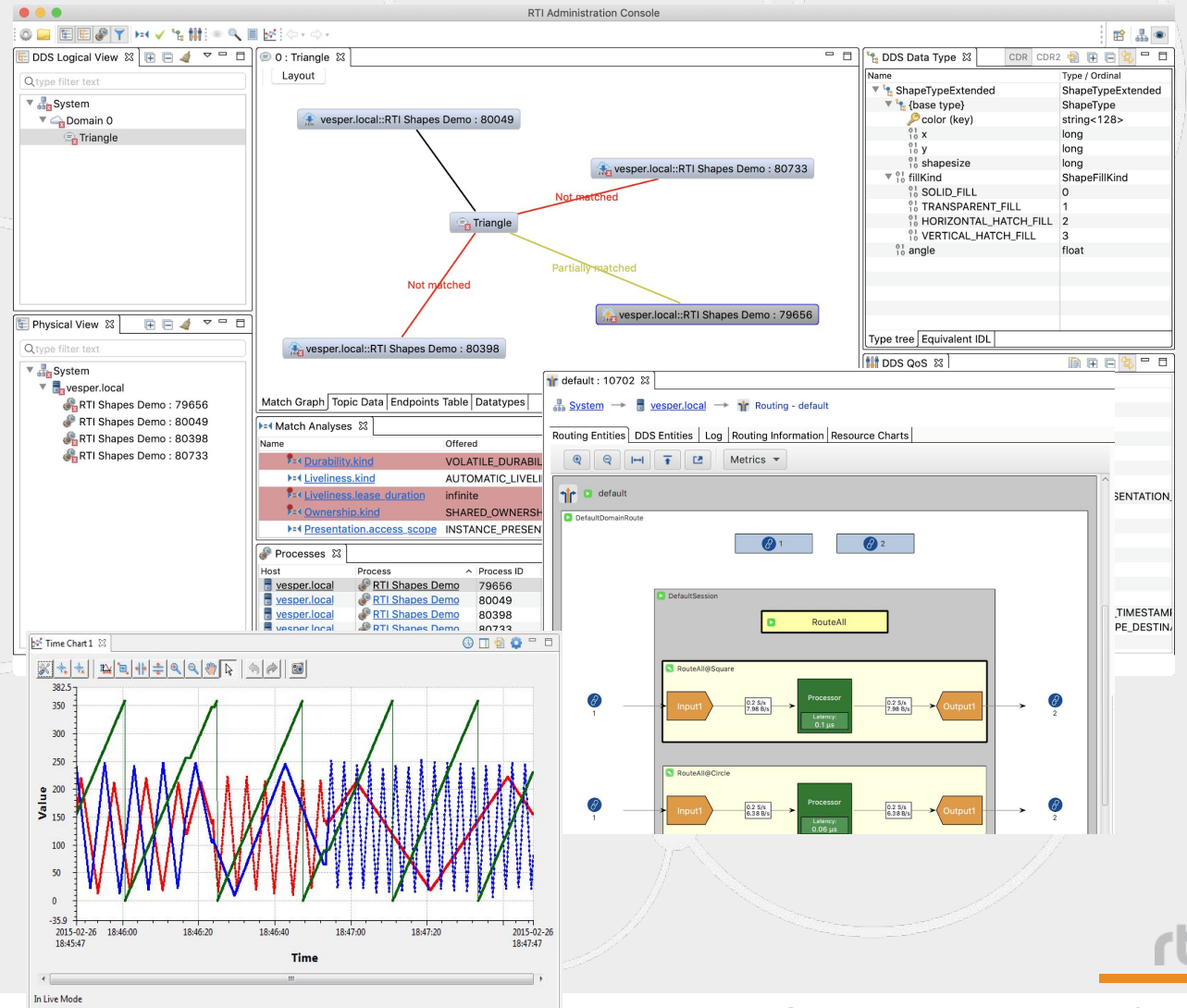


**Connex DDS Cert**

Designed for safety-certifiable systems.

# RTI Tools - Administration Console

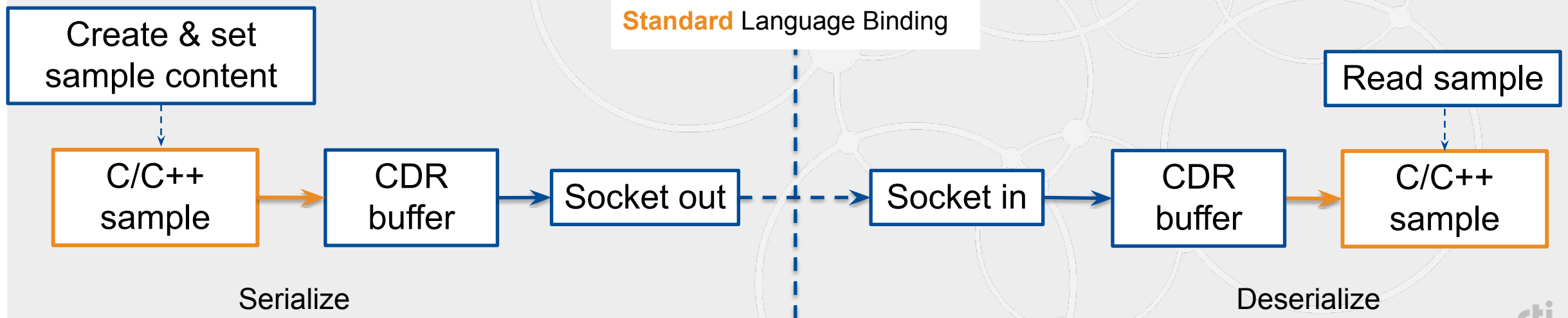
- System Awareness
  - Who/What/How?
  - Exactly data types published/subscribed?
  - System performance
- Debugging
  - QoS and/or types mismatches
  - View/administer application and security log messages
- Administration
  - Control RTI Services remotely
- Data Visualization





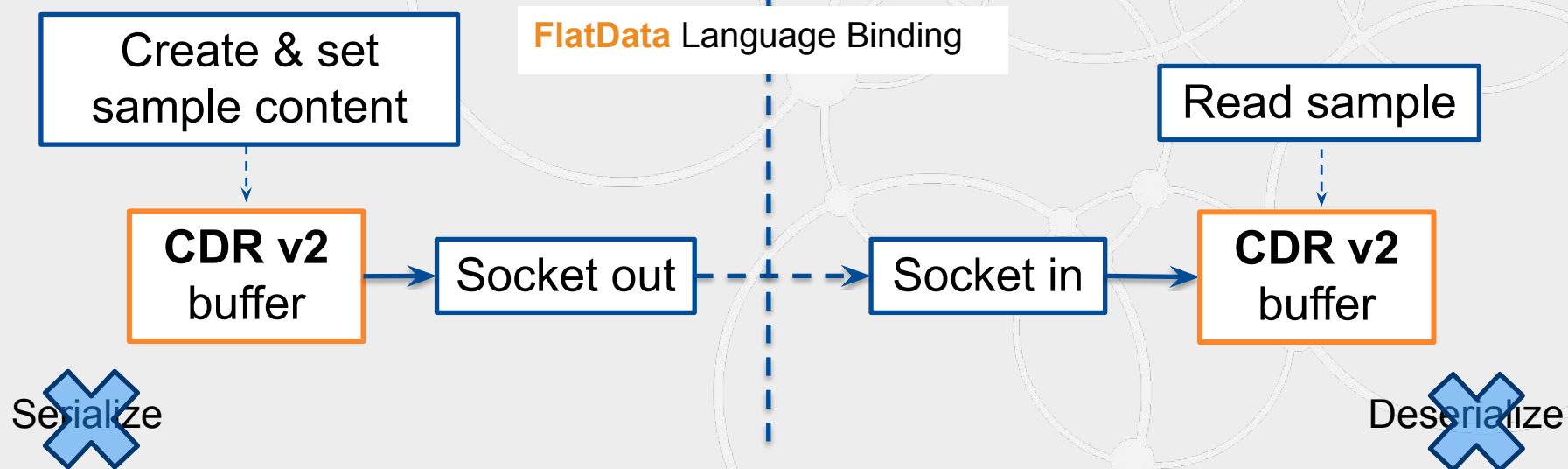
# RTI Connex Feature - FlatData

- Normally we must serialize data, transmit it over the network, and then deserialize it on the other end for use by the application.

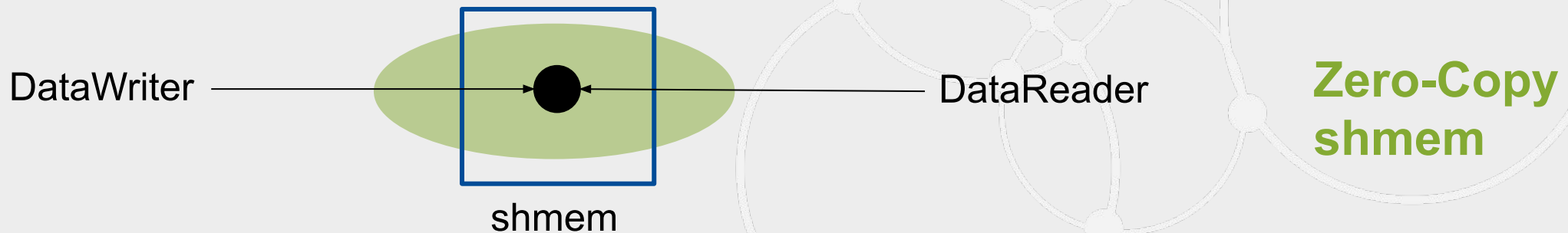
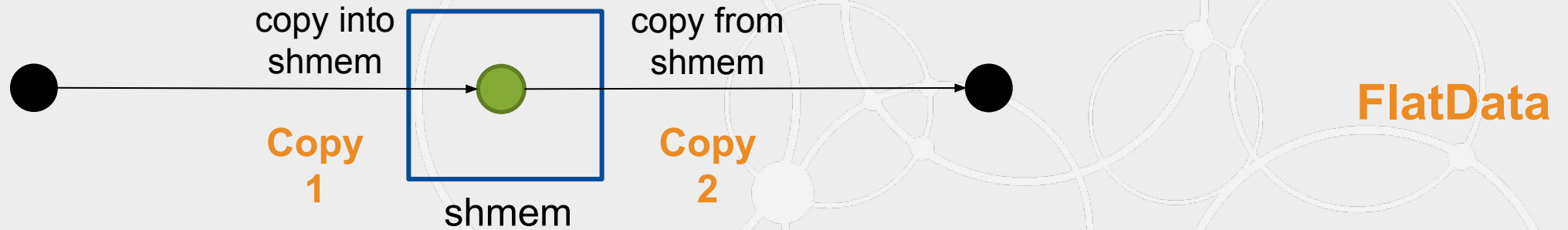
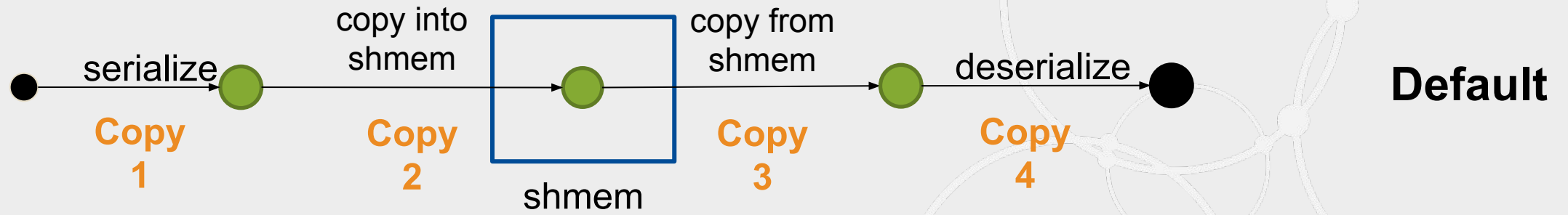


# RTI Connex Feature - FlatData

- Language Binding in which
  - Wire representation is equal to memory representation
    - E.g. different endianness, byte padding, lack of native type support
    - This representation is CDR v2
  - No serialization or deserialization needed to send/receive data



# Zero Copy Over Shared Memory



# About RTI (Real-Time Innovations)

- Leader in IIoT Connectivity Software
  - 1,000+ commercial designs
  - 400+ research projects
  - Over 70% commercial DDS market share\*
  - Multi-sector expertise: energy, aerospace & defense, transportation, healthcare, manufacturing...
- Leader in Connectivity Standards
  - Active in 15 standards efforts
  - Data Distribution Service (DDS) authors
  - Object Management Group (OMG) Board of Directors
  - Industrial Internet Consortium (IIC) Steering Committee; Co-Chair several sub-committees

*\*Embedded Market Forecasters  
and Venture Development Corp (VDC)*



[www.rti.com](http://www.rti.com)





# Conclusion

- DDS is an open standard that defines a real-time databus abstraction for architecting systems of systems.
- Data centricity enables the middleware to configure a data-driven communications framework according to the data's structure and QoS requirements.
- DDS abstracts the details of connecting endpoints, transferring data, and managing the network.
- *DDS is like defining your own protocol* - QoS tuning enables system developers to configure DDS for their specific requirements without writing brittle custom software.

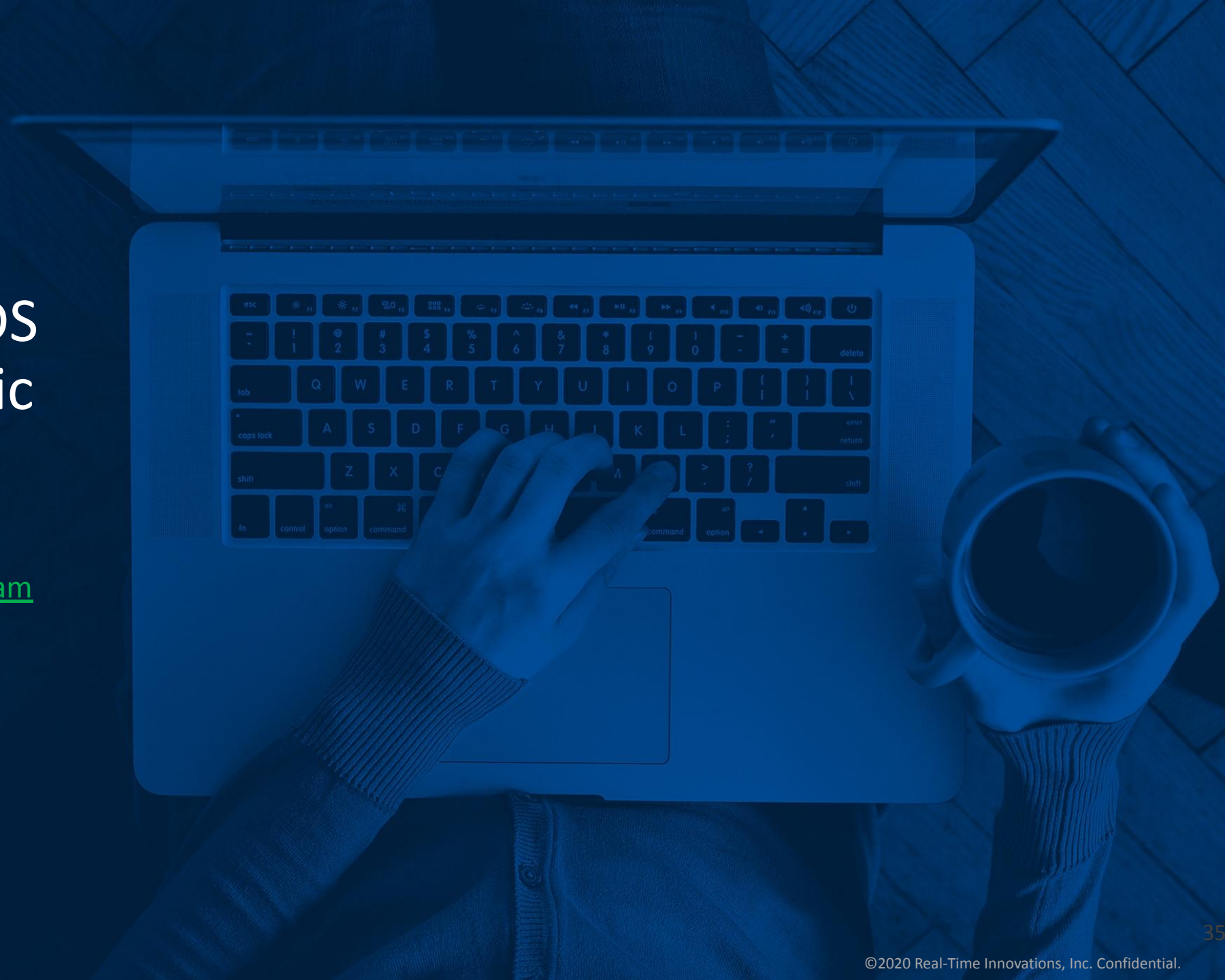
# Quiz Questions

- How does the DDS databus differ from other distributed communications paradigms?
- How does DDS take advantage of data transparency?
- What 4 elements of a DDS subscription must match before data will be exchanged between DDS apps?
- What DDS QoS options are needed for alarm data?
- How does DDS facilitate modular open architectures?
- How does DDS support real-time systems?

# Use Connex DDS in your academic projects

Free for Research  
[through RTI's University Program](#)

Includes resources to get  
you up and running fast



# Stay Connected

RTI is hiring! In Denver, too!



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*Free trial of Connex DDS*



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