



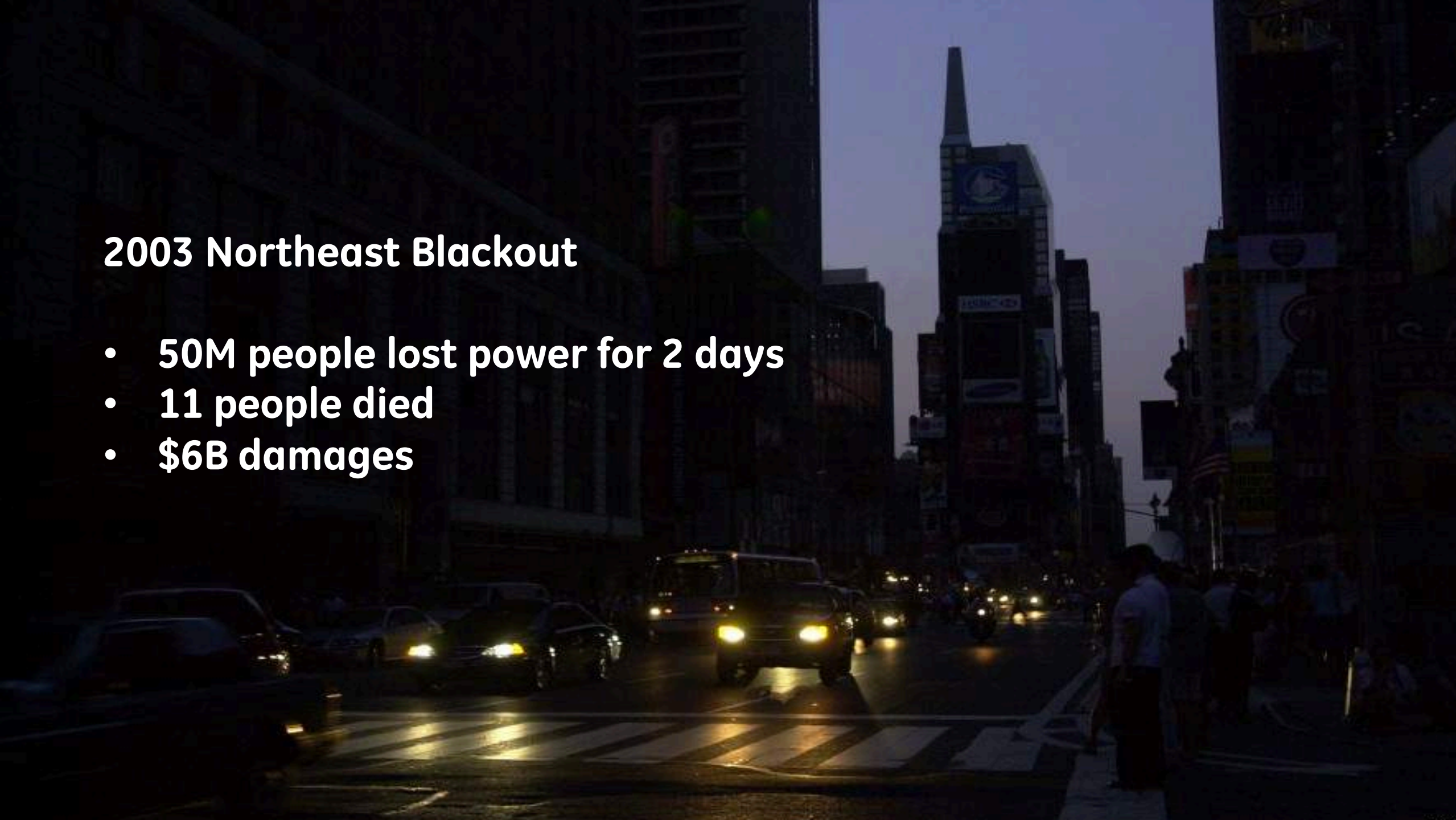
# Software Architecture and Design Practices for Industrial IoT

Alisher Maksumov and Michelangelo Russo  
GE Digital, General Electric

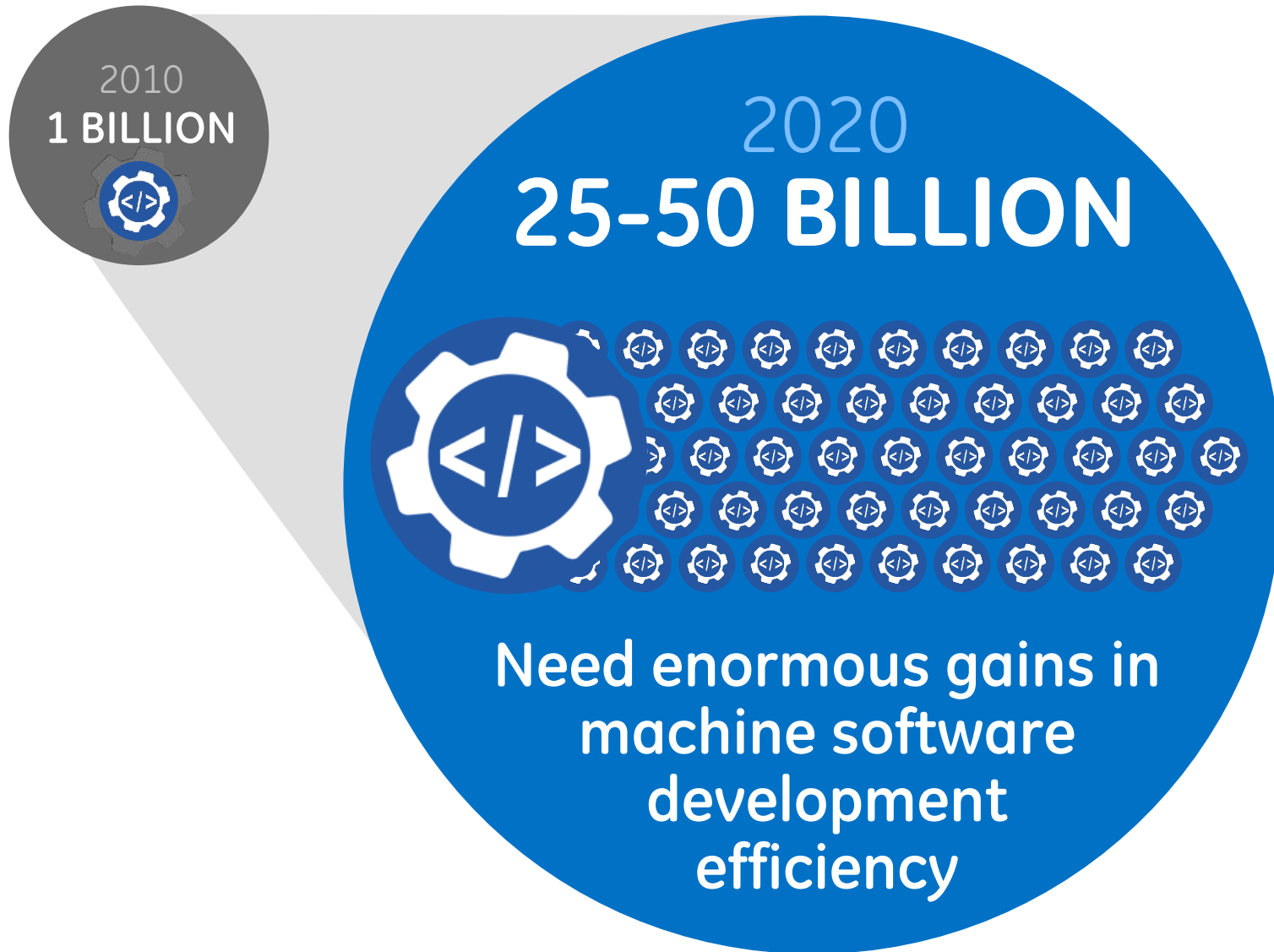
Saturn Conference, San Diego, CA  
May 2016

## 2003 Northeast Blackout

- 50M people lost power for 2 days
- 11 people died
- \$6B damages



# Connected Devices



# What is Industrial IoT?

Wind Turbines



Gas Compressors



Gas Turbines



MRI Machines



Jet Engines



Locomotives



# GE Gas Turbine Example

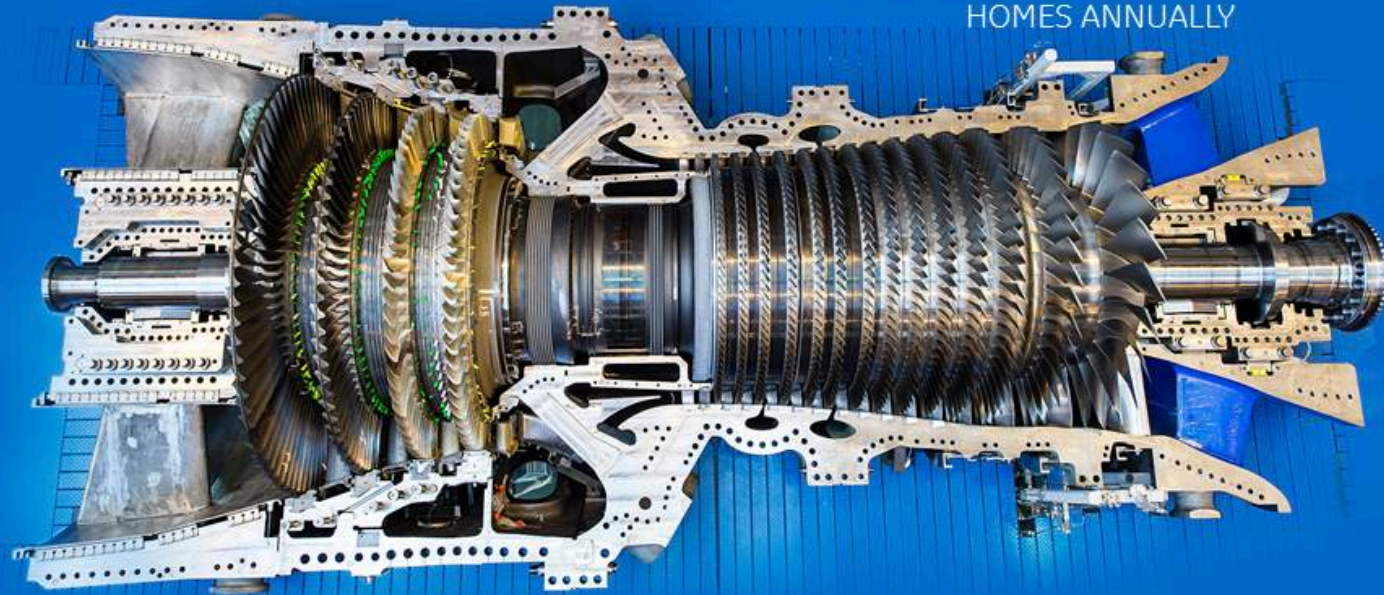
9HA.02

6 MAIN SENSORS  
TAKING IN

8,000 DATA POINTS  
PER SECOND

470 MW  
ENOUGH TO POWER

470k  
HOMES ANNUALLY



LOWER EMISSIONS FOOTPRINT = 9,470 Cars  
TAKING OFF EUROPEAN ROADS\*

981,000 =  
POUNDS OF METAL  
MORE THAN THE TAKEOFF WEIGHT OF A BOEING 747

630,000 =  
HORSEPOWER  
1,650 OF F-150 TRUCKS OR 1,420 FERRARIS



\* Under assumed operating profile of 4,500 hours per year, or an equivalent operating basis

# Critical Problems to Solve by IIoT



Unplanned Downtime



Safety and Reliability



Maintenance Optimization



Production Efficiency



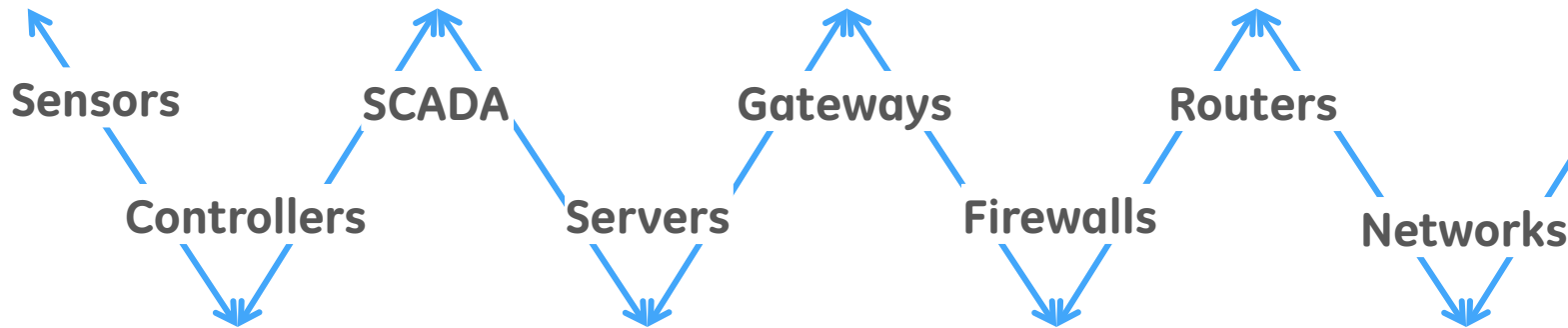
Key capabilities: **asset connectivity, visibility, management, analytics, alerting**

# Architecture and Design Goals

**Industrial Assets**  
Infinite streams  
of real-time data



**Industrial Cloud**  
Infinite data storage  
and compute



**Responsive**

**Interoperable**

**Scalable**

**Easy to use**

**Fail-safe**

**Remotely manageable**

**Available**

**Secure**

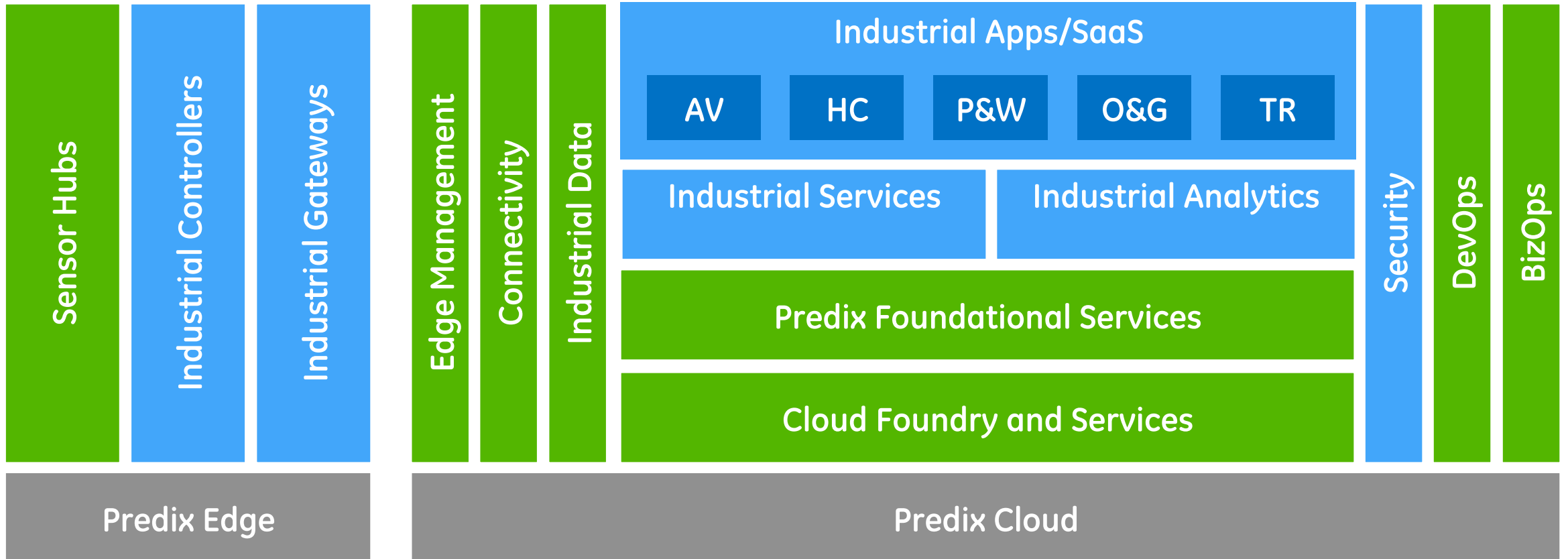
# Architecture Approach

- On the Cloud:
  - Infrastructure – elastic, secure, available, VMs, containers
  - Microservices – separation of concerns, catalog, management
  - User Experience – domain specialized flows and patterns
  - User Interface – responsive, scalable, consistent
  - DevOps – development, testing, deployment automation
  - Security – infrastructure, apps/services, regulatory compliance
  - Legacy – support for existing legacy apps and services
- On the Edge:
  - Interoperability – industrial protocols
  - Security – holistic approach
  - Data collection – store/forward, transformation
  - Analytics – local processing



# Reference Architecture

## INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS

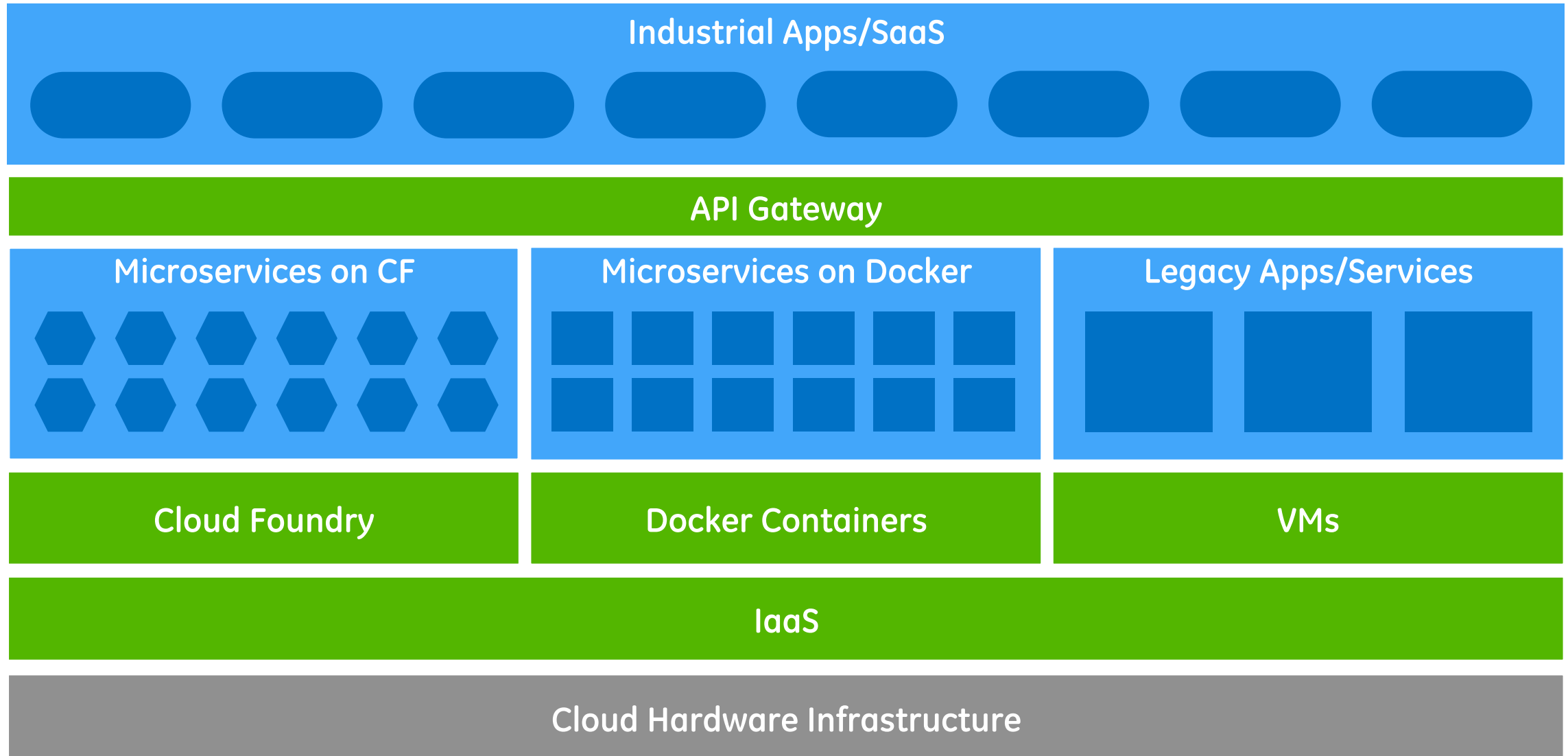


Hardware Infrastructure

General-purpose Services

Industrial Domain Services

# Hybrid Infrastructure in the Cloud



Hardware Infrastructure

Run-time Services and Discovery

Industrial Domain Services and Apps

# Challenges and Learning

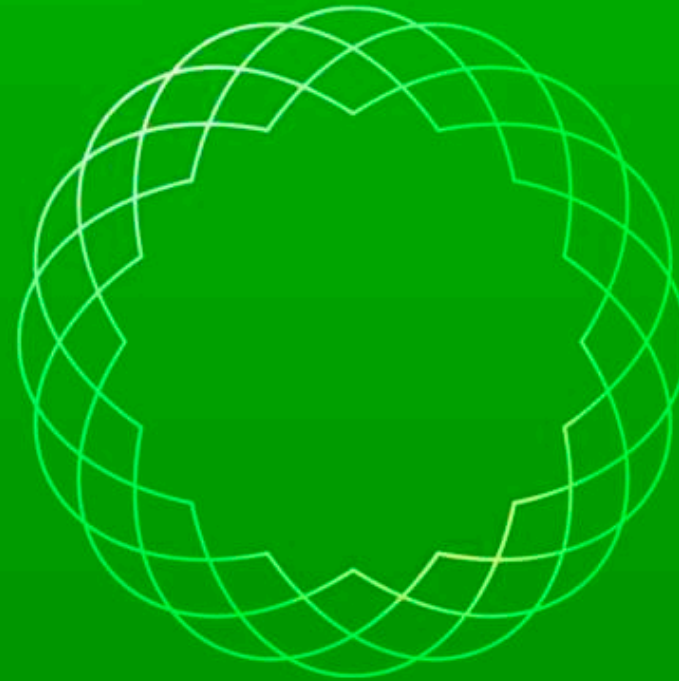
- Architecture:
  - SDK based legacy stack -> Cloud hosted microservices
  - Design patterns, APIs, standards, governance
- Development:
  - Scrum+Waterfall -> Pair programming, “pure” Scrum
  - OSGi+Java -> CF+Java, Go, Node.js, etc.
  - Best practices – 12factor app, configuration, performance
- DevOps:
  - CI/CD – testing, staging, deployment automation
  - Support – 24/7, online forum, phone, email, etc.



# Predix

Your cloud platform for the  
Industrial Internet

[Register for Free Trial](#)



# Challenges: Building The Edge Platform

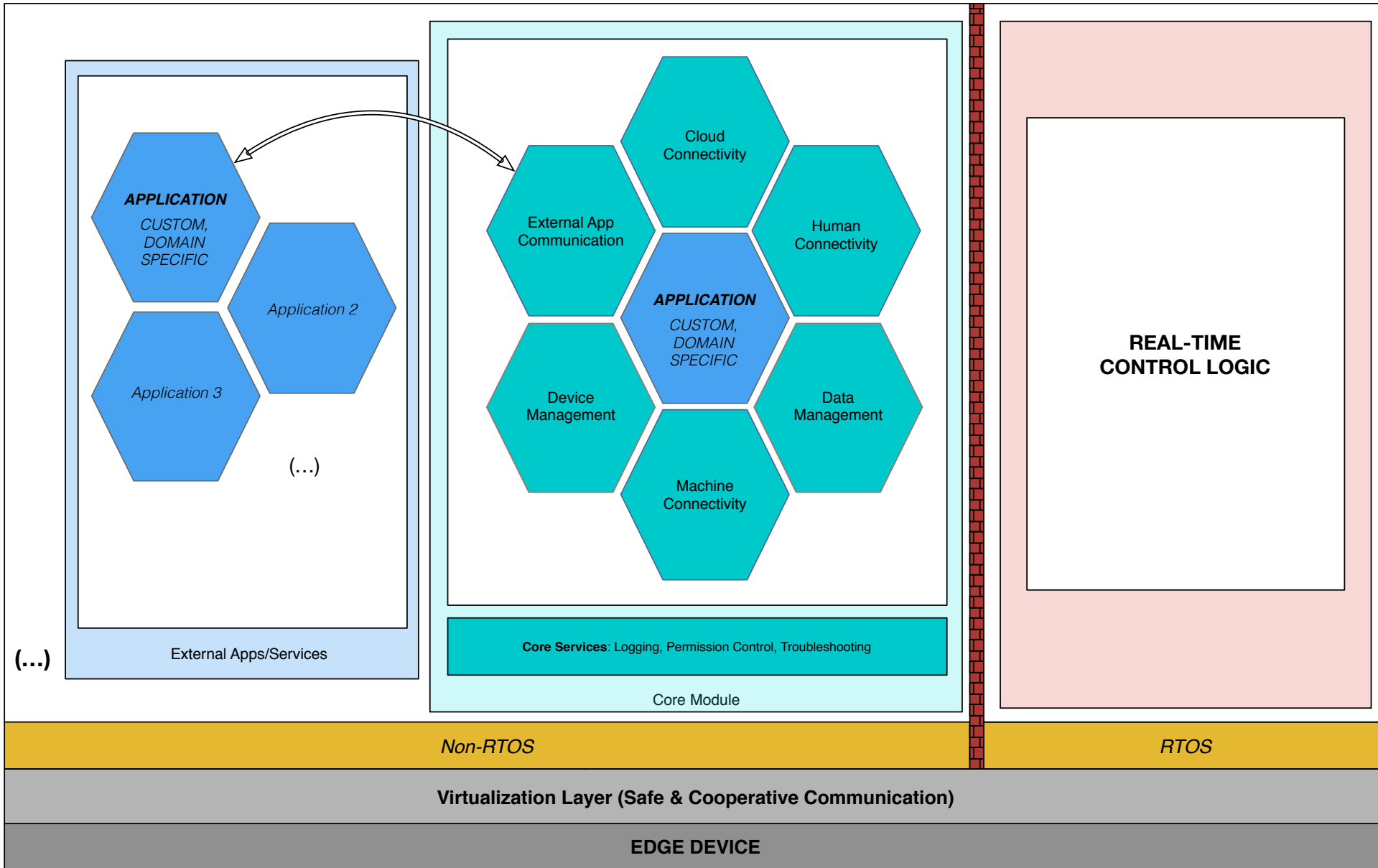
The existing landscape:

1. **Hardware + Software Tightly Coupled** → *Labor intensive update*
2. **Non Standard Interfaces** → *Lack of interoperability*
3. **Lack of Scalable Architecture** → *Limited analysis and processing of data*
4. **High number of Proprietary Software stacks** → *Limited maintainability*

# Lessons Learned...

- Platform *must* be:
  - As HW/OS-Agnostic as possible → *Java, migrating to next-gen containers*
  - Scalable → *Footprint down to ~10MB*
  - Pluggable → *Service oriented architecture*
  - Customizable → *SDK*
- Separation of concerns must be achieved between Real-Time (critical) components and non-Real-Time → *Real Time Java ultimately dismissed*

# Functional Reference Architecture\*



\* = Example of a possible deployment

# Challenges: Building The Security Infrastructure

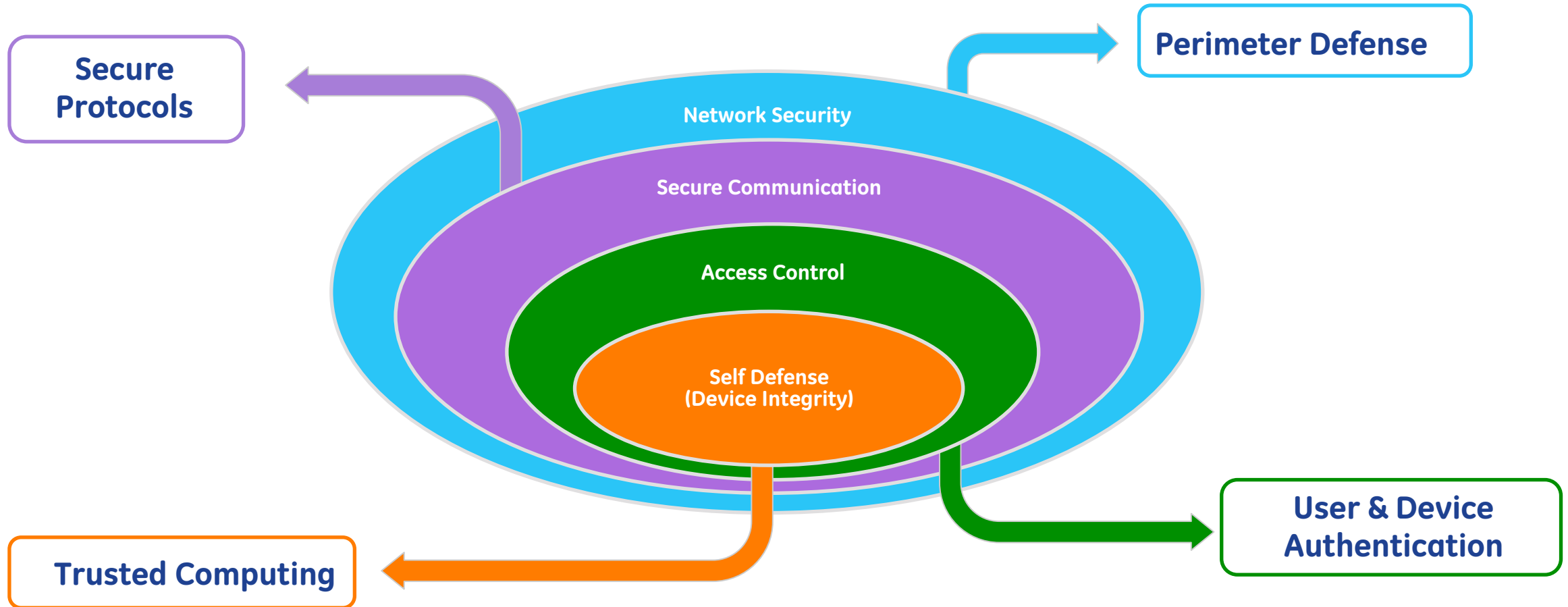
- Different security paradigms from edge to cloud → Isolated vs. Shared services
- Control on full stack (HW+SW) is not always an option
- Aging, unsecure protocols still used in the field



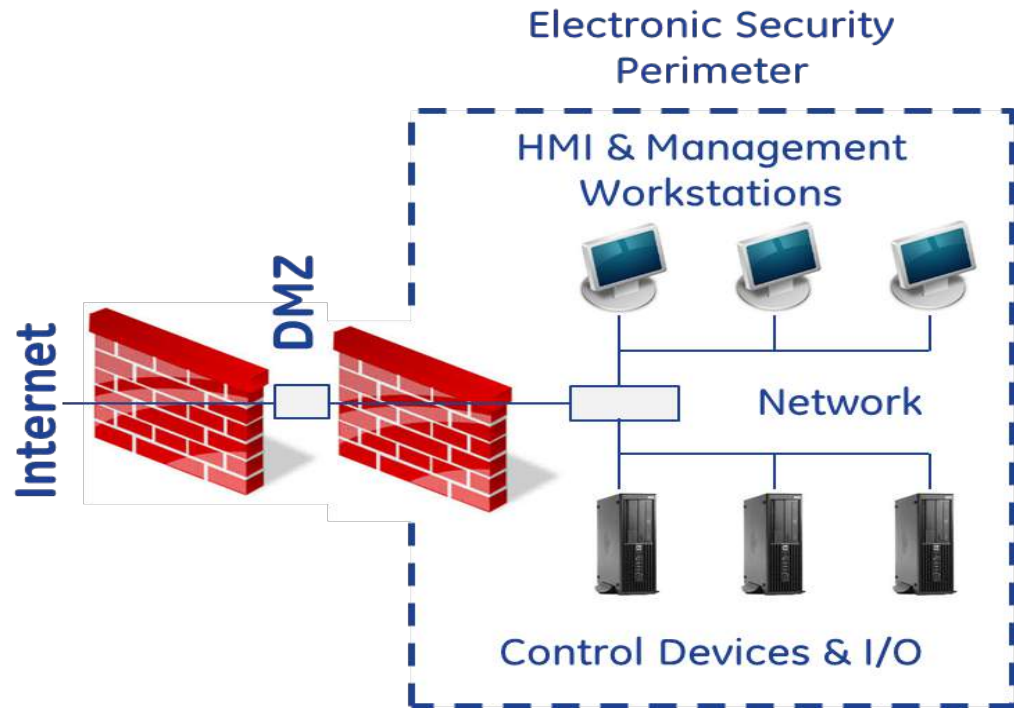
# Lessons Learned...

- Security is an integrated story: designs, processes and practices must coordinate → *Device-initiated communication*
- Certificate-based infrastructure should be preferred to user-based authentication → *Availability of a signing authority*
- Airtight isolation is an illusion... → *Advocating federated solutions*

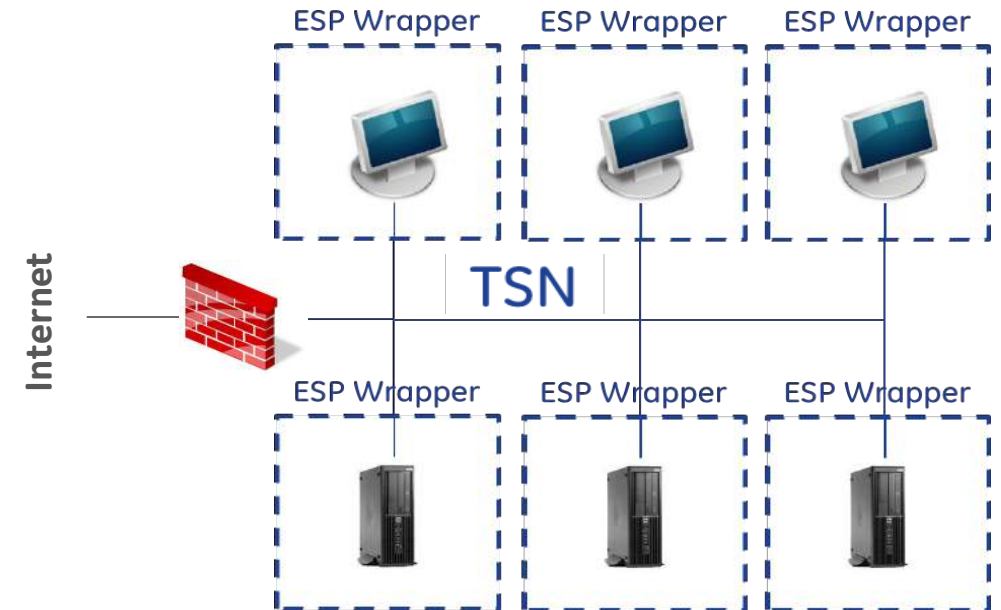
# Edge Security Integrated Architecture



# Security Perimeter → Security *Fabric*



- Risks due to operational needs leave attack surfaces open to exploitation
- Compromise of any network participant threatens the system
- Network itself is vulnerable



- Leverages Virtualization approach
- Risks due to operational needs can be accommodated minimizing attack surface
- Compromise of any network participant is much harder
- Compromised devices less of a threat to the system
- Network is more secure

# Takeaways

- Building a solution for Industrial IoT requires a platform that can stretch from sensors and embedded devices to elastic cloud infrastructure
- Use of microservices architecture and design patterns, 12factor app principles, security patterns, and devops automation are fundamental to our success
- Security has to be designed into hardware and software using holistic approach