

GSAW 2011 Implementing Shared  
Capabilities

**Ground Software Integration  
in Various Bus Architectures:**

**Lessons Learned from Recent  
Experience**

# Who Are We?

GMV is....

- Privately-owned, family business (woman-owned)
- Established in 1984 with affiliates in the US, Europe and Asia
- ISO 9001 certified, CMMI level 5 certified for SW development
- Space News Top 50: #48 for 2 years in a row
- #1 Commercial telecom ground system supplier in the world
- Only company to sell ground SW to space institutions around the world (NASA, NOAA, USGS, CNES, ESA, Eumetsat, Roscosmos, ISRO, ETRI)
- GMV ground systems deployed to 26 countries on 6 continents

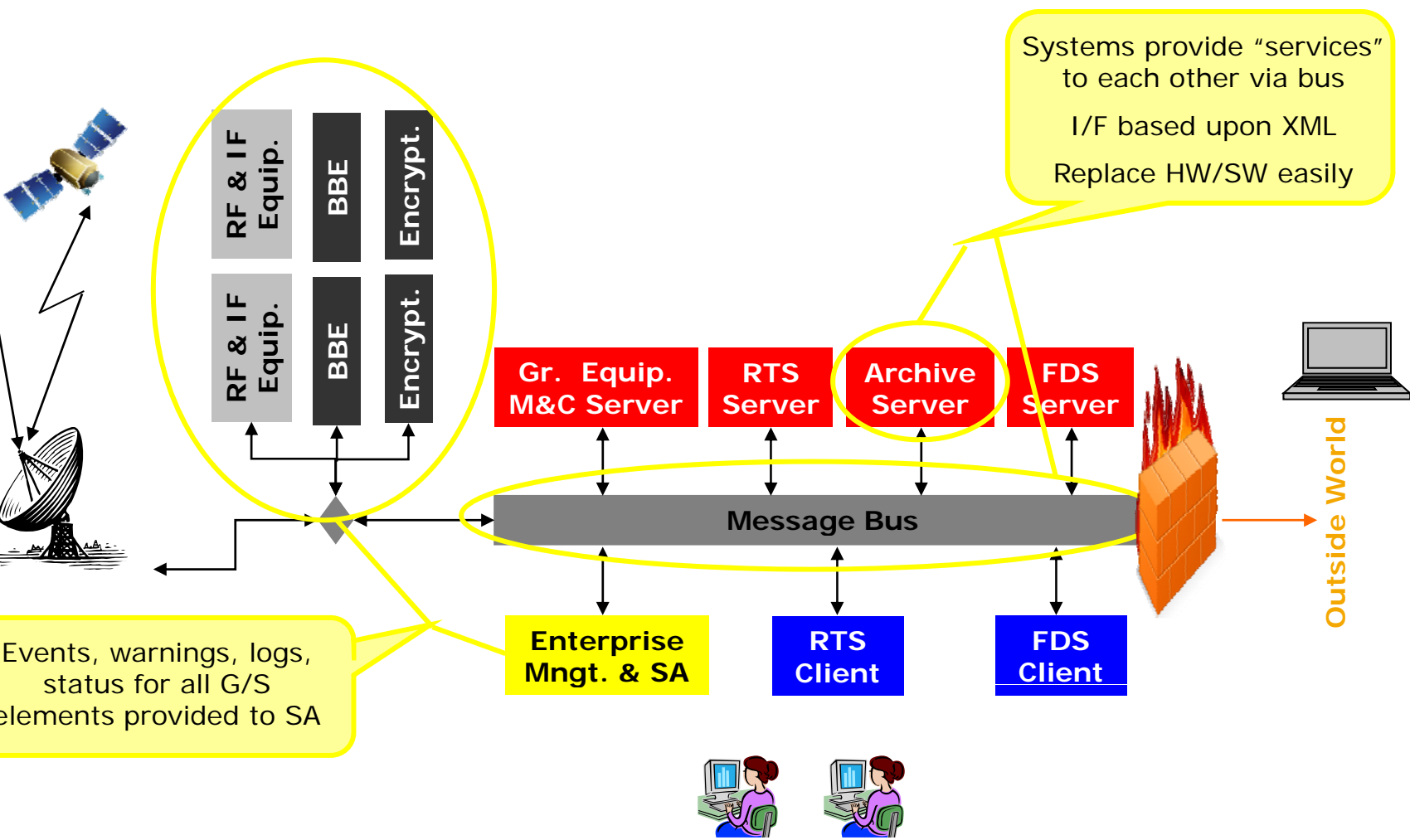


# Recent Experience

- 5 GEO fleet migrations successfully completed
- Largest independent GEO fleet migration in the world ever done was successfully completed by GMV in 2008
- NASA Goddard's GMSEC
  - Interoperability standards with wide application
- Satellite manufacturer R&D
  - Test benches to demonstrate spacecraft compatibility
- NASA SGSS and GOES-R programs
  - GMV COTS products fit in to larger architectures
  - SOA is required
  - Dovetails with product development of upcoming GMV COTS versions



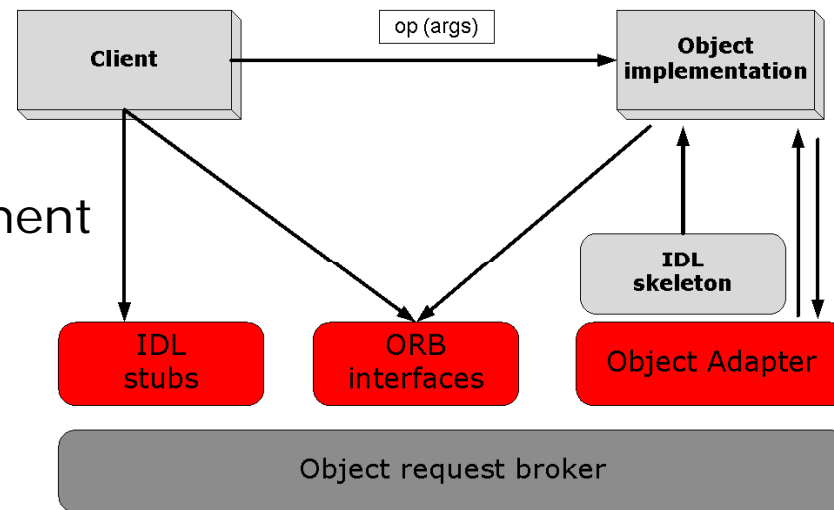
# Distribution Architectures: Message Bus



# Distribution Architectures: Corba

Widely used in

- Banking & Finance Online account access
- E-commerce
- Network management
- Hospital Patient Record Management
- Entertainment pay-per-view
- Spacecraft control centers!

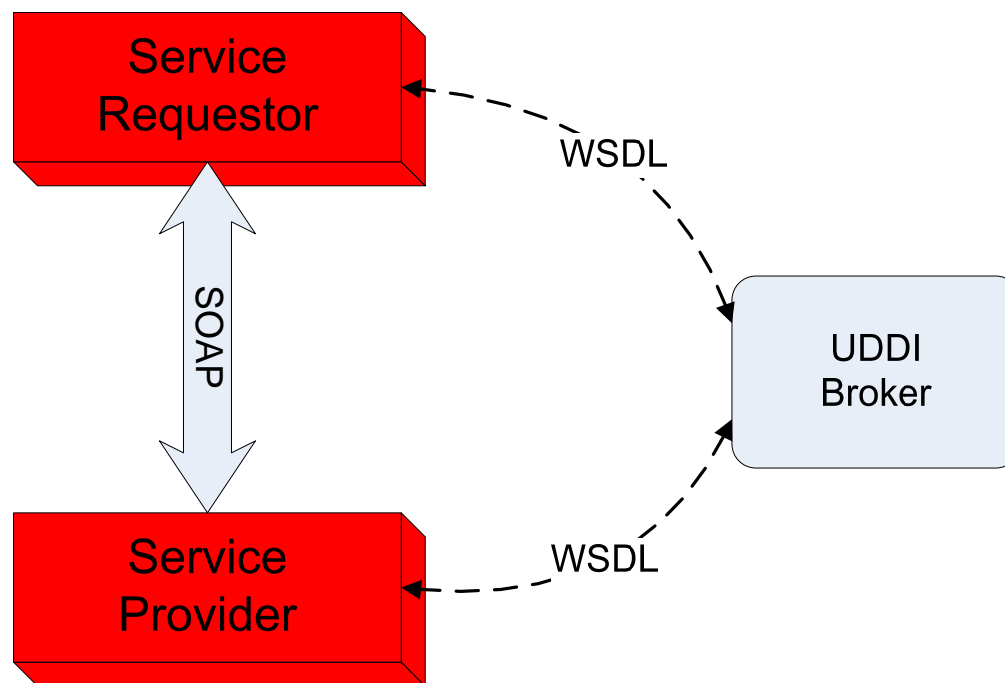


Limitations

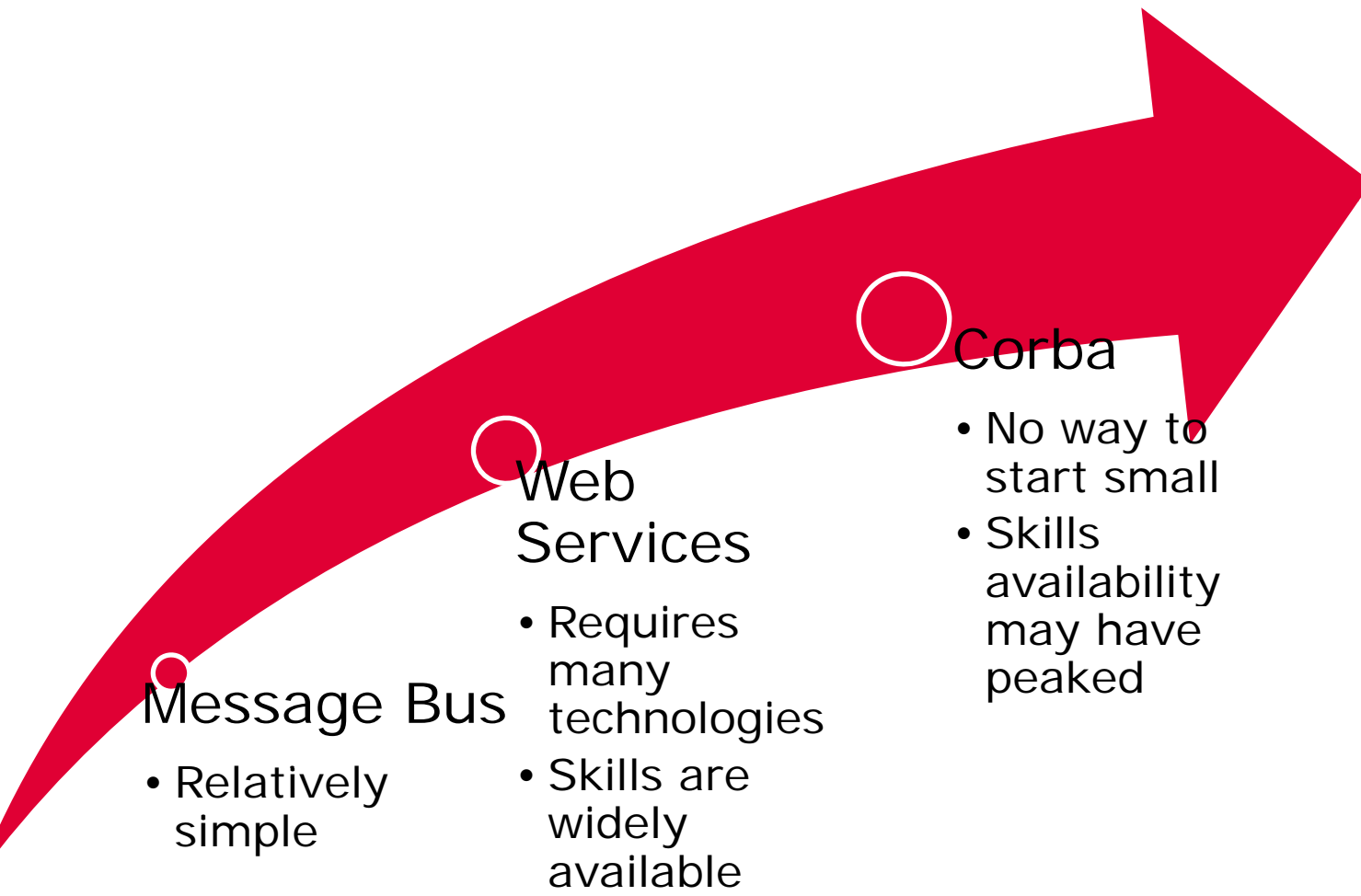
- Significant learning curve
- Complex object life cycle
- Requires bridging to older legacy systems
- Network difficulties (firewalls, non transparent addresses)
- Mobile environment limitations (changing and unreliable network addresses)

# Distribution Architectures: Web Services

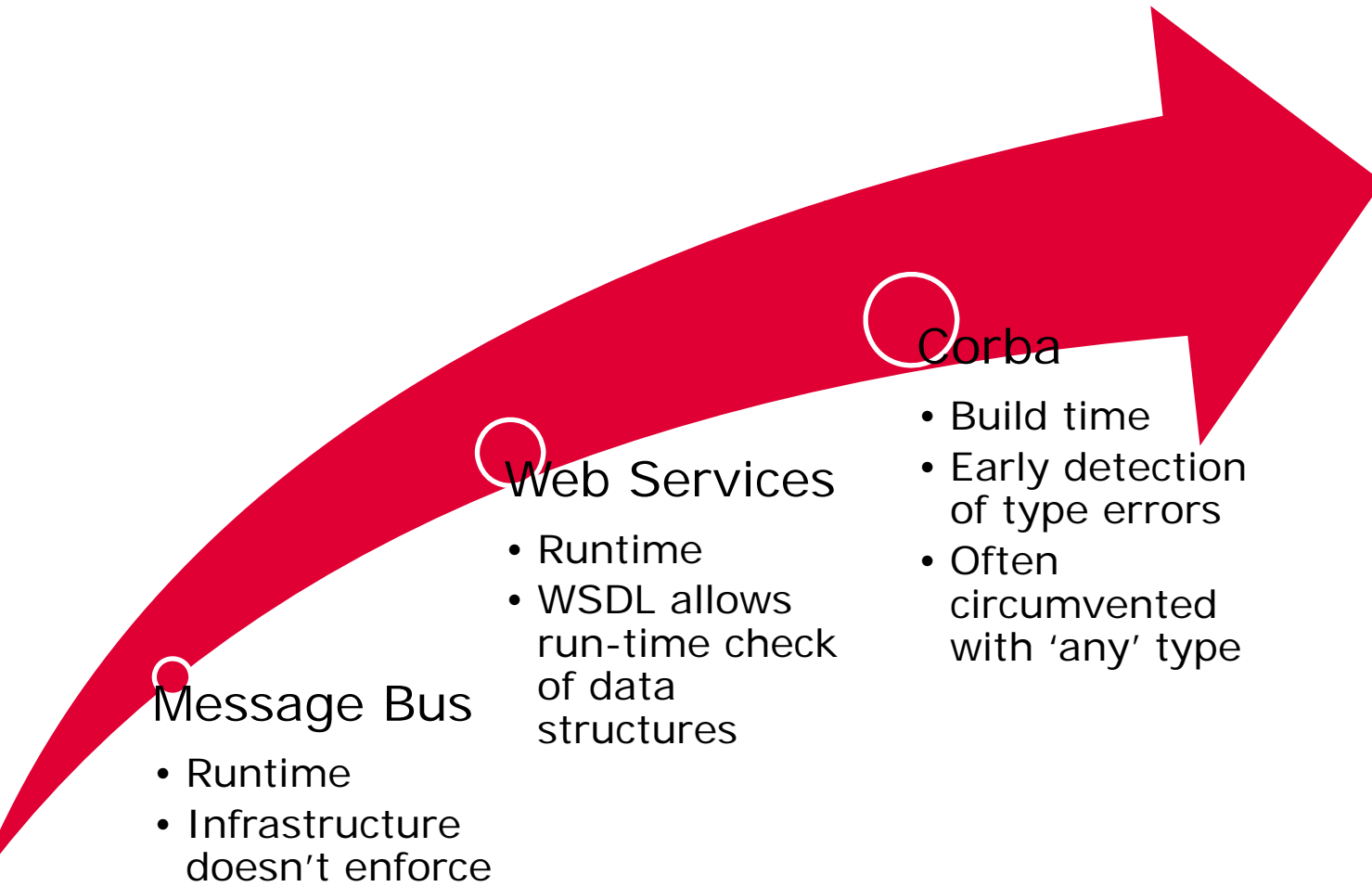
- ABC Activity to layer
- Additional features above
- SOAP and XML
- Service discovery
- Security
- Web Services Description language (WSDL)
- Can use other transports
- RPC (like Corba)
- Message Bus
- Coverages the
- Infrastructure of the web
- HTTP(S) communications
- URI resource location
- REST techniques aid caching



# Trade Spaces: Learning Curve

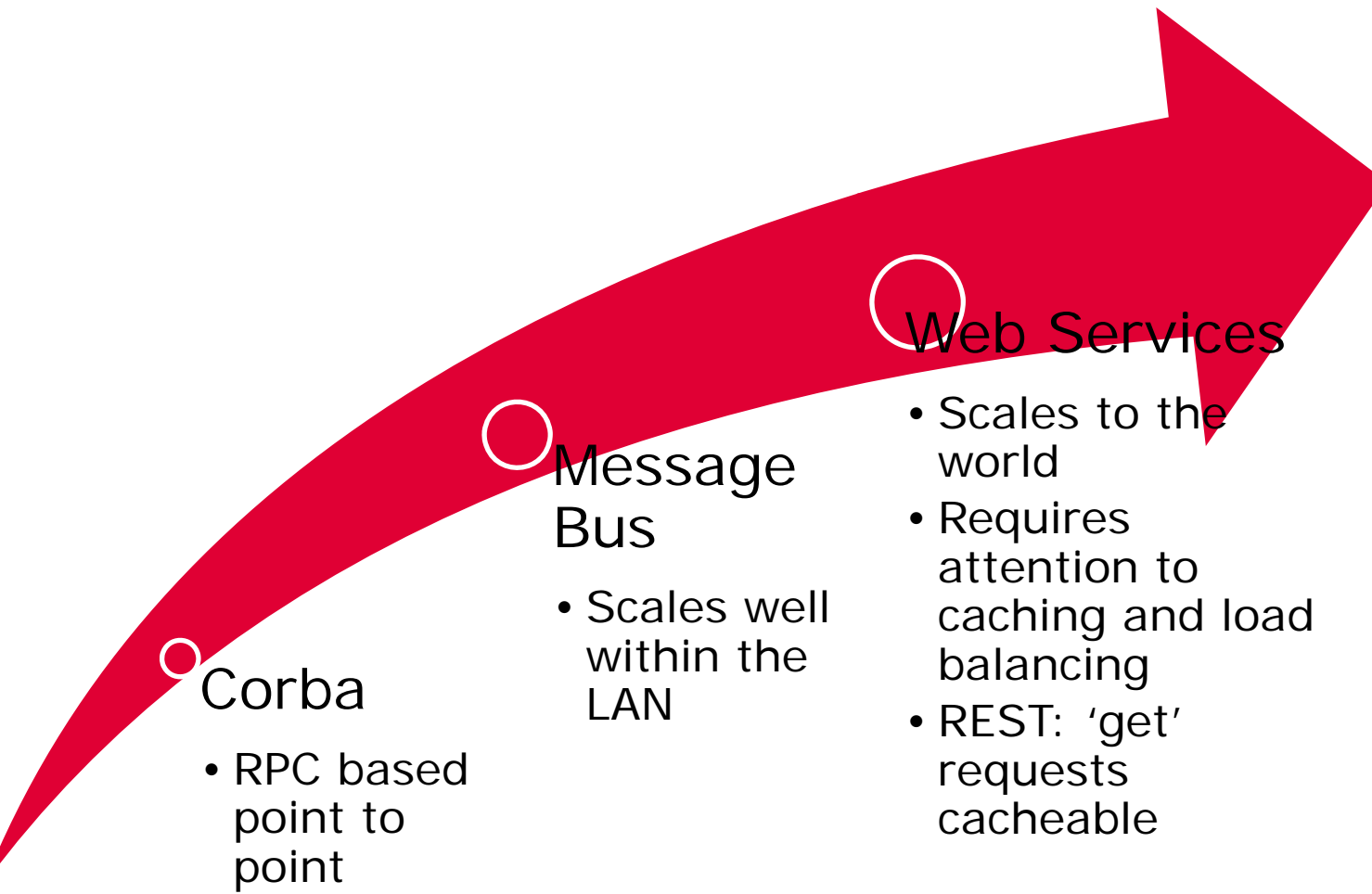


# ade Spaces: Binding





# ade Spaces: Scalability



Corba

- RPC based point to point

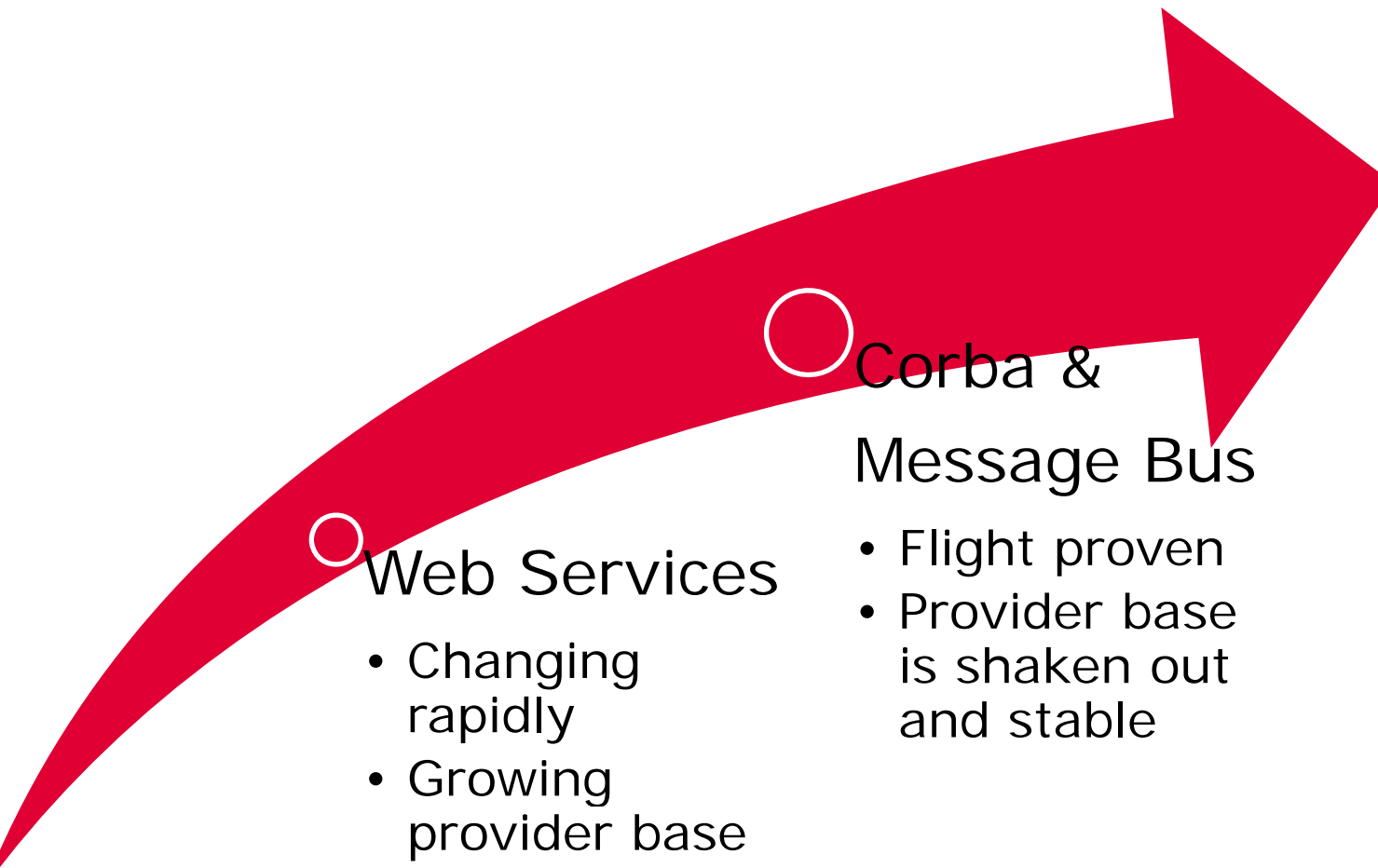
Message Bus

- Scales well within the LAN

Web Services

- Scales to the world
- Requires attention to caching and load balancing
- REST: 'get' requests cacheable

## ade Spaces: Tool Maturity



### Web Services

- Changing rapidly
- Growing provider base

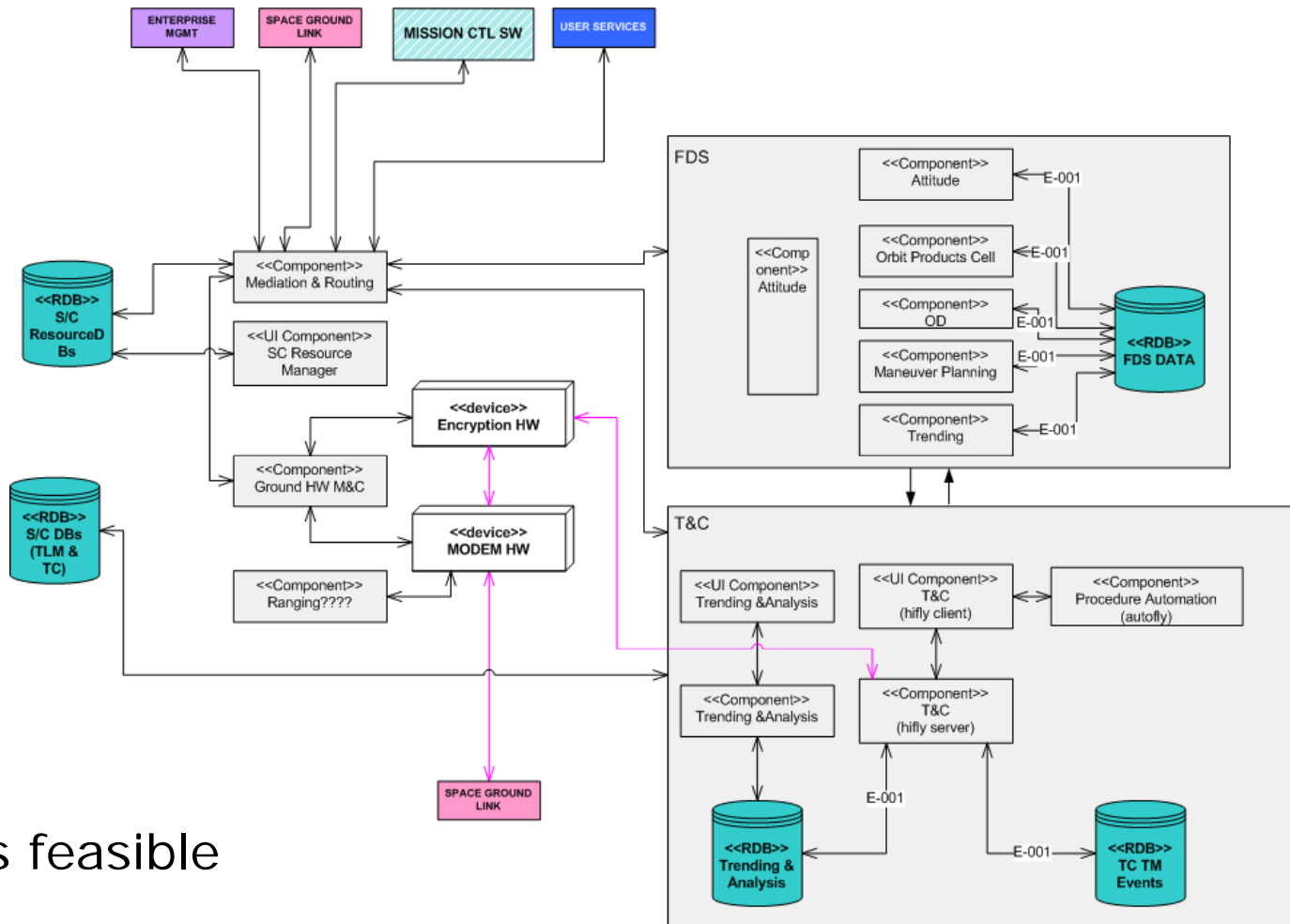
### Corba & Message Bus

- Flight proven
- Provider base is shaken out and stable

# Technical Enablers

How do we integrate the legacy systems built from distributed components?

Are the interfaces fixed and known?



-plumbing is feasible

# Technical Disablers

Some algorithms are difficult to replicate in new technologies

Timing sensitive feedback loops

Carefully tuned rule bases

'Black Box' components with lost source code

The end of the interface is immutable

The ground system and flight software were developed together

Now the flight side is out of reach (literally!)



We're no smarter than "Those Who Have Gone Before"

# Integration Obstacles

Many **barriers** prevent quick deployment of new technologies into existing architectures

**Long missions** (e.g. typical GEO is 15 years).  
Difficult cost/benefit ratio for technology upgrade

Operators are **reluctant to lose features** in transition to a new system. *I want everything I have plus a lot more...*

Large **variability** of requirements across missions.

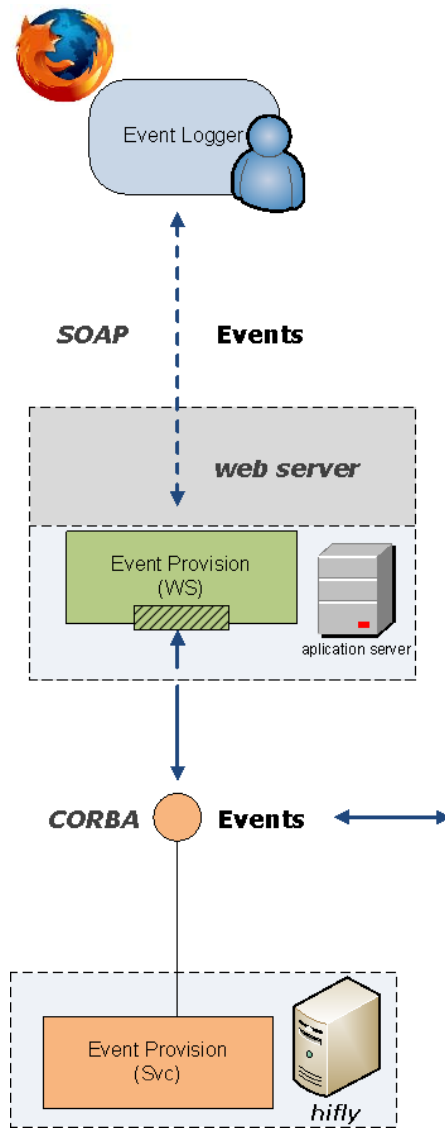
- What works well for one may fail for the next
- Scalability issues (e.g. single satellite vs constellations)
- Difficult to create a 'generic' technology that will suit all

Difficult **deployment** of systems and quickly evolving OS



# ddging

- “green fields”
- Existing operations centers have frameworks in place
- Every component has a legacy fail – otherwise it wouldn't be selected
- Team skills are long-lead items
- Choose bridge points
- Prefer
  - Minimize # bridges
  - Stable component boundaries
- Avoid
  - Latency-sensitive interfaces
  - Introducing critical failures



Time	Source	Status
10:00:00	Event Logger	Success
10:00:01	Event Logger	Success
10:00:02	Event Logger	Success
10:00:03	Event Logger	Success
10:00:04	Event Logger	Success
10:00:05	Event Logger	Success
10:00:06	Event Logger	Success
10:00:07	Event Logger	Success
10:00:08	Event Logger	Success
10:00:09	Event Logger	Success
10:00:10	Event Logger	Success
10:00:11	Event Logger	Success
10:00:12	Event Logger	Success
10:00:13	Event Logger	Success
10:00:14	Event Logger	Success
10:00:15	Event Logger	Success
10:00:16	Event Logger	Success
10:00:17	Event Logger	Success
10:00:18	Event Logger	Success
10:00:19	Event Logger	Success
10:00:20	Event Logger	Success
10:00:21	Event Logger	Success
10:00:22	Event Logger	Success
10:00:23	Event Logger	Success
10:00:24	Event Logger	Success
10:00:25	Event Logger	Success
10:00:26	Event Logger	Success
10:00:27	Event Logger	Success
10:00:28	Event Logger	Success
10:00:29	Event Logger	Success
10:00:30	Event Logger	Success

# Conclusions

“one right answer”

Message Bus for steady-state flows (e.g. telemetry frames)

Web Services for highly variable and scalable client loads

Corba for tightly bound internal transactions

Legacy is important

Existing equipment and systems may have infrastructure in place

Baseline COTS may have a preferred infrastructure

Smart vendors are ready to support others as well

Maintenance staff may be highly skilled with an infrastructure

Edge as required

Systems of systems may require combinations of architectures



Thank you