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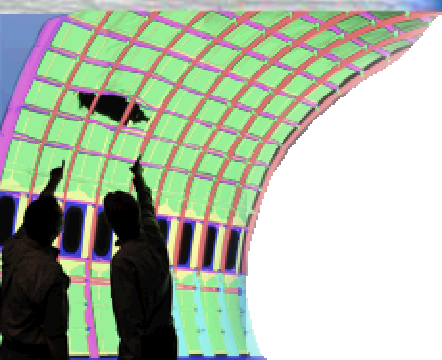


Sandia National Laboratories

11/30/2011

# Critical Infrastructure Simulation & Analysis

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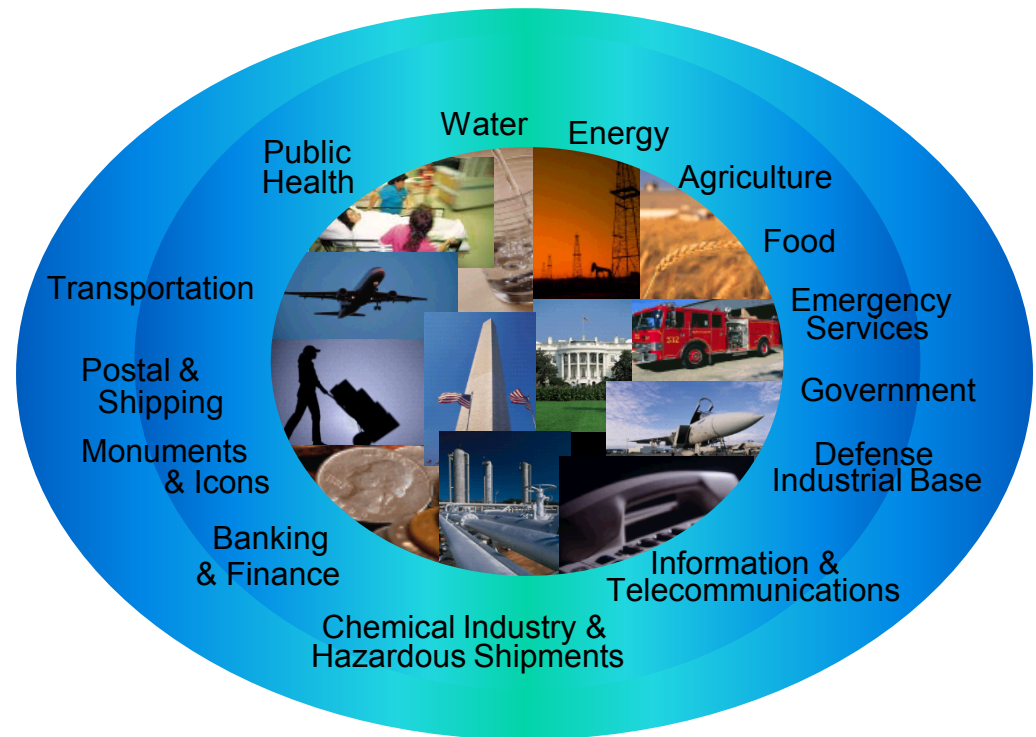
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# Goal

***Provide fundamentally new modeling and simulation capabilities for the analysis of critical infrastructures, their interdependencies, vulnerabilities, and complexities.***

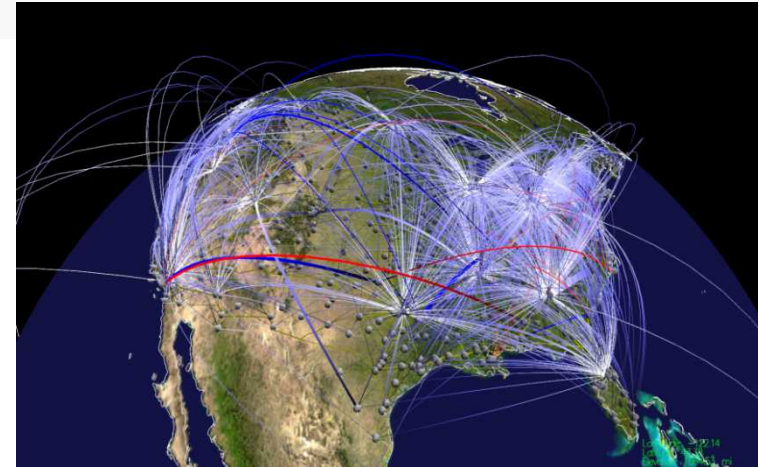
*These advanced capabilities improve the robustness of our Nation's critical infrastructures by aiding decision makers in the areas of policy assessment, mitigation planning, education, training, and near real-time assistance to crisis response organizations.*



# Why We Model

## ■ The domains in which we work are:

- Large
- Complex
- Dynamic
- Adaptive
- Nonlinear
- Behavioral



*Agent based supply chain disruption model*

- Too complex for mental models to be effective decision tools
- Identify when/where things break, and any cascading effects
- Quantifying consequences of disruptions in very complex systems
  - Loss of a single asset or node within a particular system due to a directed attack
  - Regional disruptions due to a natural disasters or large scale attacks
- The rational choice is to...

**Experiment with models, *not* the system**

**Gain expert operational insight through modeling**



# Models/Simulations to Inform Decisions

Realistic

Decreasing detail, computation and development time → Abstract

Data on  
system  
elements

High-fidelity  
models -  
individual  
infrastructure  
elements

Systems models  
of aggregate  
supply - demand  
dynamics

Generic, highly  
abstracted  
network models

Only know  
what is  
measured or  
monitored -  
limited to  
specific set  
of conditions

For existing  
systems only

Detailed  
simulation of  
changes in  
conditions or  
behaviors

For complex  
systems and  
detailed  
phenomenology

Effects of  
conditions and  
limitations on  
system  
operation

For trade-studies  
and planned systems

Simulation and  
identification of  
vulnerabilities  
of different  
network  
topologies to  
disruptions

For quick-  
turnaround  
answers



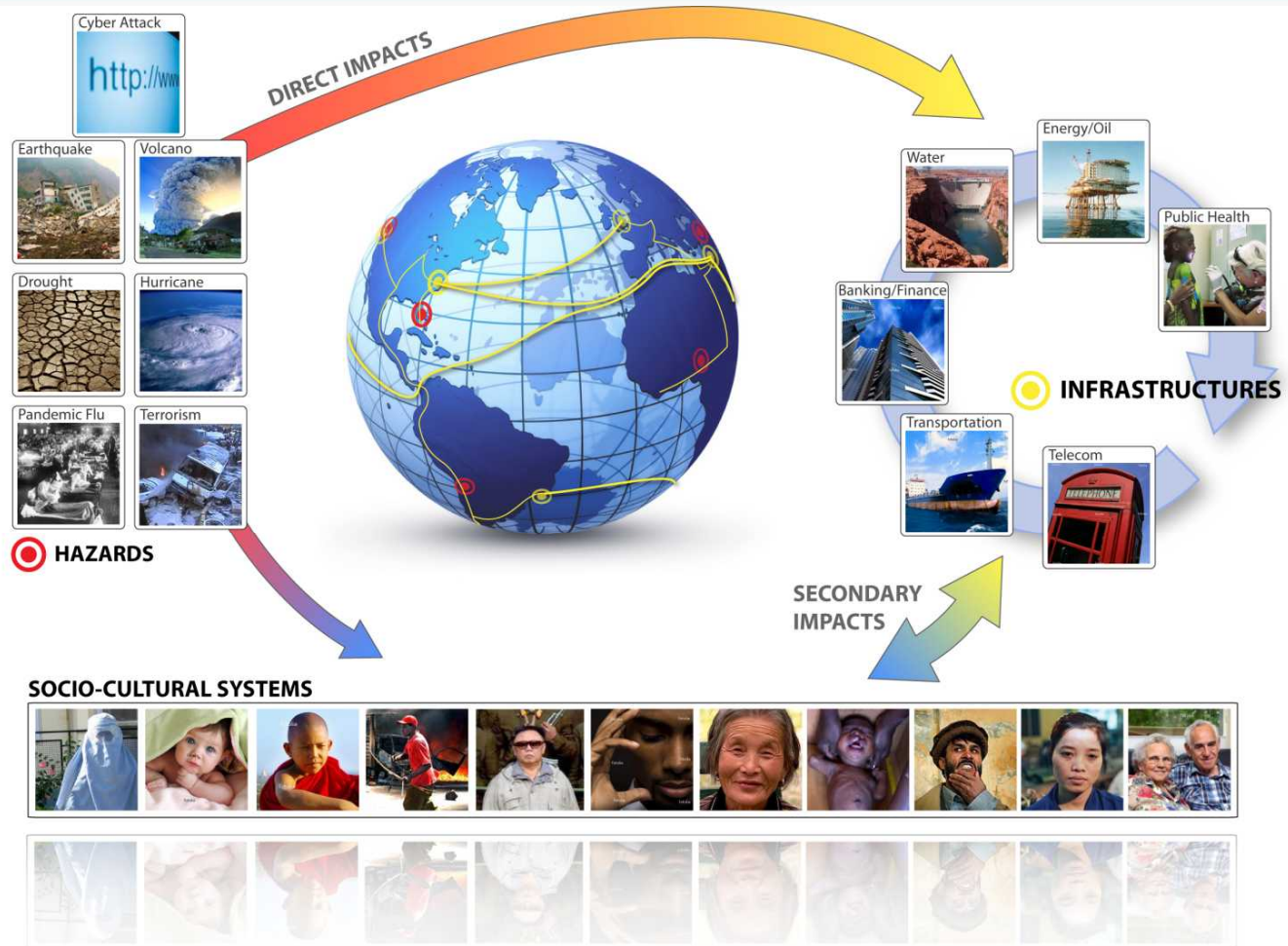



# What We Want to Know About Critical Infrastructures

- **Are certain systems, networks, parts of the country more at risk than others? Why?**
- **Have interdependencies increased the risks or have they changed them?**
  - What conditions have to exist to cause cascading failures?
  - What size of event has to occur to initiate cascading failures?
- **Are there trends in the evolution of the infrastructures toward more vulnerable conditions or configurations?**
- **Are we repeating any mistakes from the past or have we really learned from them?**
- **How do the risks to infrastructures impact national security?**
- **How can we reduce the risks to infrastructures?**
  - Can we afford to reduce those risks?
  - Over what timeframe?



# Capturing Complex Interdependencies





# National Infrastructure Simulation & Analysis Center (NISAC) Mission

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- Improve the understanding, preparation, and mitigation of the consequences of infrastructure disruption.
- Provide a common, comprehensive view of U.S. infrastructure and its response to disruptions.
  - Scale & resolution appropriate to the issues
  - All threats
- Built an operations-tested DHS capability to respond quickly to urgent infrastructure protection issues.
  - 24/7 when needed
- Use the unequalled and extensive reachback capabilities of Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories as premier United States National Security Laboratories

***NISAC provides comprehensive, quantitative analyses of the nation's infrastructures and their interdependencies against all threats (e.g., natural, accidental and malevolent) in support of homeland security concerns for DHS***



# Program Capabilities

## ■ Interdependencies and System Modeling

- The interdependencies and system modeling capability provides the foundation for all products including asset prioritization, earthquake planning scenario, and other impact analyses.

## ■ Economic and Human Consequences

- A mixture of proprietary commercial software and in-house modeling and simulation capability to provide first-in-class estimates of population and economic impacts.

## ■ Asset and Facility Operations Modeling

- Infrastructure operators interact with infrastructure systems by making decisions based on constraints and opportunities. Modeling these interactions allows prediction of likely infrastructure operator responses to external events and the possible infrastructure impacts caused by those decisions.

## ■ Fast Integrated Hazards Analysis

- A common integrated simulation environment to provide consistent consequence estimates across event analyses and to expand event scenarios to multiple cascading events. This capability significantly improves NISAC's ability to provide timely and cost-effective analysis of event implications during a real event.

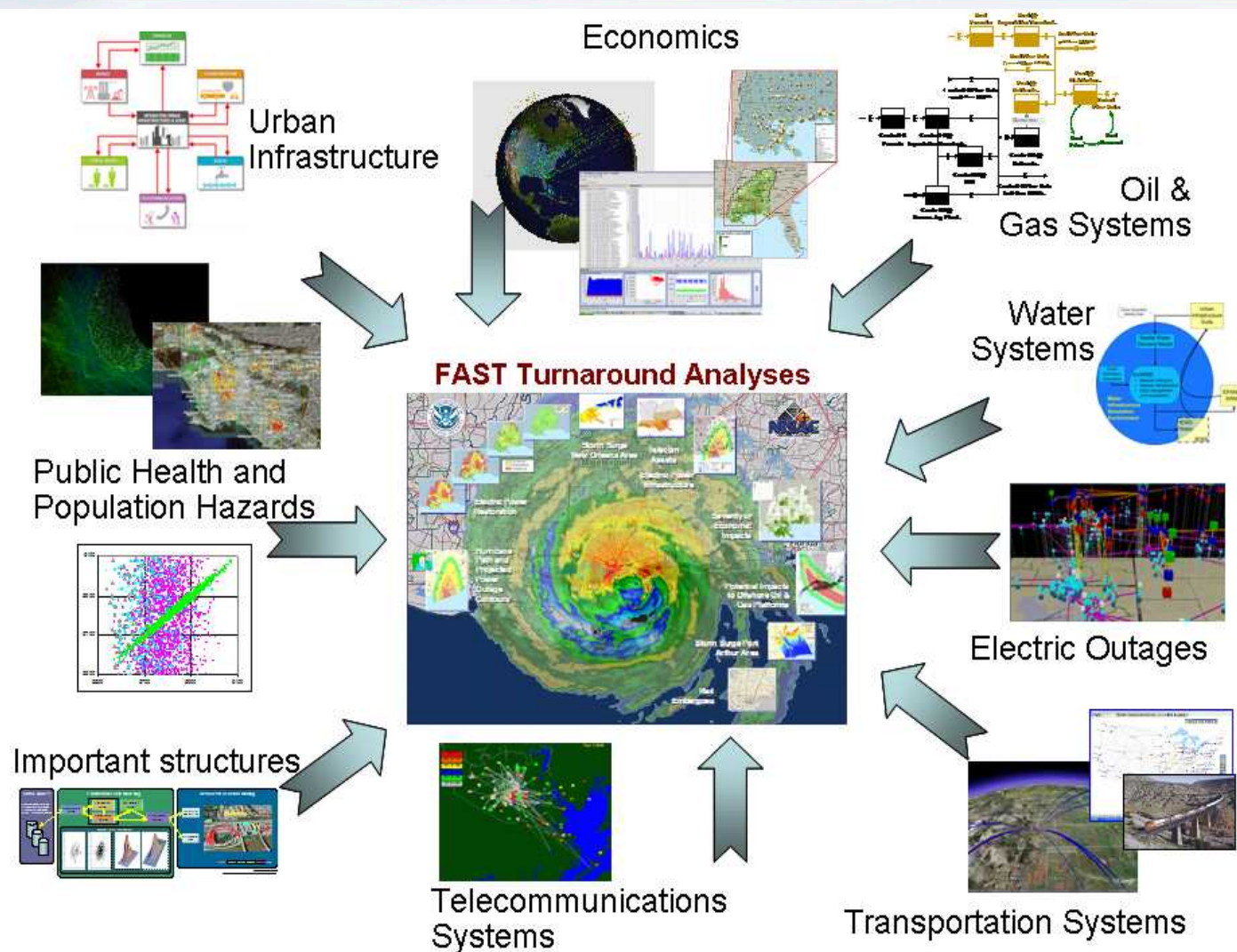
## ■ Integrating Architecture

- Integrating architecture supports systems analyses, fast turnaround analyses for events of national concern, and exercise support. Integrating architecture also improves coordination with other stakeholders in infrastructure protection including sector-specific agencies, FEMA, and state agencies.

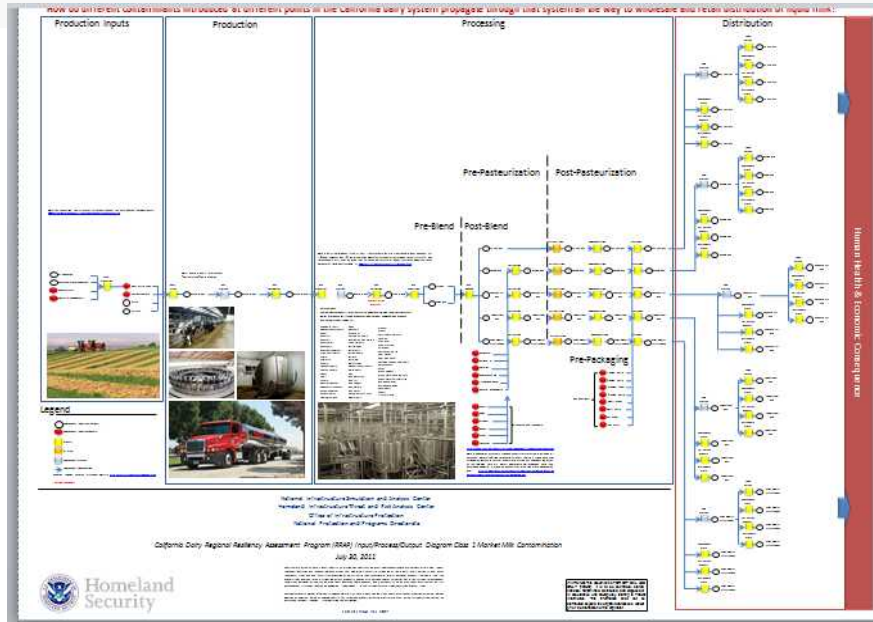




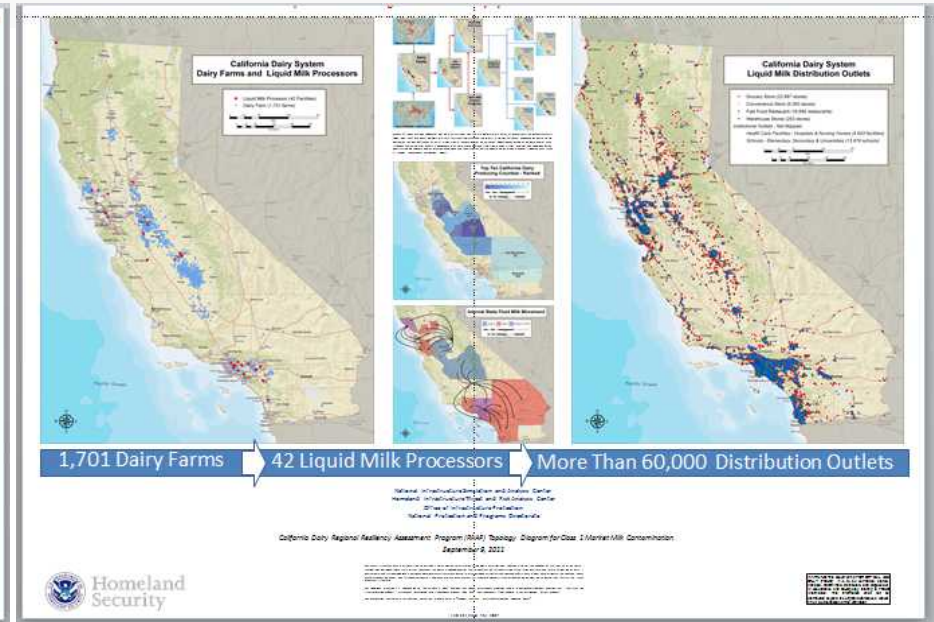
# Integration of Multidisciplinary Skill Sets & Expertise



# System-Scale Food & Ag Risk-Assessment & Communication



Context specific process diagrams



Context specific supply & distribution diagrams

- Emphasize system-scale risks
- Visualize the linkages
- Identify vulnerabilities
- Understand the potential for consequence



# Conclusions

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- **Model development and tools allow analysts to**
  - develop a better understanding of the system
  - focus on tasks that require their skill, like complex interactions
  - think about the system at multiple levels (system -> component)
- **In order to**
  - provide more detailed answers in a more timely fashion in a way that can be useful to decision makers