

# A Virtualized Computing Platform for Fusion Control Systems



**13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Accelerator and Large Experimental Physics Control Systems  
October 12, 2011**


**Tim Frazier, P. Adams, J.M. Fisher, A.J. Talbot**

**National Ignition Facility, Control and Information Systems**

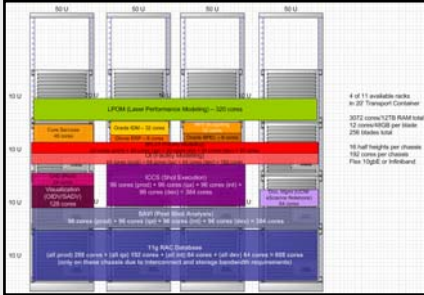
# Why Virtualize?

- Better utilization of computational resources
- Higher quality server builds
- Faster server provisioning
- Higher availability through clustering and live migration
- Nearly instantaneous recovery from hardware failures

**Virtualization is NOT Just About Consolidation!**

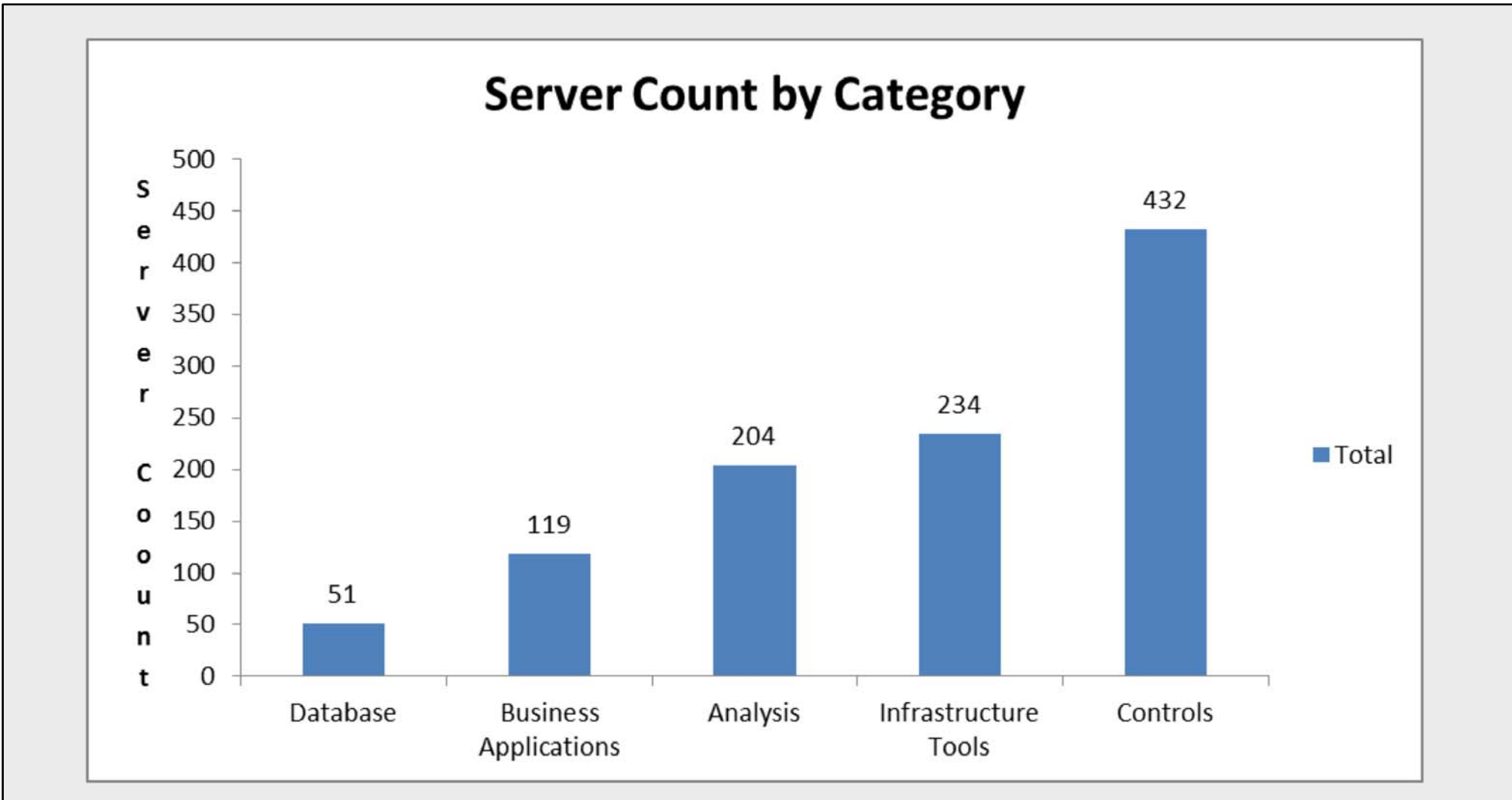






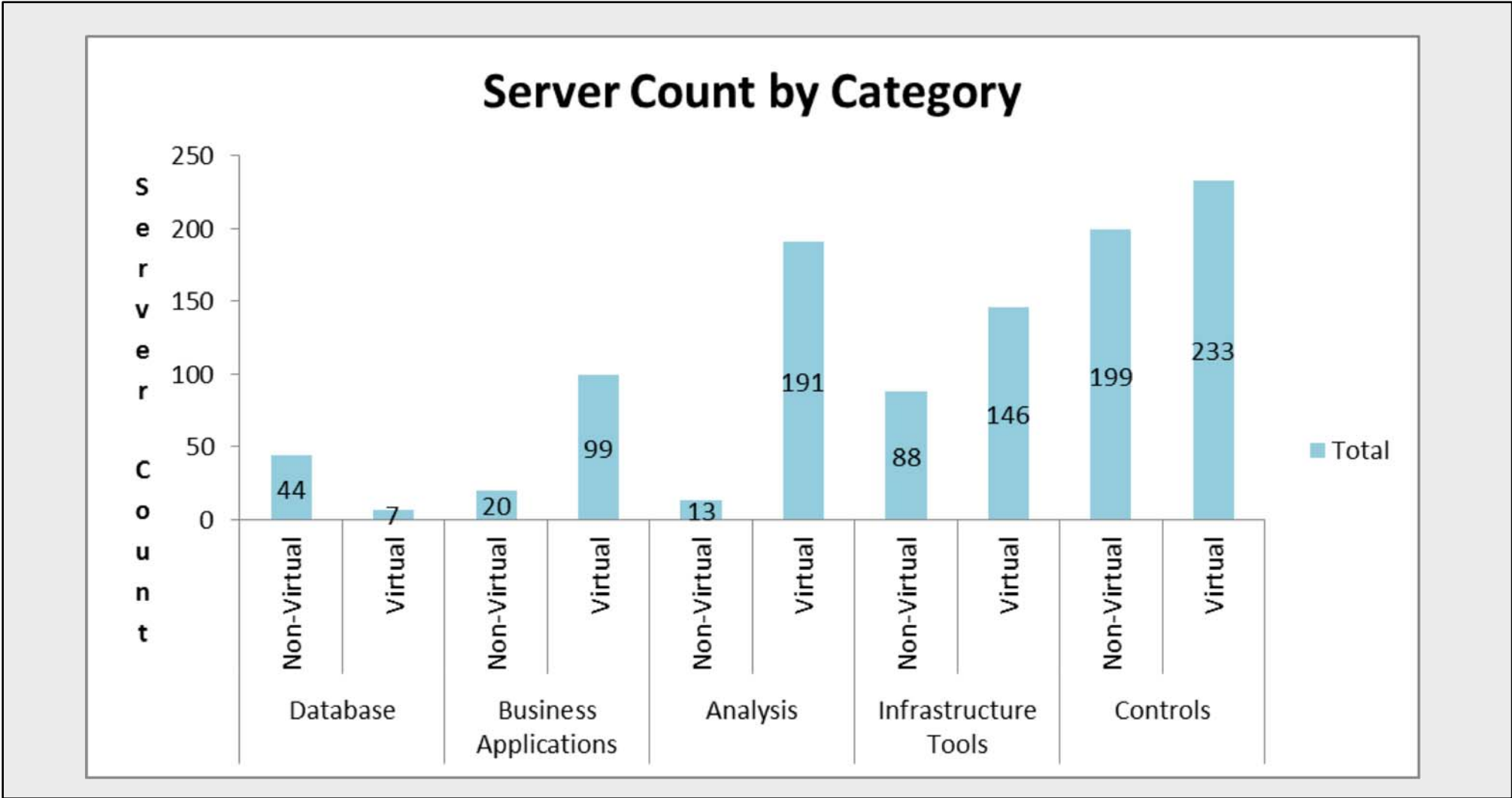
**Virtualization, although more than 20 years old, may be looked at by your organization as a disruptive technology**

# NIF is blazing a trail toward a 100% virtualized computing environment



**Partnership with the Silicon Valley was an integral part of our success**

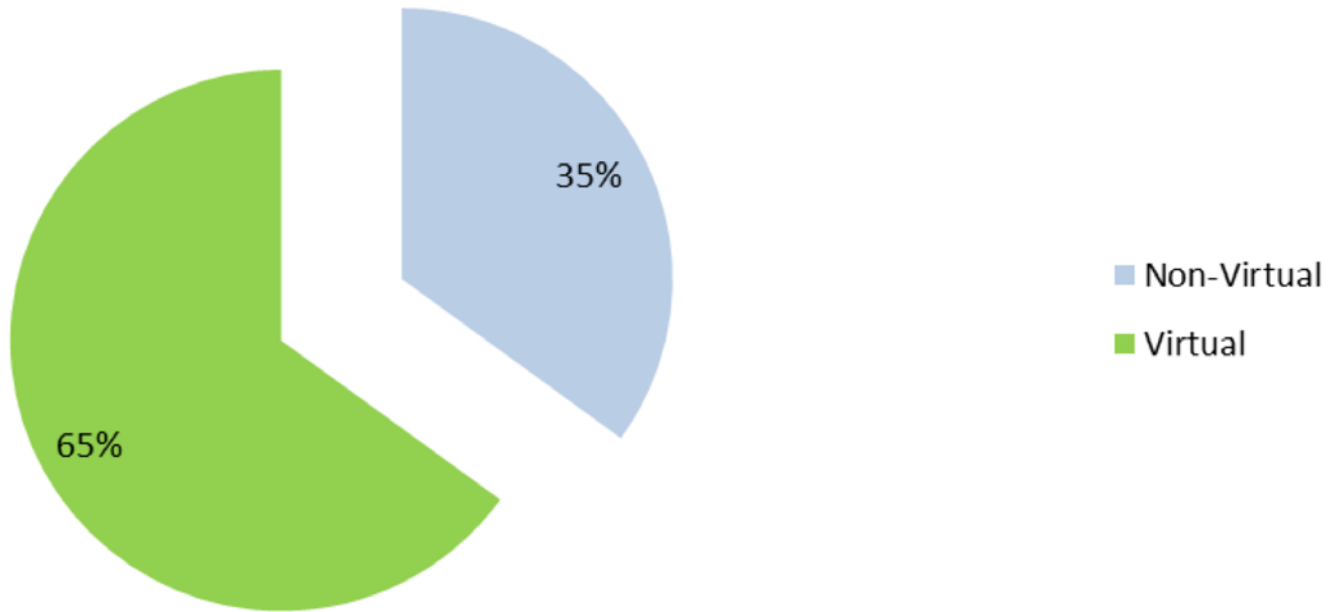
# NIF is blazing a trail toward a 100% virtualized computing environment



**Partnership with the Silicon Valley was an integral part of our success**

# NIF is blazing a trail toward a 100% virtualized computing environment

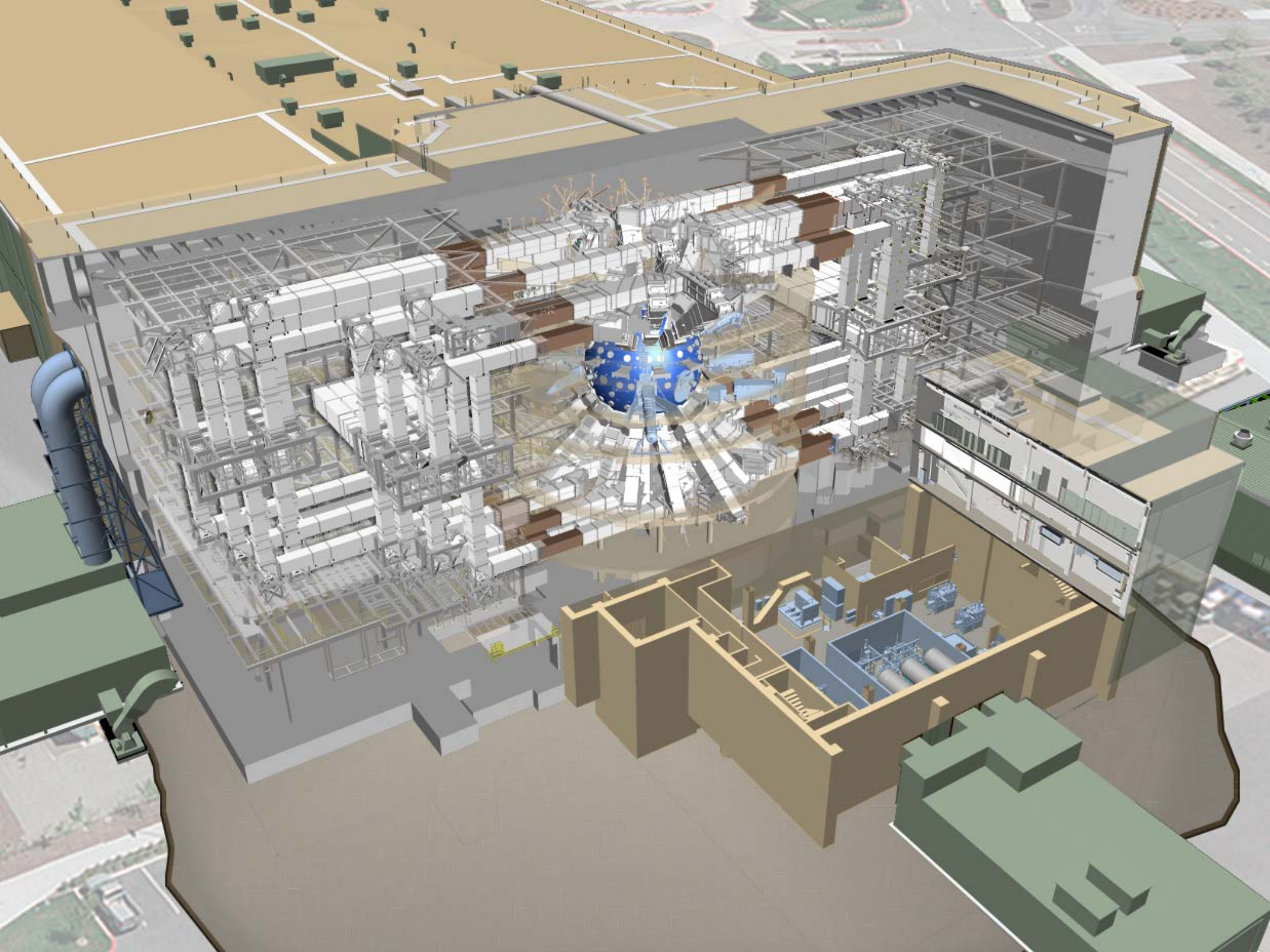
## Progress Toward Virtualization



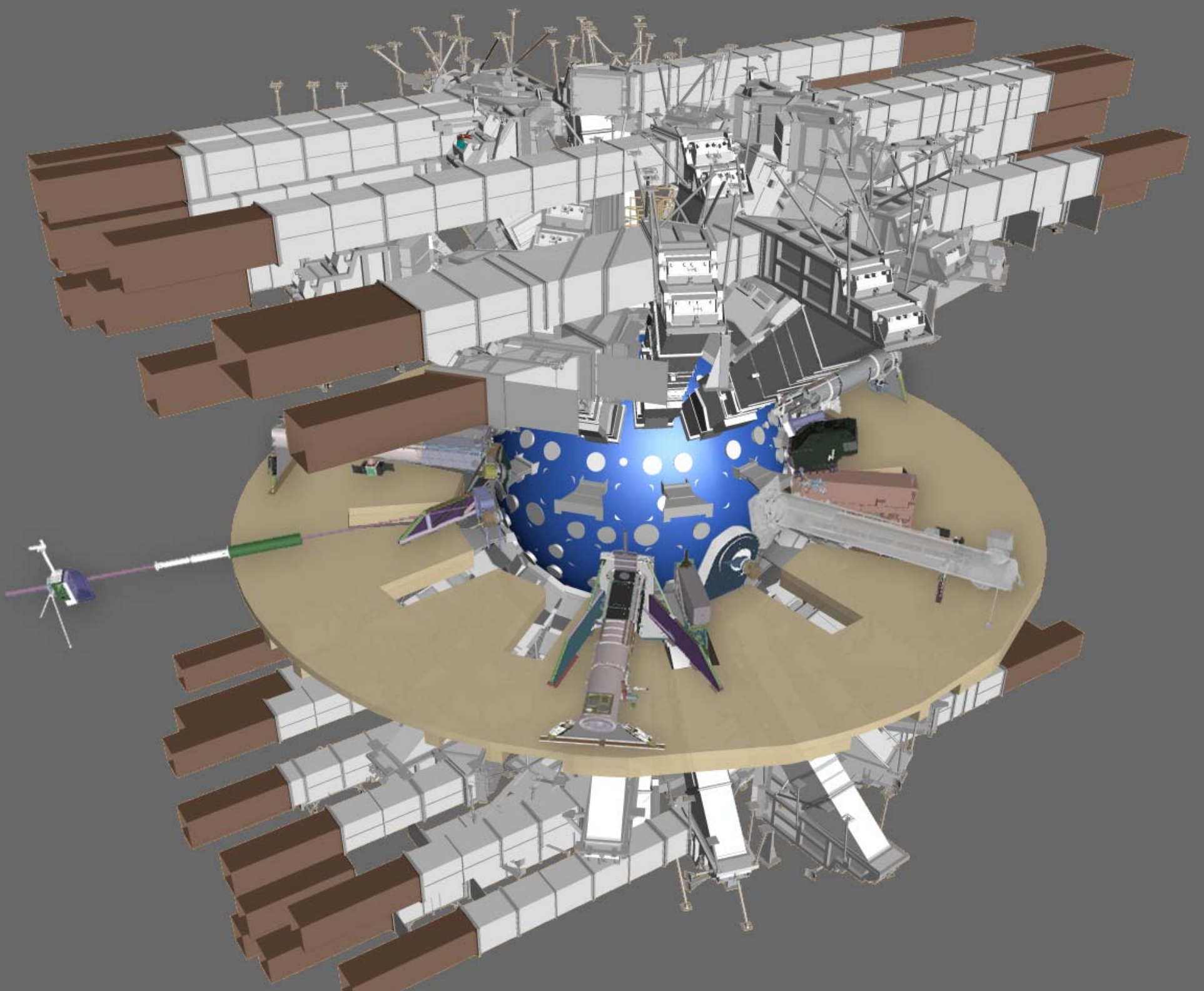
**Partnership with the Silicon Valley was an integral part of our success**

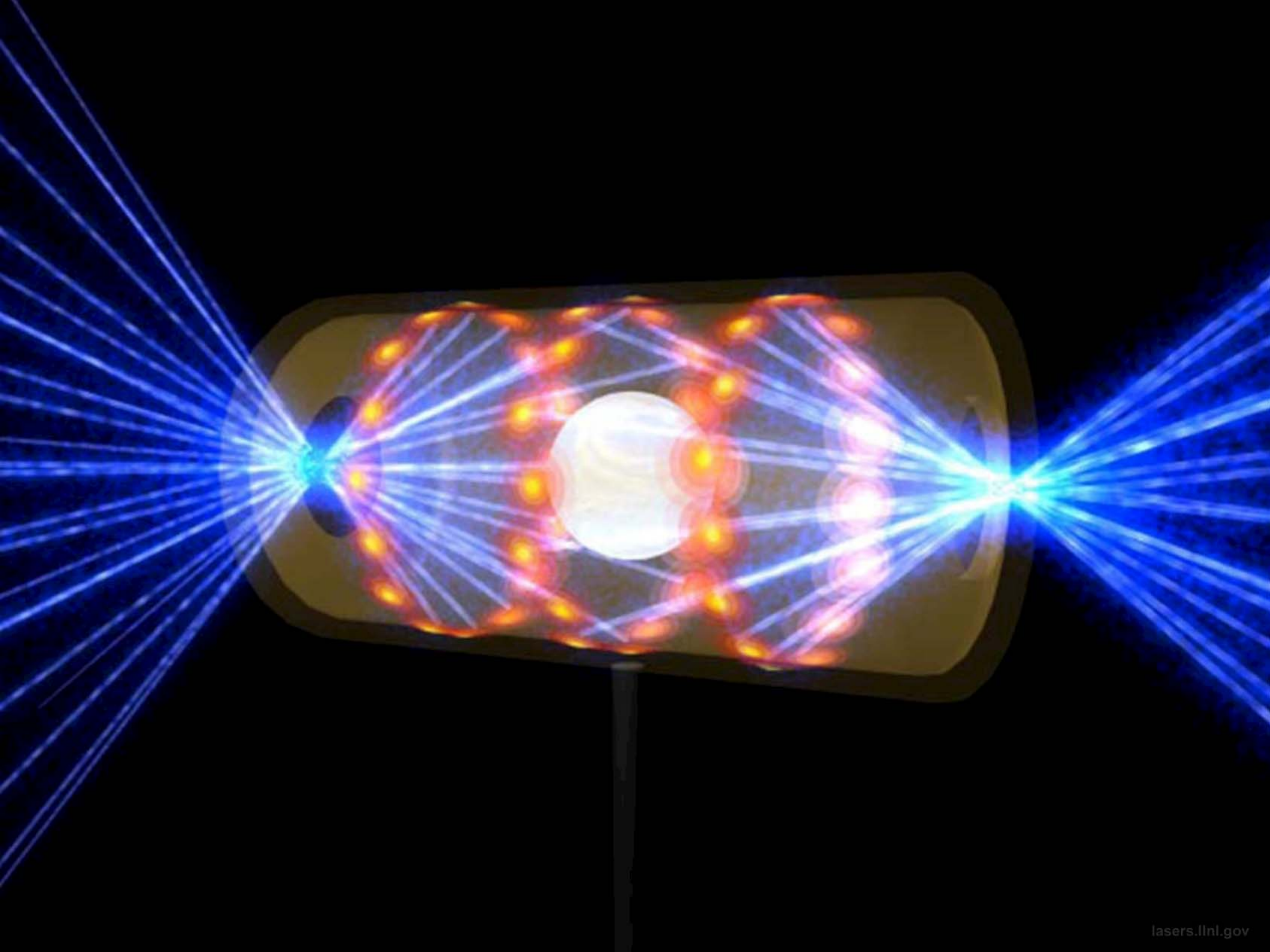




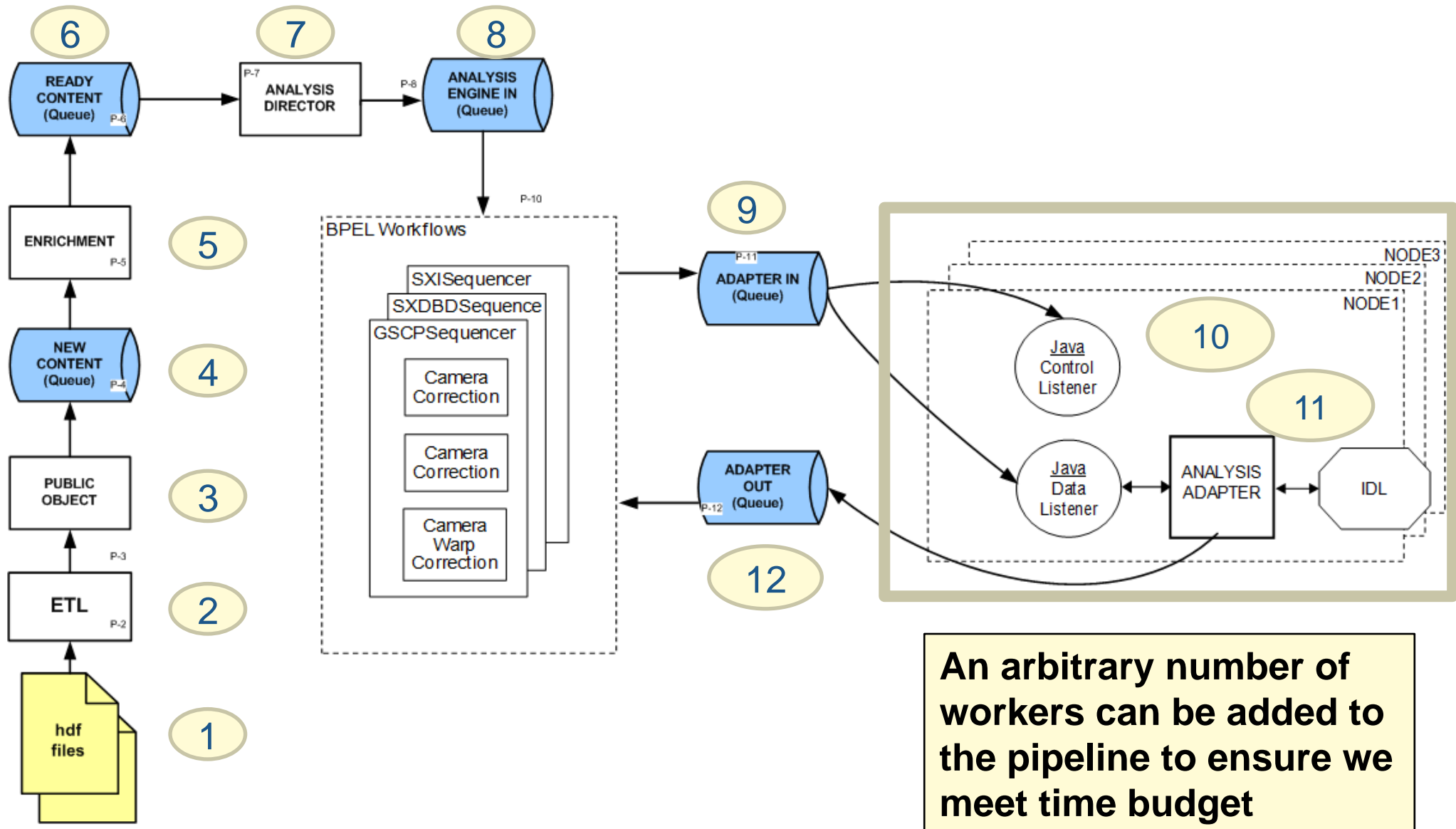




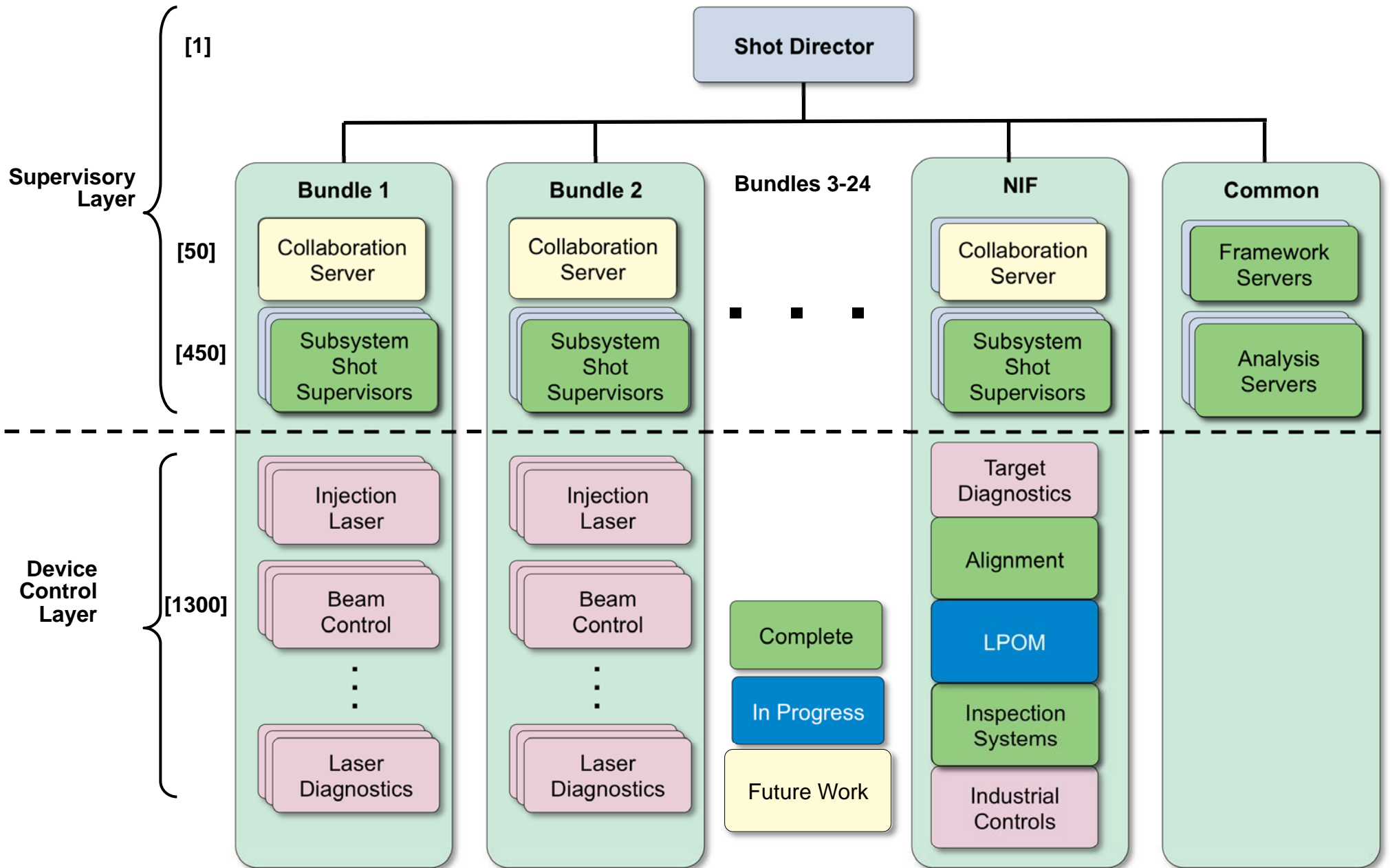




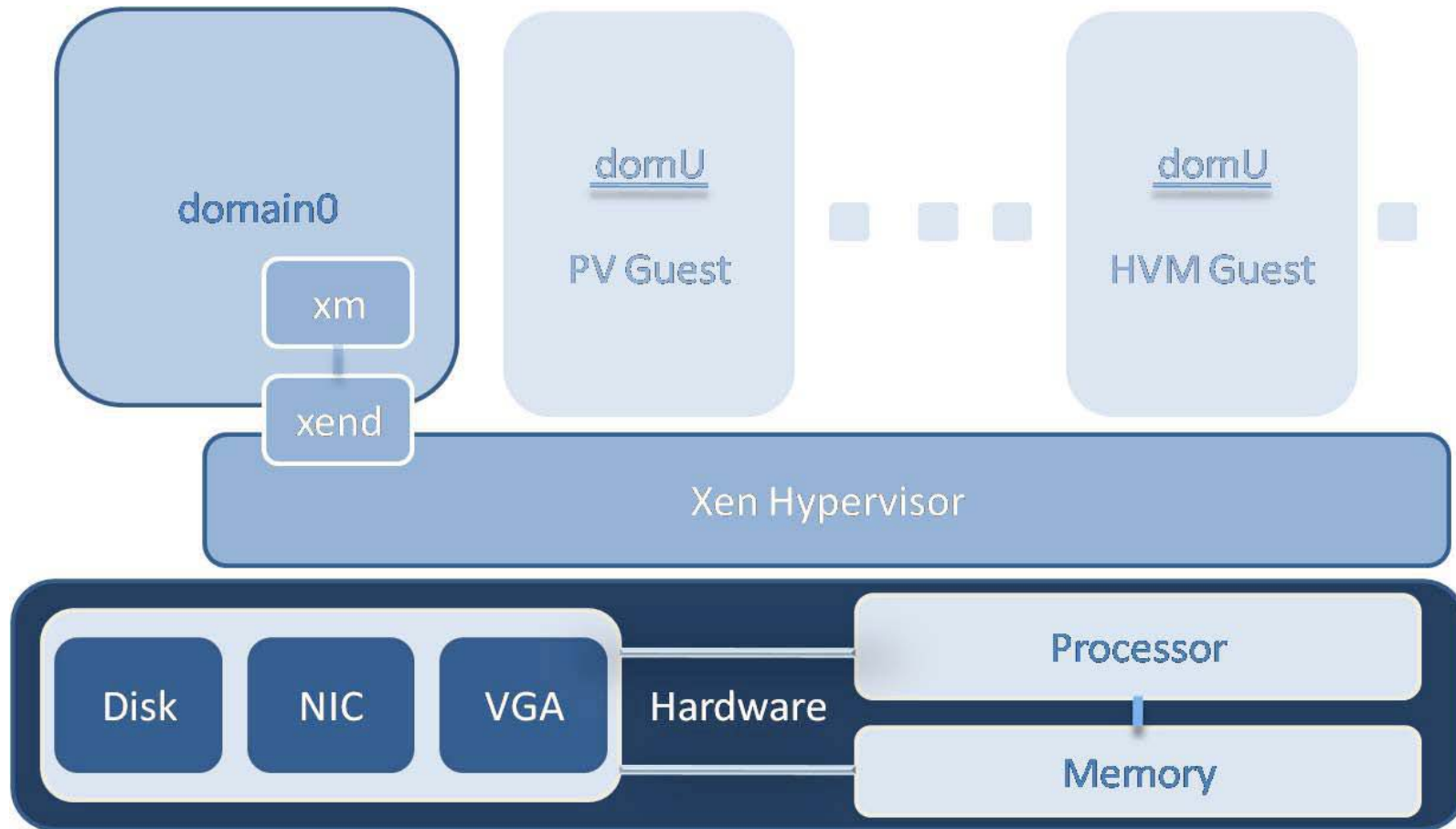
# The analysis pipeline was the first system to be virtualized



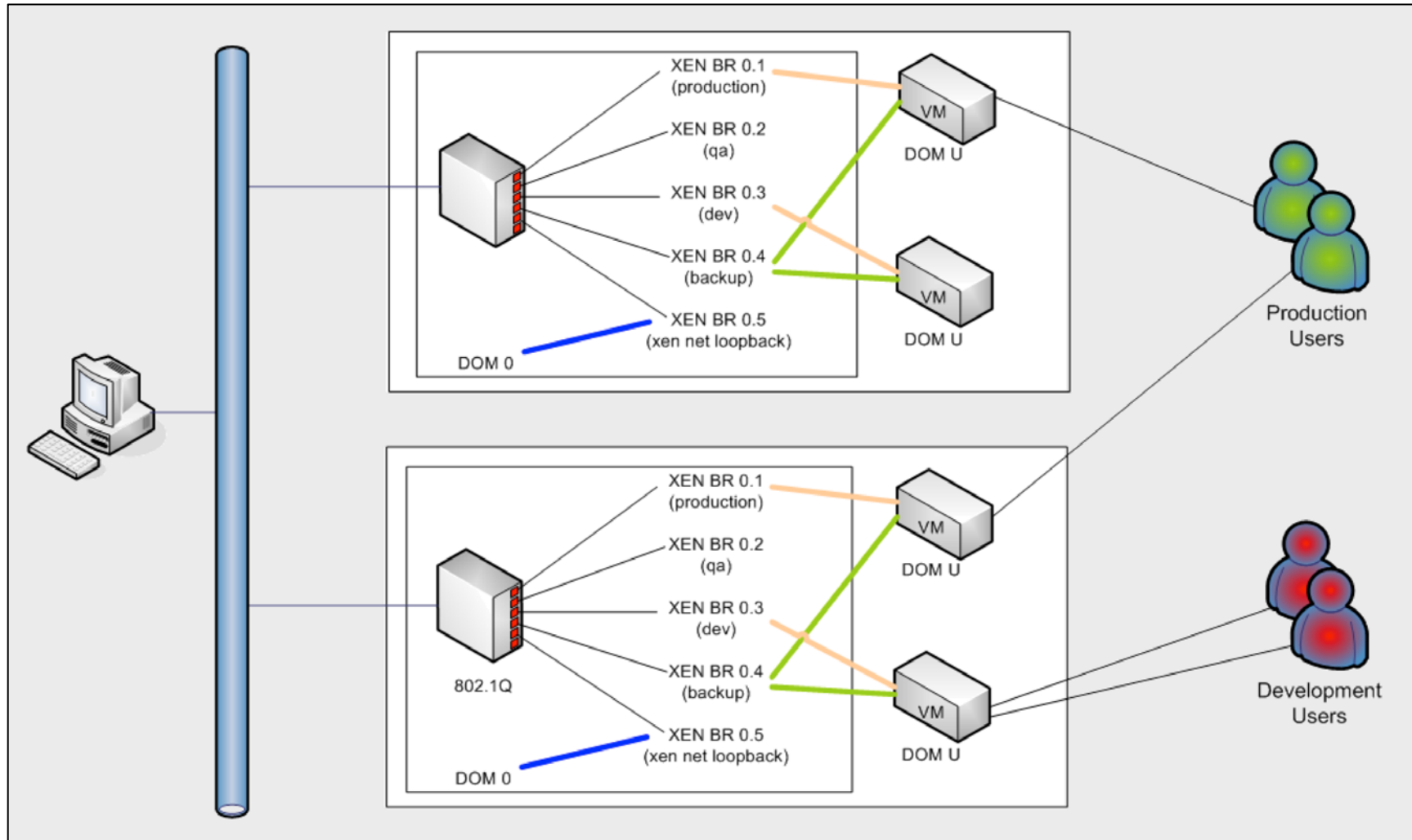
# Virtualization of our Integrated Computer Control System (ICCS) is underway



# Xen, the Linux-open-source approach to virtualization



# 802.1Q (VLAN Tagging) provides networking separation within the cluster



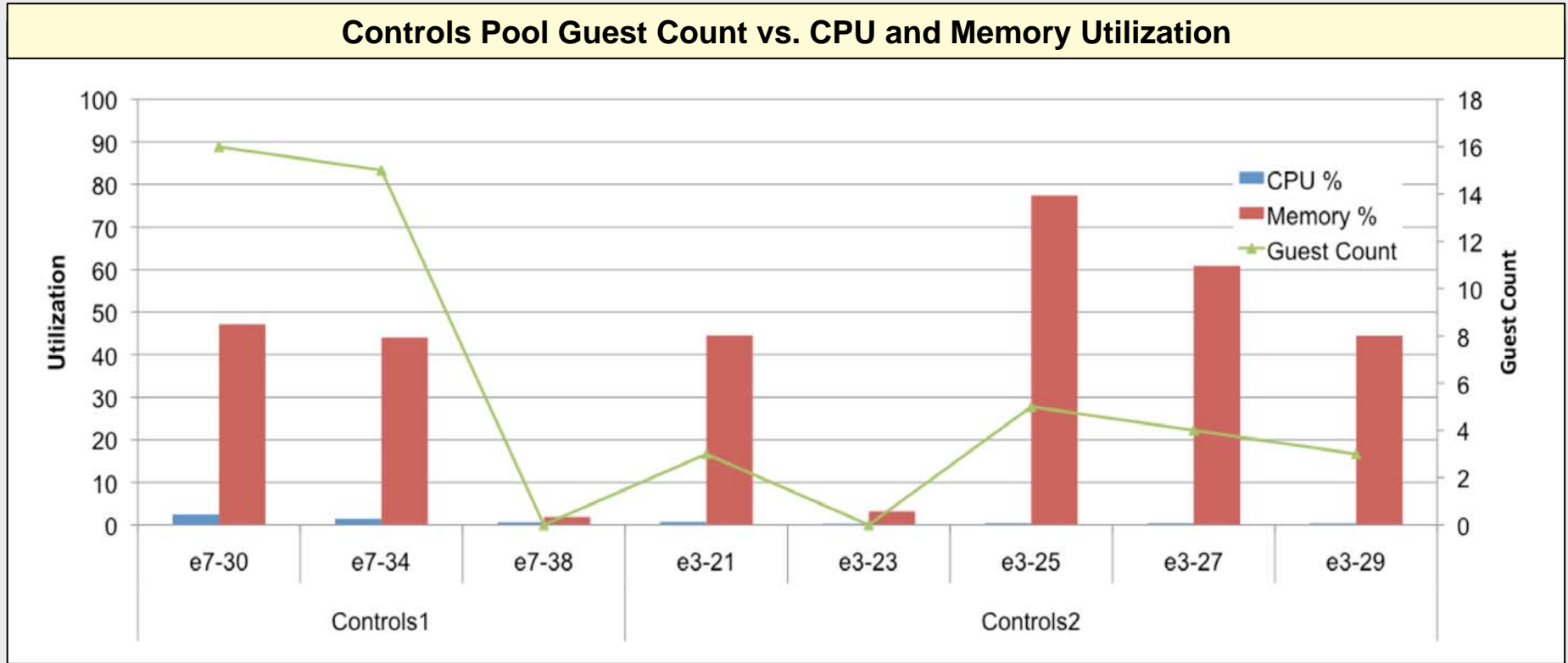
**802.1Q is an industry standard originated by Cisco Systems**

# Virtualization “Notes from the field”

- Understand the context and constraints in which you operate
- Develop high level requirements to guide your efforts
- Leverage the learning of others whenever possible
- Choose a simple architecture
- Have tools at the ready to measure performance of systems
- Learn and adapt as you go
- Measure and share your progress toward virtualization



# An unexpected lesson learned

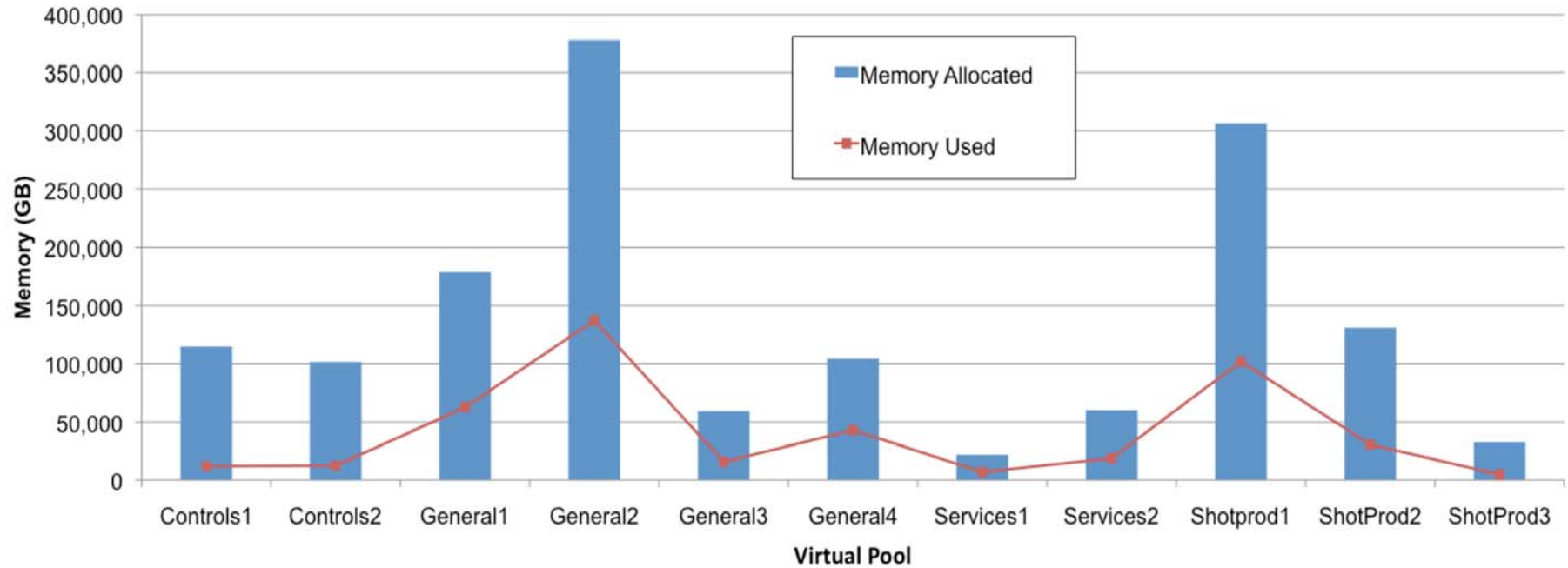


**Memory, NOT CPU or network bandwidth, is the scarce resource!**



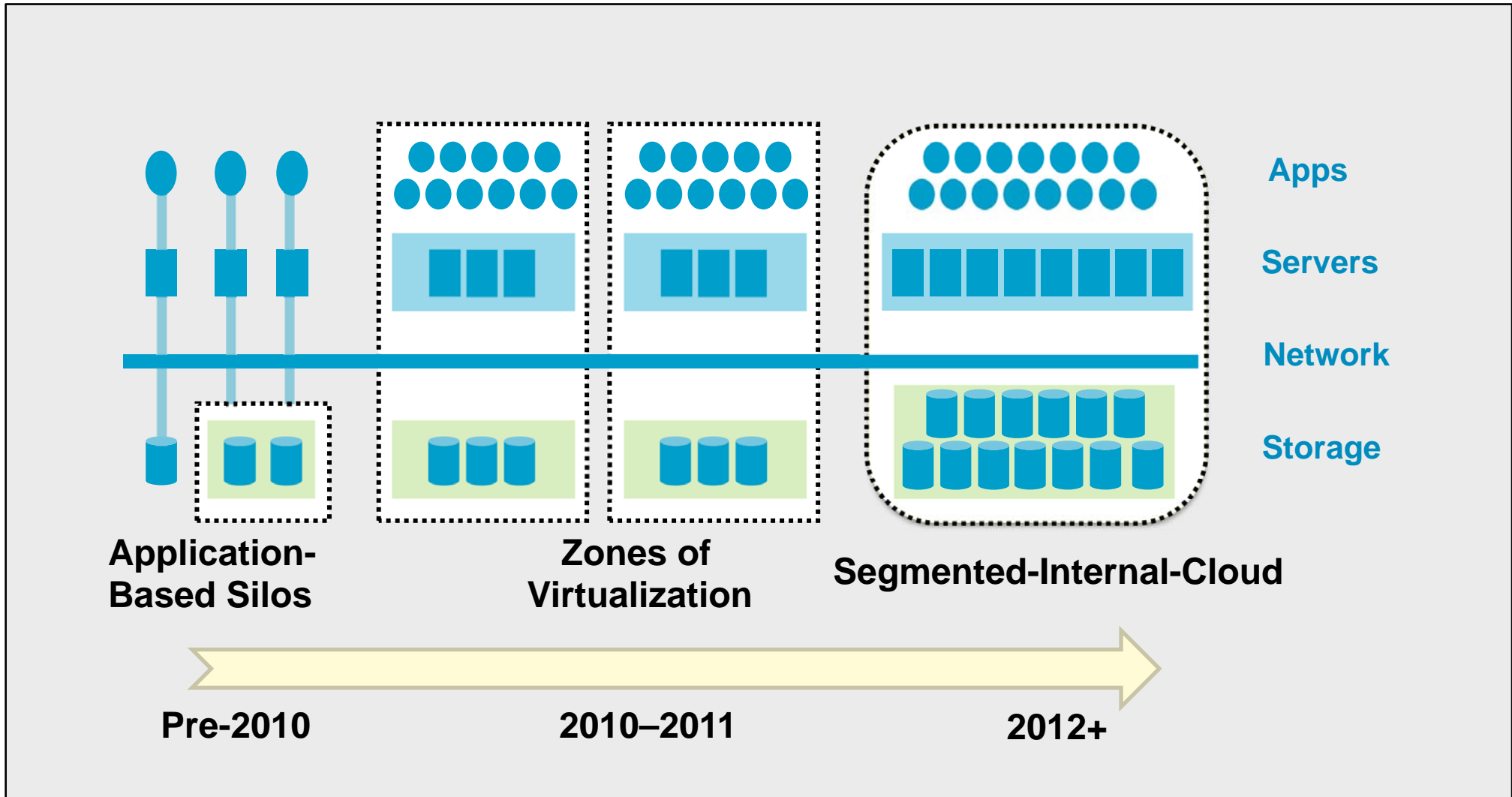
# An unexpected lesson learned

Guest Memory Allocated vs. Used (9/10/2011 17:9:2011)



**Memory, NOT CPU or network bandwidth, is the scarce resource!**

# We are migrating from the legacy architecture used to commission the NIF to the architecture for 30 years of experimentation



**VLAN separation will ensure control system functions remain isolated from other workload**

# The future NIF cloud is being realized in highly energy efficient portable data centers



**NIF**

