

# Multi-disciplinary Technical Expert Project Meeting

## PROJECT FEEDBACK (WP1.5): RTIMS INTERFACES TO TMM SIMULATION MODEL

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science & innovation

Department:  
Science and Innovation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**MINERALS COUNCIL**  
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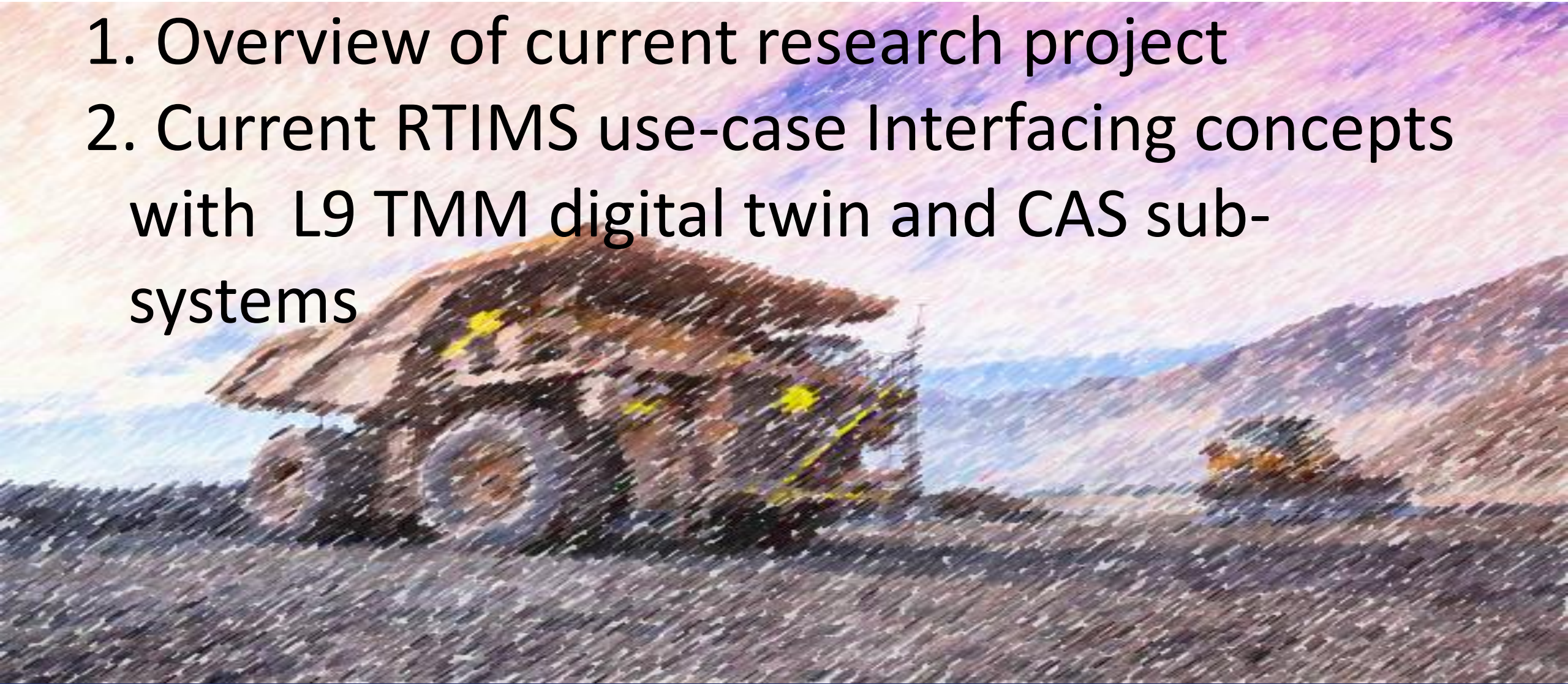




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# SCOPE

1. Overview of current research project
2. Current RTIMS use-case Interfacing concepts with L9 TMM digital twin and CAS sub-systems





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# RESEARCH QUESTION 1

*How can the RTIMS\* information system-architecture platform, in future, be utilized to support safe mining operations: specifically, where Level 9 safety regulations are required?*

*\* A Program of the MMP (JJ Verhaeghe)*



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## RESEARCH QUESTION 2

*Would it be possible to use a sub-set of the current RTIMS capabilities to support the current L9 TMM digital twin platform simulation capabilities to process safety predictions in near-real time?*

*.....the availability of near-real time data from sensors at the operational site, would enable the L9 TMM digital platform to provide near-real time predictions of possible hazards...*

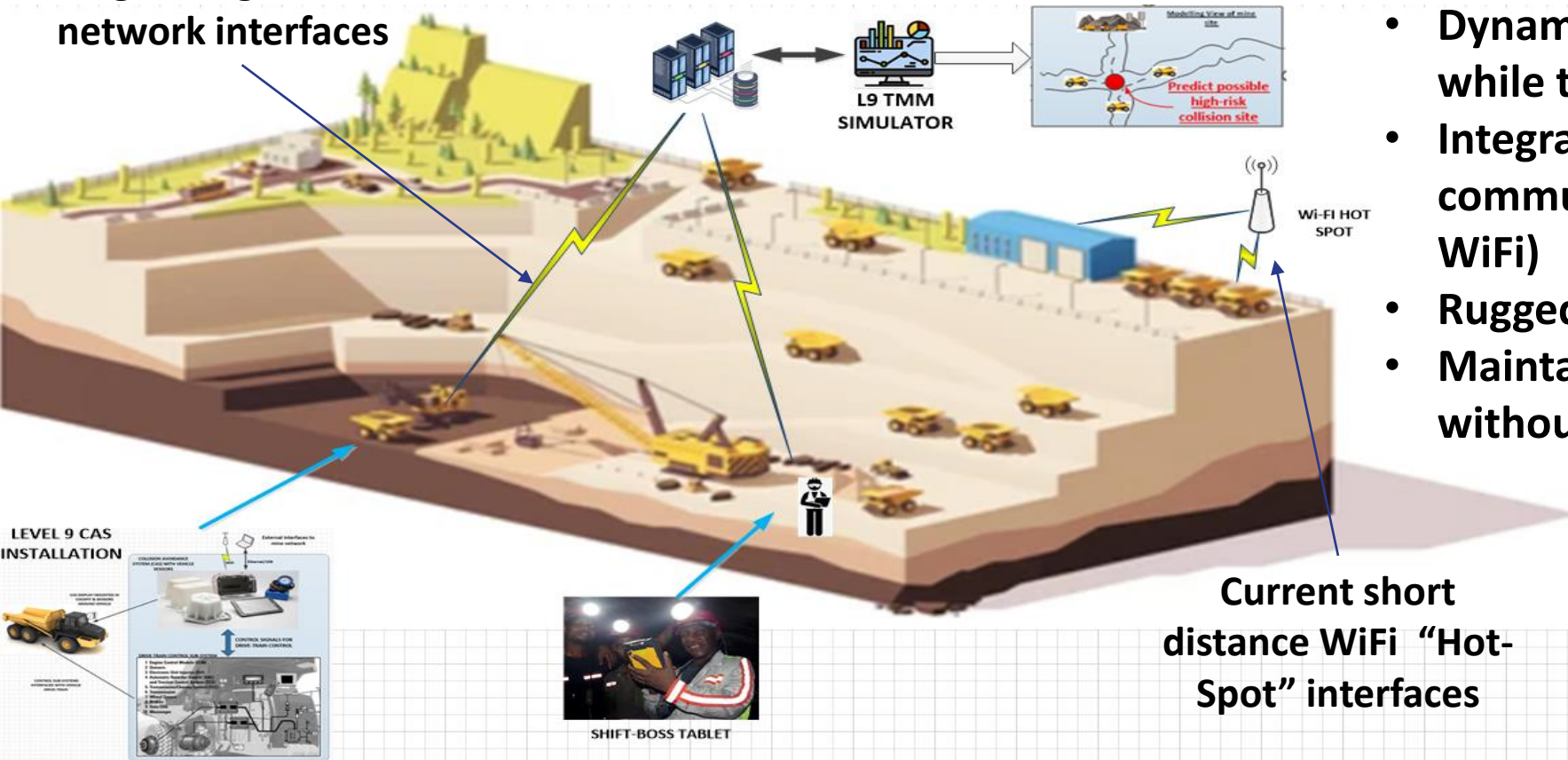


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# OPEN PIT MINE IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- The implementation of near-real time data sensing integration capabilities at an operational site do present certain challenges

Longer range Mesh-network interfaces



- Long (3-5 km) Non-Line-Of-Sight (NLOS) transmission conditions
- Highly reflective rugged surfaces
- Dynamic conditions, vehicles are moving, while transmitting/receiving data
- Integration with existing (static) communication's infra-structure (e.g. WiFi)
- Rugged, dusty conditions
- Maintain near-real time data services without interruptions

Current short distance WiFi "Hot-Spot" interfaces

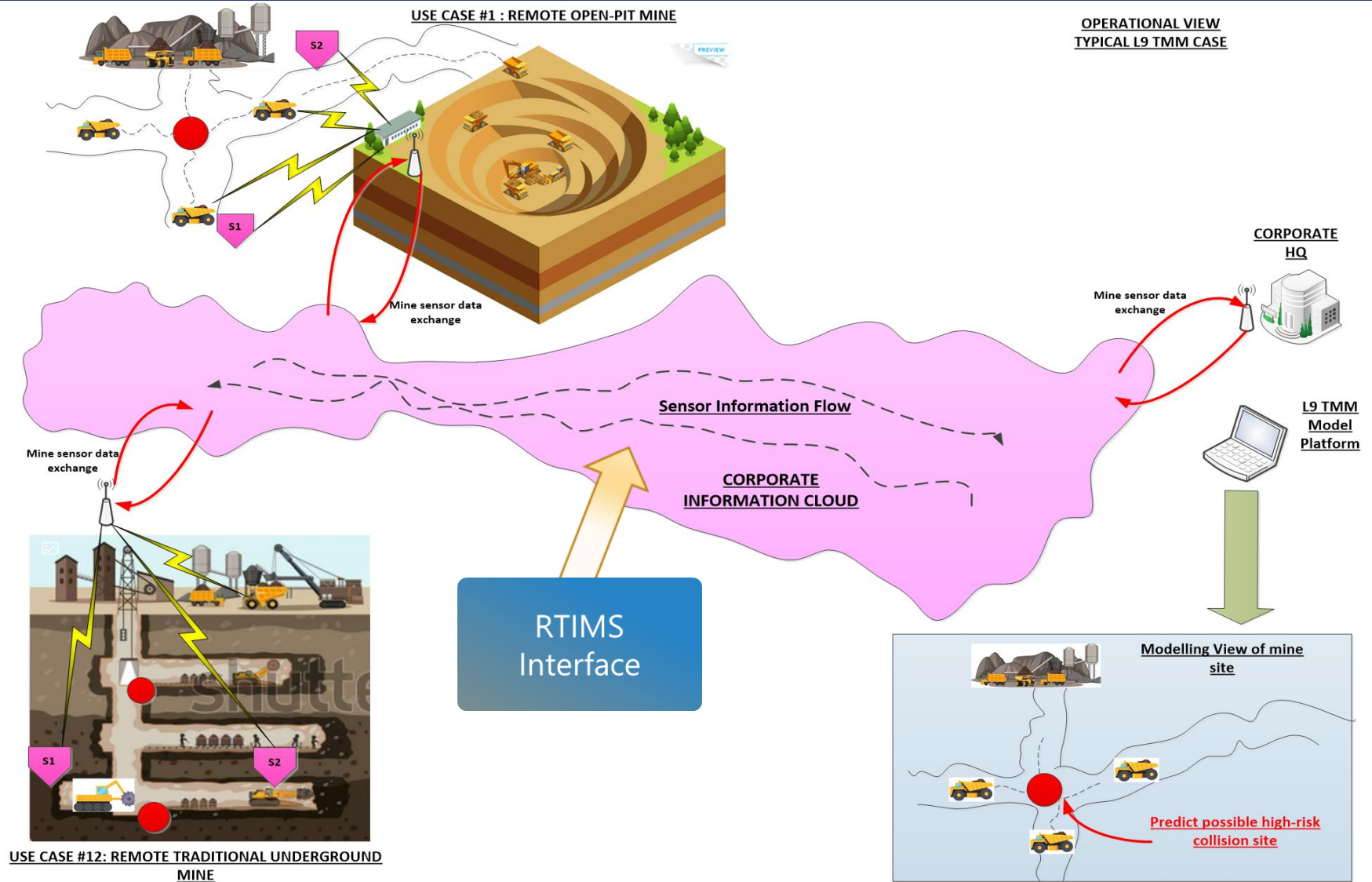


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# OPERATIONAL VIEW (OV):TMM LEVEL 9 (L9) USE CASE



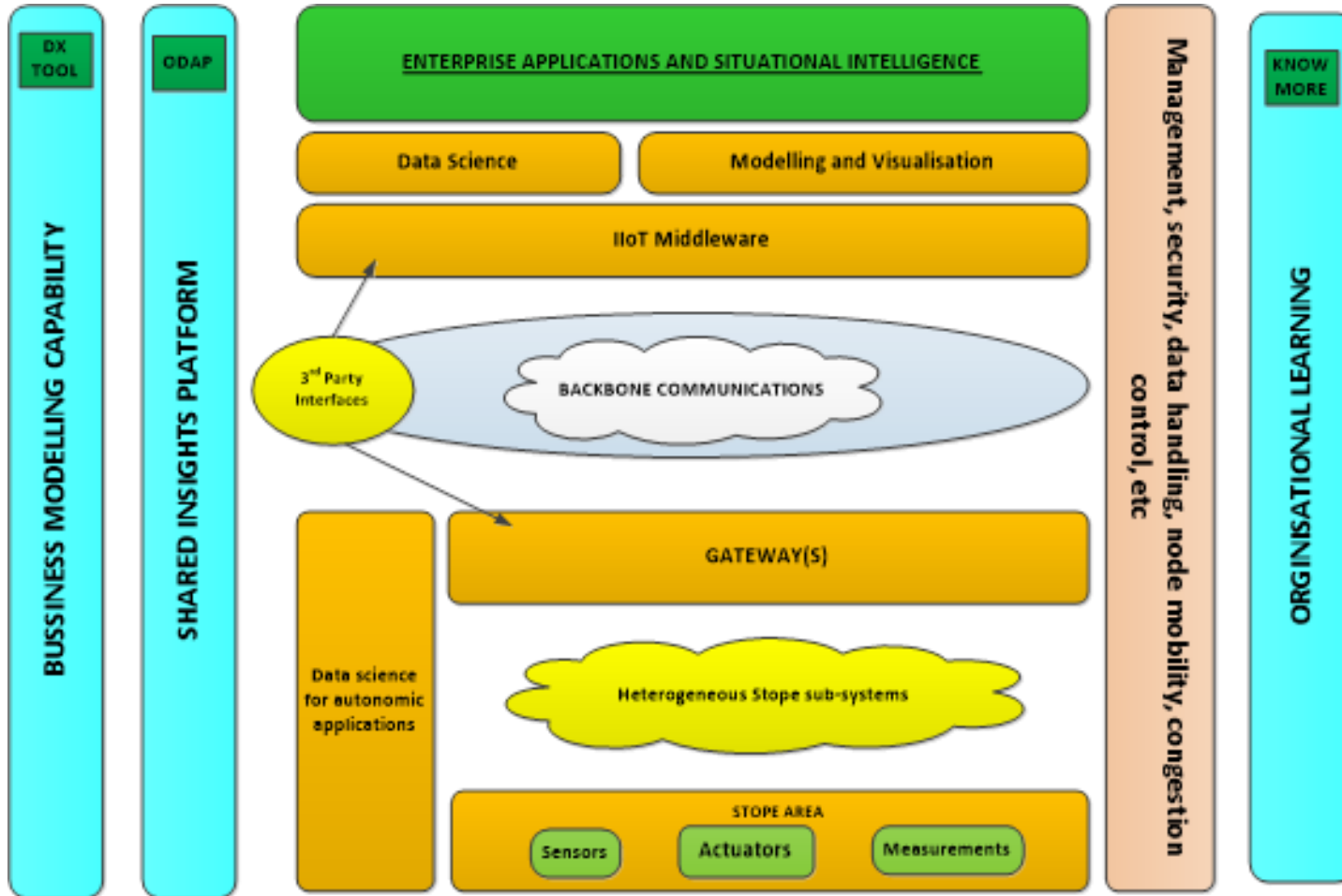
- The focus is to define the information flow requirements to implement a scenario where the L9 TMM digital twin model platform can receive real-world data as it is generated at a mining operation site.





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# RTIMS INTEGRATION PLATFORM CONCEPT



Look-back

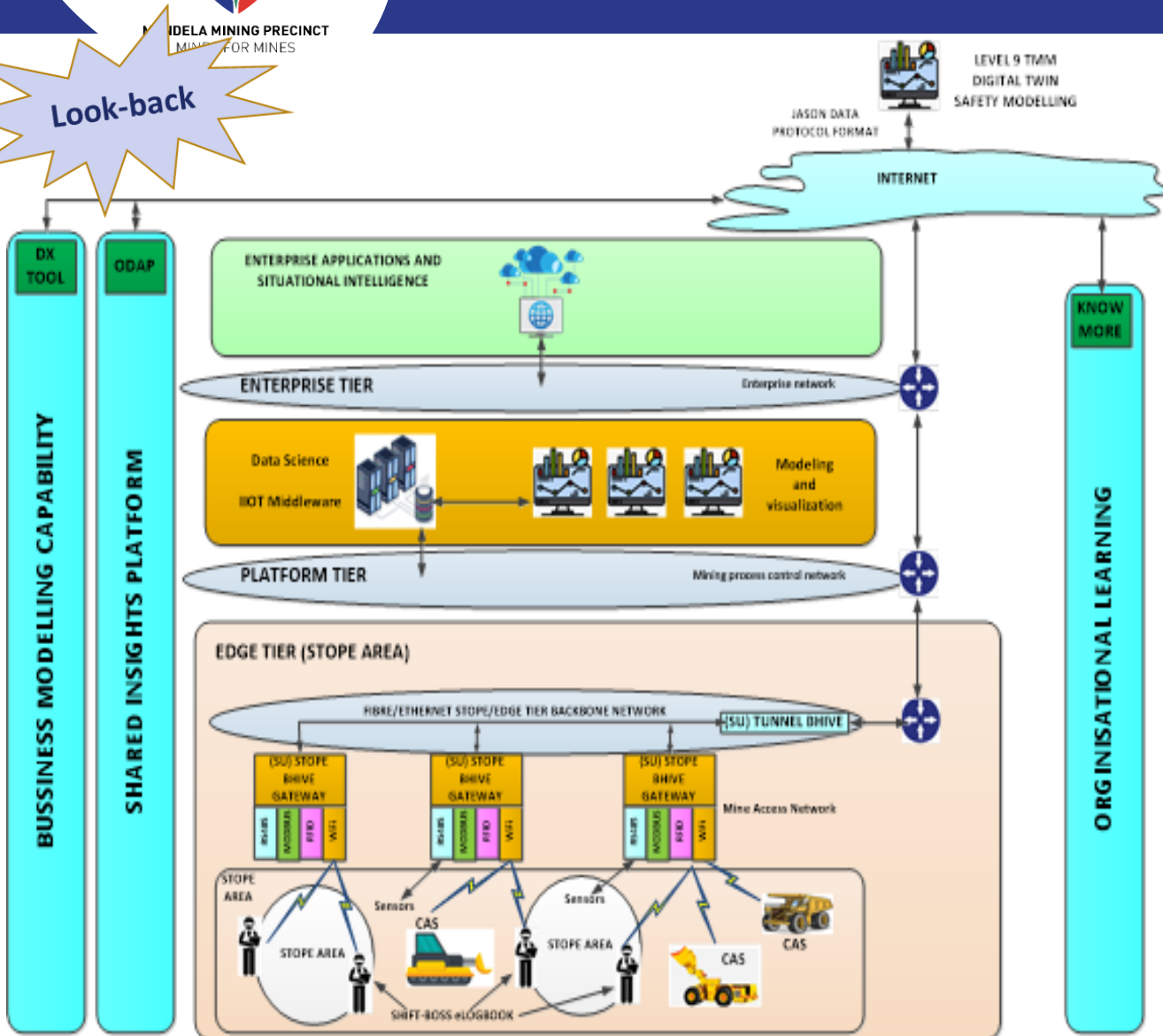
- Utilizing past RTIMS research outputs, the RTIMS mine integration platform is ideally suited for L9 CAS sub-system integration
- Interfacing concepts for collating sensor data from the stope area has been defined

(Source: RTIMS, JJ Verhaeghe)



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# RTIMS INTERFACING ARCHITECTURE CONCEPT



- Integration of L9 TMM CAS sub-systems will be imperative for future “Digital Twin” safety simulators
- Valuable data such as how many break command, near misses, hazardous events, Etc needs to be collated in a near-real time format
- Near-real time L9 events supports the vision of pro-active zero harm policies
- A holistic systems approach towards the implementation of L9 safety principles would be possible





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# USE-CASE : RTIMS CAPABILITIES INTEGRATION

## Stope hazard sensing

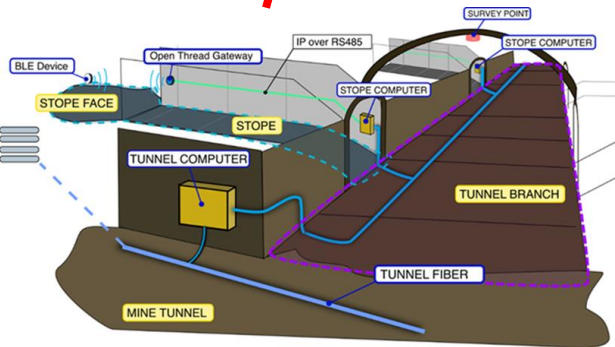


TMM Digital Twin  
Data Analytics

TMM Digital Twin  
Framework

TMM Digital Twin  
Simulation Frameworks

Collision Avoidance  
Sensors (CAS)

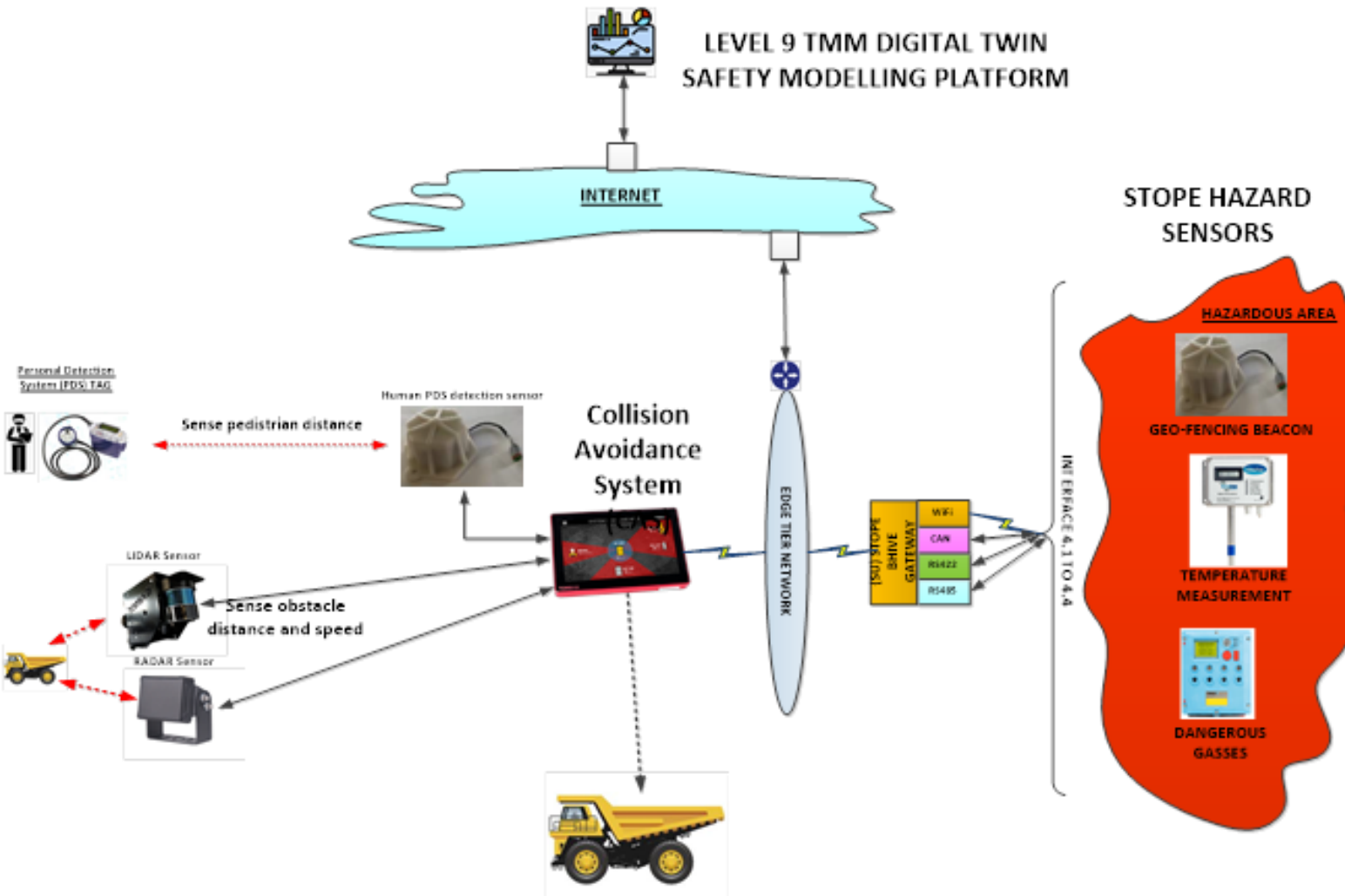


Mesh-communications  
(NLOS)



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# USE-CASE CONCEPTUAL INTERFACE CONCEPT



- The RTIMS mesh-communications modules can be utilized to integrate the CAS sensor suite to the L9 TMM digital twin platform.
- In future, stope hazard condition sensors could be used to provide data regarding possible hazard conditions to the L9 TMM Digital Twin platform (Gasses, dust, temp, etc).



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L9 TMM DIGITAL TWIN SIMULATION  
PLATFORM

# CURRENT USE CASE INTEGRATION



- A use-case laboratory integration is currently in process at the CSIR
- A CAS sensor suite has been installed within a commercial vehicle and interfaced with the RTIMS mesh network to communicate near-real time sensor data to the L9 TMM Digital Twin platform.

STOPE MINE SENSOR  
INTEGRATION (STELLENBOSCH  
UNIVERSITY)



STOPE  
TUNNEL

DUST



GASSES



STOPE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSORS

RTIMS COMMUNICATIONS  
INTEGRATION WITH COLLISION  
AVOIDANCE SYSTEM



CAS SYSTEM





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## IN SUMMARY

- The current laboratory integration between a vehicle-installed CAS sensor system, RTIMS was successful
- CAS sensor data was communicated between the CAS system, via the RTIMS mesh-communications network to the L9 TMM Digital Twin platform, (*digital twin data integration in progress*) while the CAS-vehicle were moving.
- Hazard area identification: Stope sensor integration between the US stope sensor tunnel and L9 TMM Digital Twin platform is in progress
- Future planning: A first use-case integration could be completed in the next two weeks, and current planning is to test the concept at an open pit mine operation, subject to mine safety/operational requirements.



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# THANK YOU

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