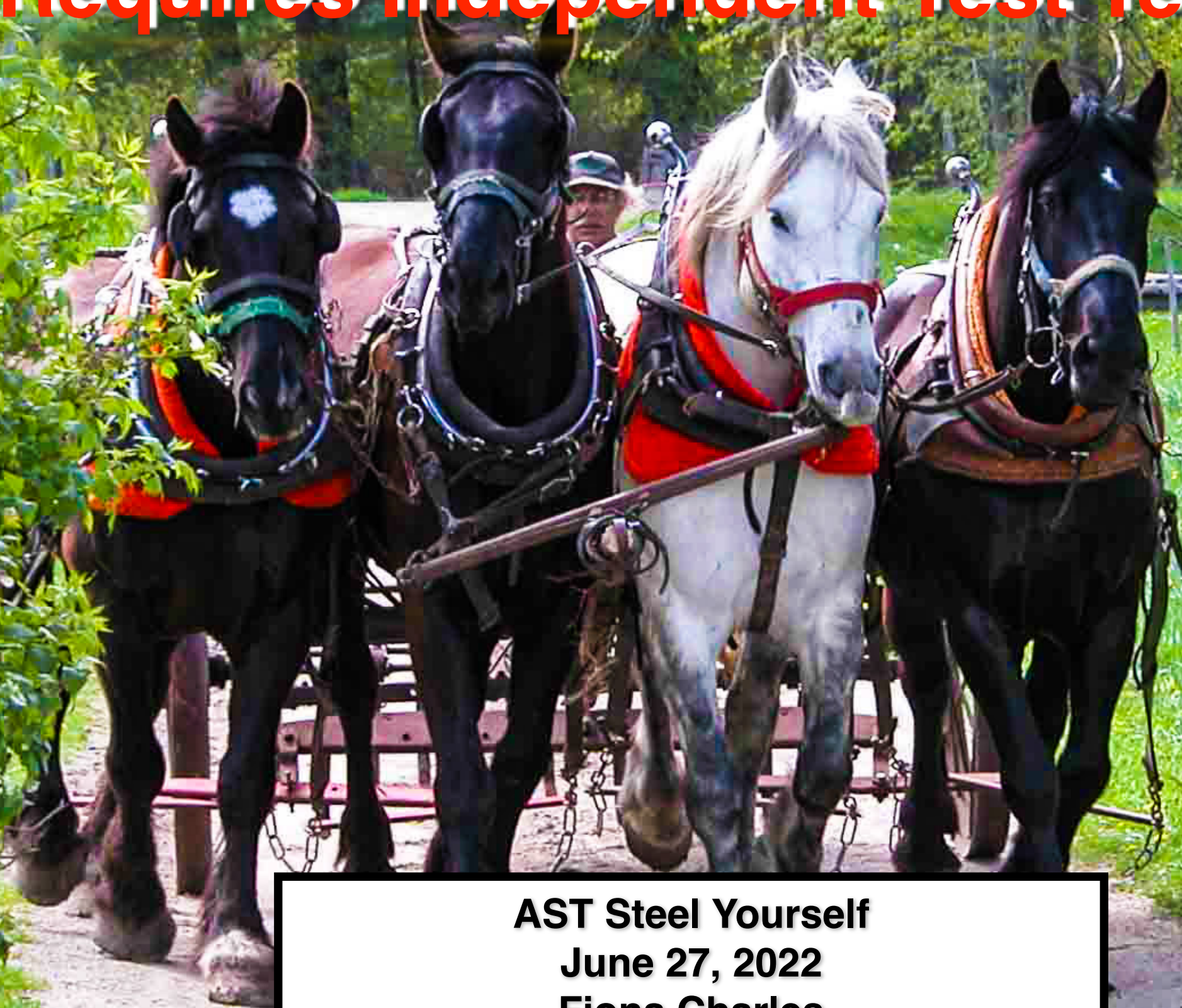


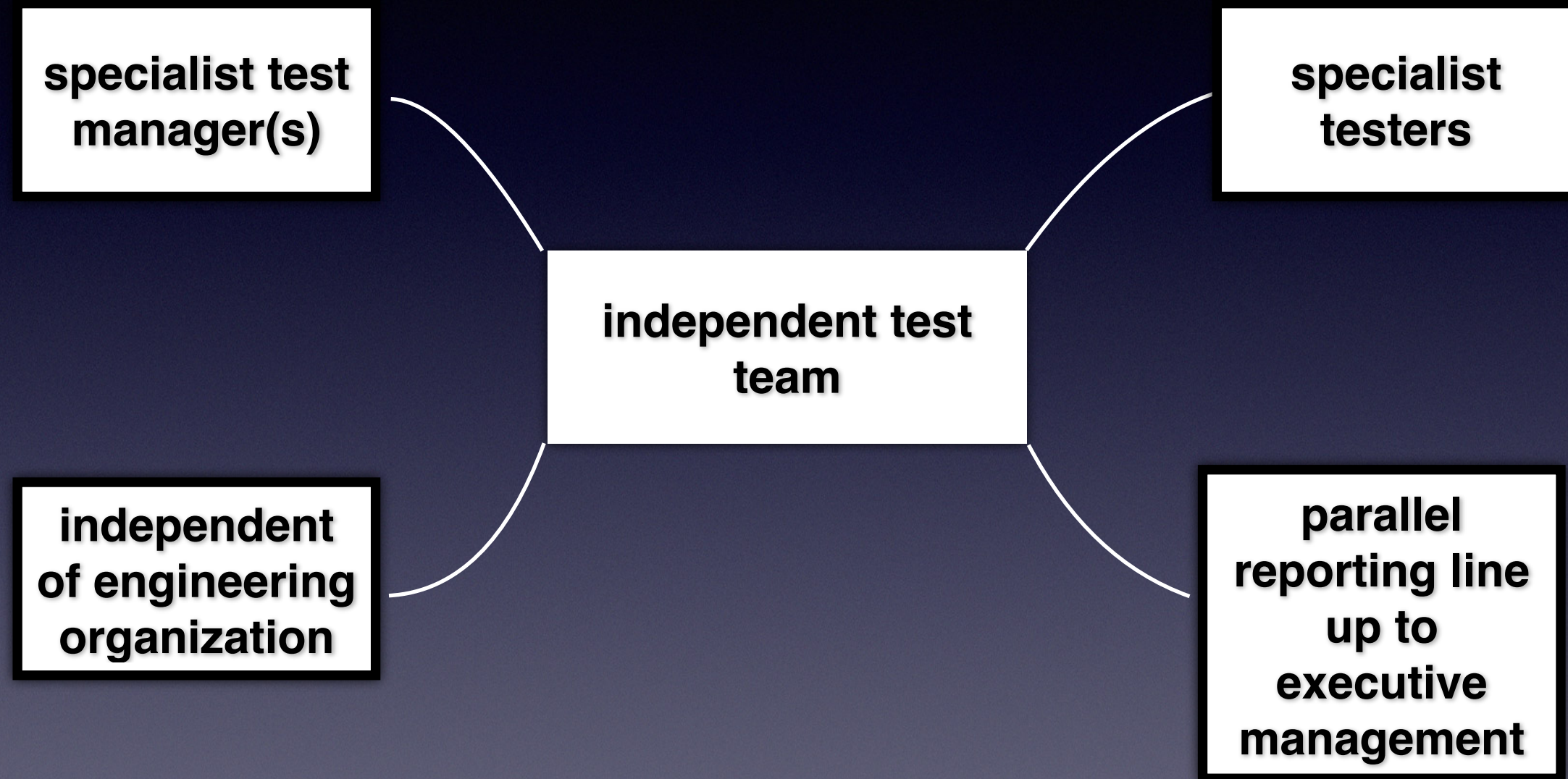
Professional Software Development Requires Independent Test Teams



AST Steel Yourself
June 27, 2022
Fiona Charles

Independent teams of specialist testers are essential to maintain the integrity of testing and the quality of software products.

I will argue that providing a reporting structure for testers which is separate from the engineering stream is the only way to ensure that testing concerns and software quality are given due consideration and cannot be overridden by engineering managers with conflicting priorities.



“My testers currently report to the development manager. I’m thinking about moving them into a separate reporting stream with their own manager. That way, they’ll have more clout, and the project managers will have to listen to their concerns.”

Potential Client in a public service organization

voice at the management table



test advocacy

quality advocacy

budget



access

project activities

risk management

test integrity

no “builder bias”

up-to-date test methods

community of practice

quality culture

stakeholder focus



maintaining independence



concerns heard

not co-opted/
overridden

growing testers



hiring

training

assigning for
growth

coaching &
mentoring

questions & discussion



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