



Your systems.
Working as one.



Neil Puthuff

DDS Introduction

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Software Integration Engineer, RTI

June 11, 2020

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Agenda

- Networking & Vehicle Evolution
- What is DDS?
- ROS 2 and DDS
- Getting Started with DDS

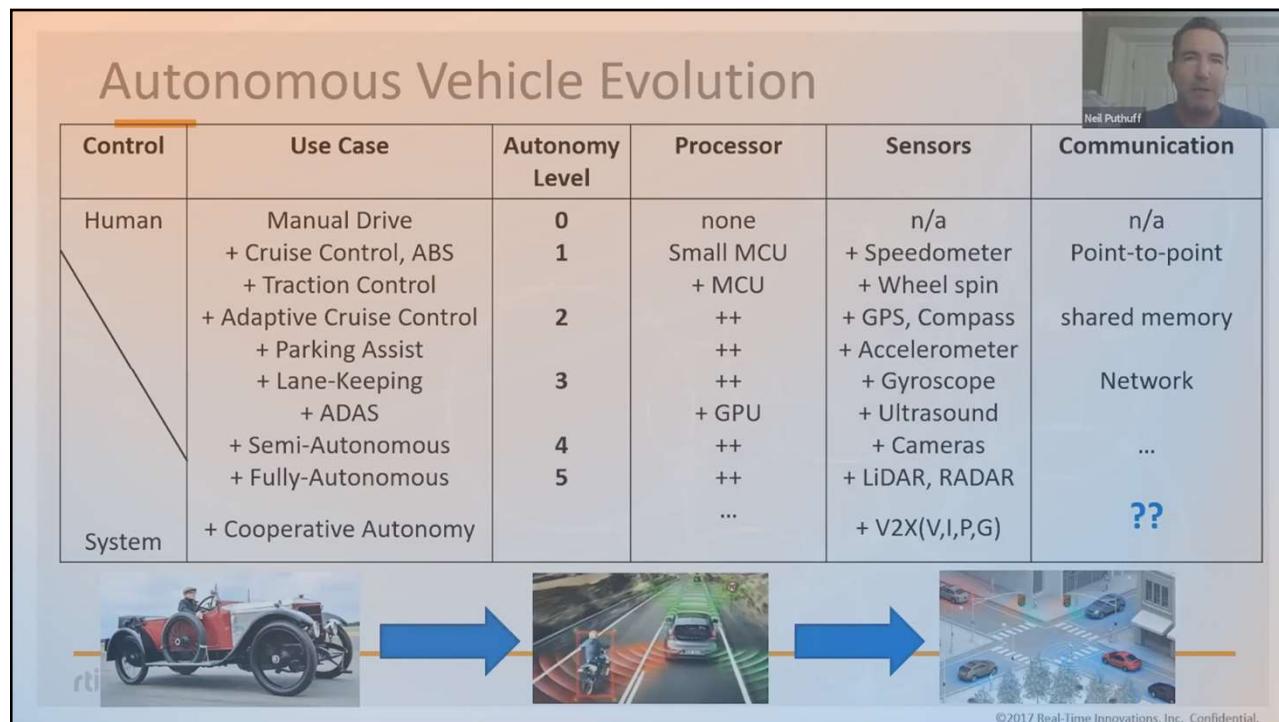


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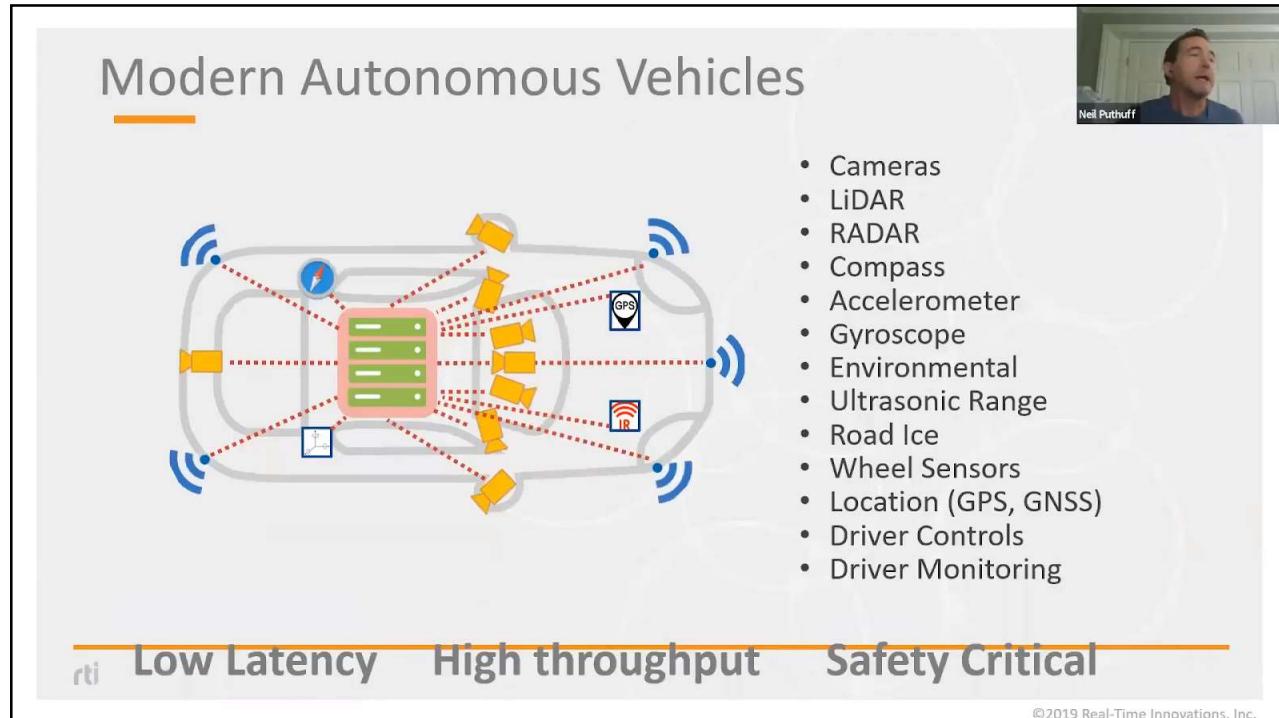
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ROS 2 + DDS Interoperation

How to Deal with the Data?



Source	Type	Size	Frequency	Volume (approx.)
8 Cameras	2D high-res. video stream	8x 1-4 Mpixel/frame x 30 frames/s x 12-24bit/pixel	30 Hz	2.5-20 Gbit/s
4 Lidar sensors	3D point cloud	4x 300k-3M 3D points /s * 24bit/point	5-20 Hz	30-300 Mbit/s
5 Radar sensors	Object/target list	bytes to kbytes	10 Hz	~10 kB/s
16 Ultrasonic sensors	Object/target list	bytes or kbytes	10 Hz	~10 kB/s
1 GPS	Data message	A couple of bytes	20-200 Hz	~10 kB/s
Control commands	Data message	A couple of bytes	50-250 Hz	~10 kB/s
Status/error handling	Data/string message	Whatever needed	Whenever needed	Whatever needed

12 Gb/s or 1.5 GB/s or 90 GB/min or 5 TB/h or 100 TB/d

Approximately and assuming 20h of operation per day

5G data rate: 100Mbps (cell edge) to 10Gbps (theoretical)

Stanford University

ROS 2 + DDS Interoperation

Dataflow Challenge



Data Source	Data Type	Data Volume	Data Frequency
Cameras	Video Stream		
LiDAR, RADAR	Point cloud		
Misc. Sensors	Bin data struct		
GNSS(*), IMU	Bin data struct		
Control Cmd	Bin data struct		
Error	Text String		

- Vehicles need many different dataflows
 - Volume
 - Frequency
 - Latency
 - Reliability
 - Redundancy
 - Durability
 - Liveliness
 - Authentication

2:17 / 1:03:13 • Dataflow Challenge >

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Dataflow Challenge



Data Source

Cameras

LiDAR, RADAR

Misc. Sensors

GNSS(*), IMU

Control Cmd

Error

Data Type

Video Stream

Data Volume

Data Frequency

Evolution of Networking



Point-to-Point



Client/Server



Publish/Subscribe



Queuing



Data-Centric



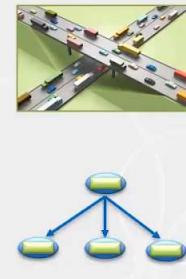
TCP
Sockets



MQTT
XMPP
OPC
CORBA



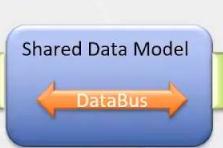
CAN Bus
SOME/IP
ZeroMQ
JMS



NATS.io
AMQP
Active MQ



DDS



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200+ RTI Autonomous Vehicle Programs!



- 40+ commercial systems
 - 8+ Passenger vehicles
 - 8+ EV startups
 - 5+ Software platforms
 - 7+ Trucks, mining vehicles, forklifts
 - 2 Flying taxi services
 - 2 Hyperloop & other
 - 2+ Autonomous ships
 - 2+ Underwater robots
- 100+ defense systems (land, sea, air)
- 75+ research programs (companies, universities, etc.)

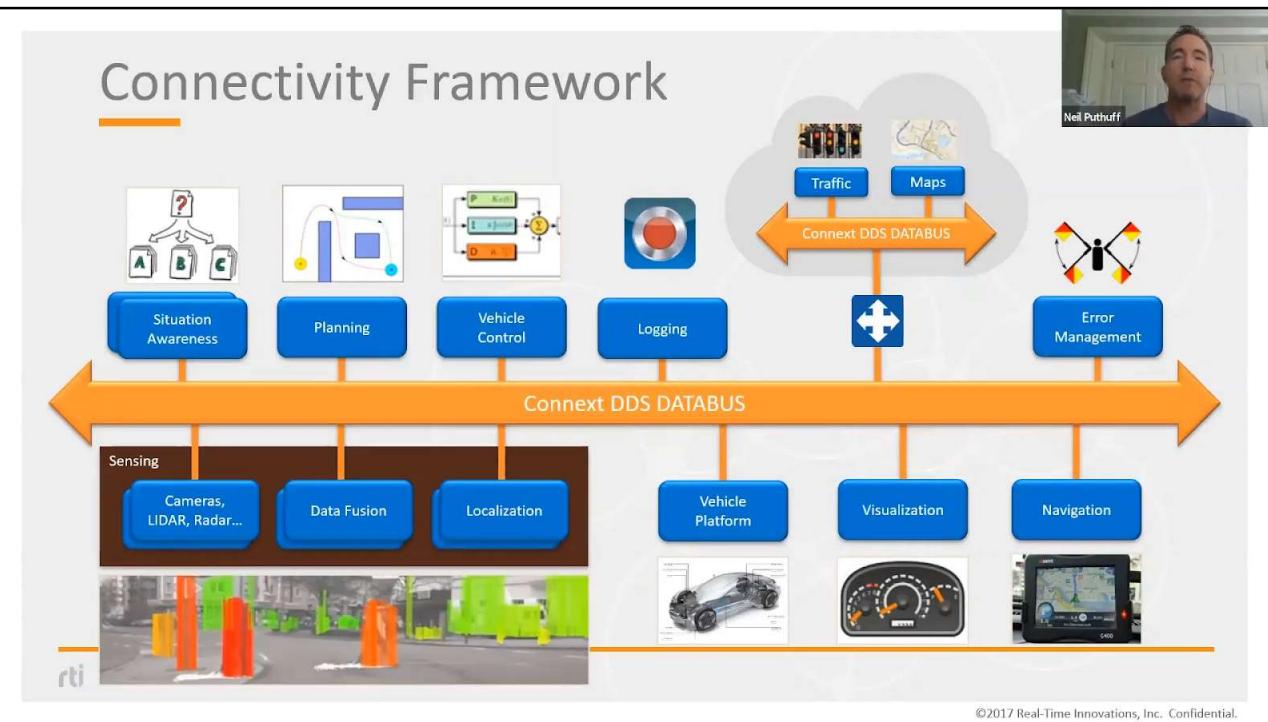


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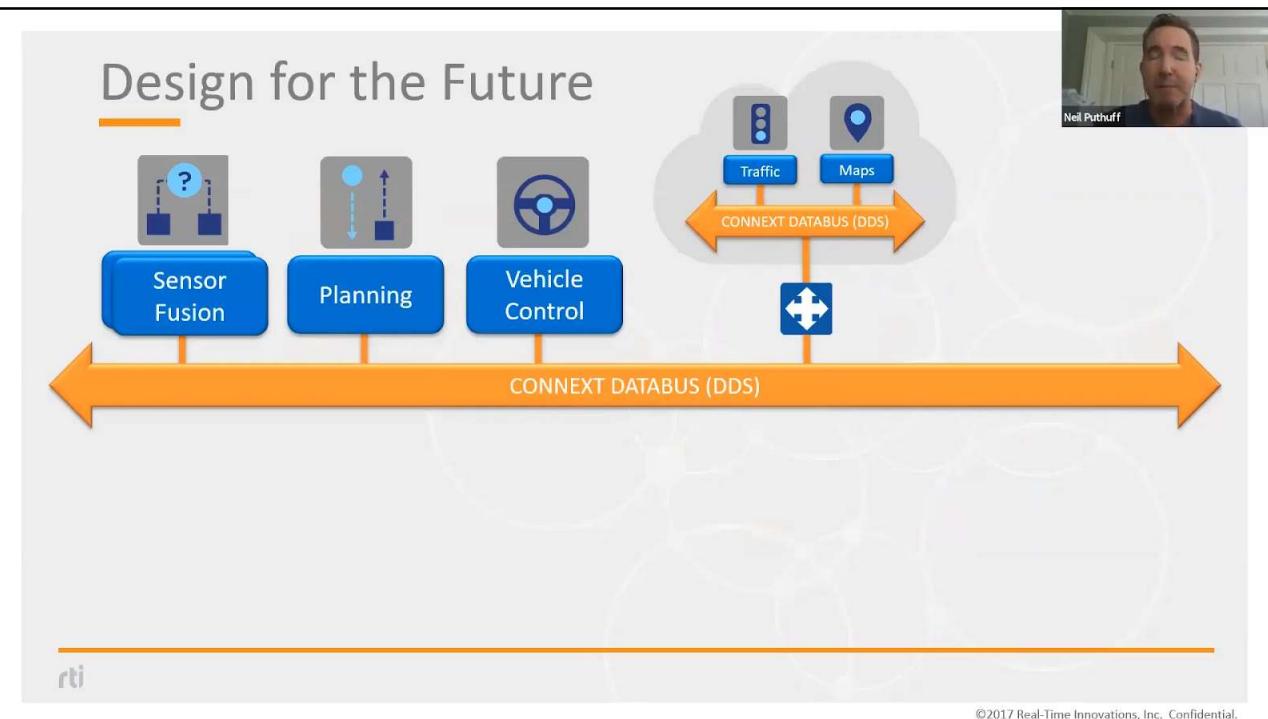
Connectivity Framework



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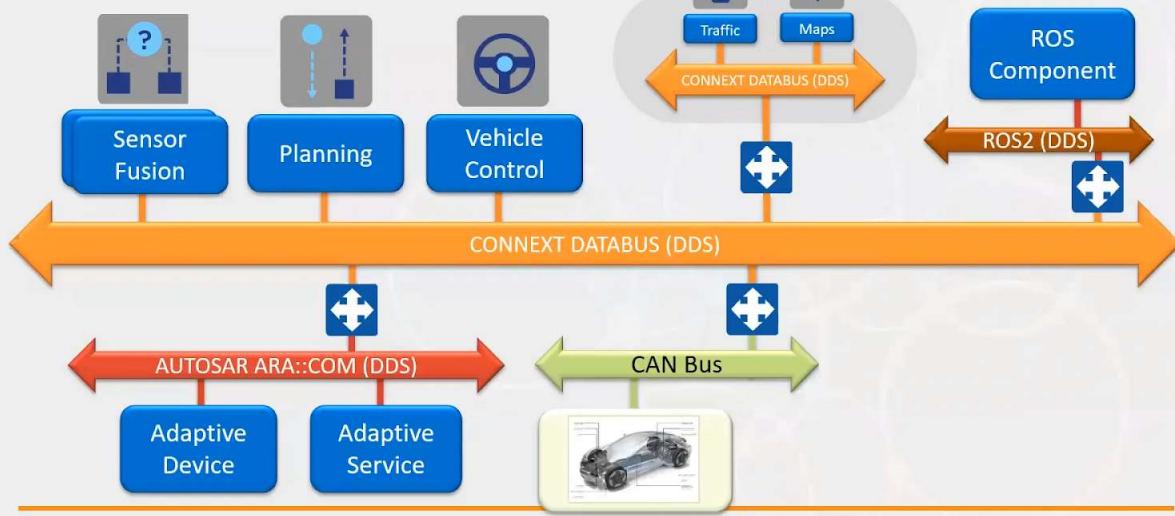
Design for the Future



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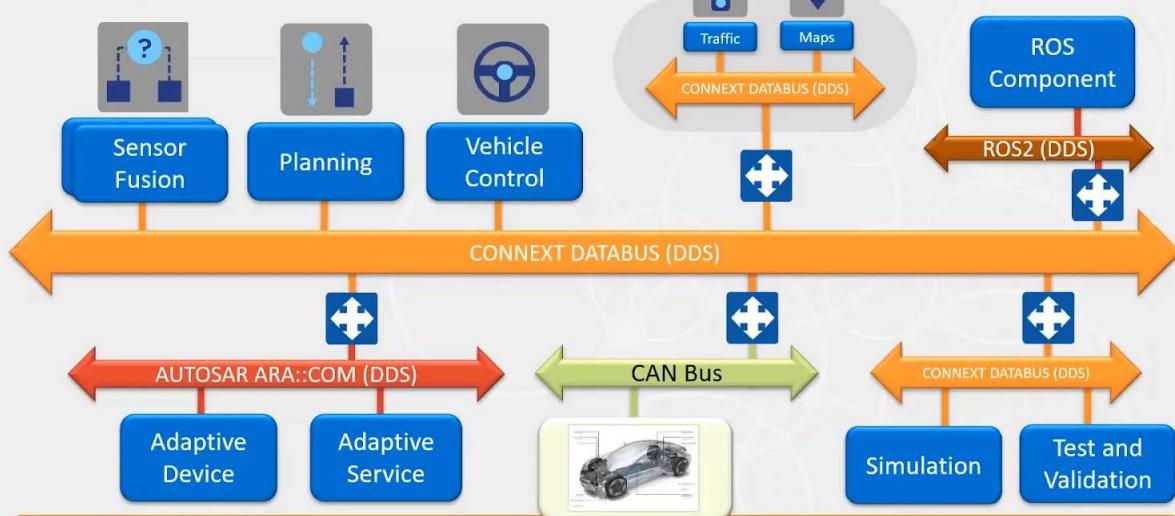
Design for the Future



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Design for the Future



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Distributed Architectures for Higher Autonomy

Central Fusion or "Late" Fusion

The diagram shows a top-down view of a vehicle. Inside the vehicle, there is a central green box labeled 'Fusion' which contains several smaller orange boxes representing sensors. Dotted lines connect these sensors to various parts of the vehicle's body. Blue wavy lines represent wireless communication links extending from the vehicle to the outside world.

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Distributed Architectures for Higher Autonomy

Central Fusion or "Late" Fusion

The diagram illustrates a 'Hybrid Fusion' architecture. On the left, a vehicle has a central green 'Fusion' box connected to sensors via dotted lines. A large blue arrow points from this central fusion node to a second vehicle on the right. This second vehicle also has a central green 'Fusion' box connected to sensors via dotted lines. Blue wavy lines represent wireless communication links between the two vehicles.

Hybrid Fusion

Data Centricity thus enables *new architectures* that are fast, distributed, and reliable.

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15+ Standards and Consortia Efforts



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Flying Cars



Airbus Vahana is developing the first certified, electric, self-piloted vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) passenger aircraft.

RTI Connext DDS addresses diverse systems with the same technology, greatly simplifying design integration and modularity.



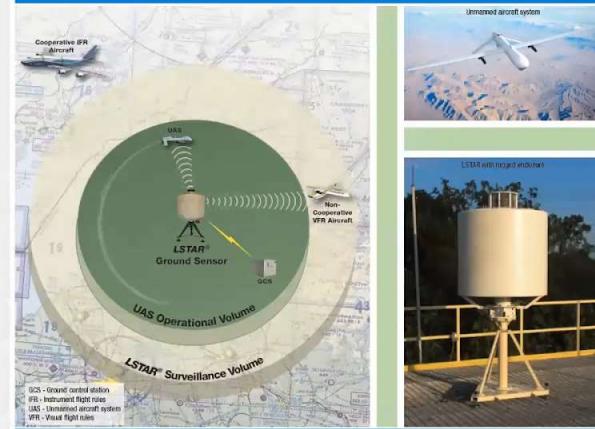
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Enable UAS Flight in National Air Space



- The Ground Based Sense and Avoid system allows autonomous planes in US National Air Space
 - Repositioning
 - Training & testing
 - Disaster relief
 - Forest monitoring and fire suppression
- DO178C safety certified
- Operational with RTI Connex DDS in 2016



Management: US Army UAS Project Office
System integrator: SRC, Inc.

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Autonomy in Deep Water

- Provides service telepresence at depths to 4000M
- Autonomous compensation for ocean current, ship, and target motion



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Handle Safety-Critical Systems



- The NASA KSC launch control is the world's largest single-system SCADA
- It combines 300k points, at 400k msgs/sec
- RTI Connext DDS powers launch control, in-flight monitoring, UAV reentry-tracking ground station, and the recovery ship



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Handle Safety-Critical Systems



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Resilience



- DDS controls the 6.8 GW Grand Coulee Dam
 - Largest power plant in North America
 - Fastest-responding major power source on the Western Grid
 - Requires 24x7 operation
- Connex DDS met the challenges
 - Extreme availability
 - Wide area communications
 - Multi-level routing
 - High security

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Fault tolerance protecting against even minimal downtime

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ROS 2 + DDS Interoperation

compliant DDS

OMG OBJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP

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• Data Distribution Service
<http://portals.omg.org/dds/what-is-dds-3/>

• OMG Standard Defines:

- API for portability
- Wire protocol for interoperability
- Plug-in Security Architecture

• Multiple language bindings

- Python, Go, C, C++, C++11, Java, .NET, Ada

• Multi platform support

- Windows, Linux, RTOS, iOS, Android, bare metal

DDS API

Distribution Fabric

Real-Time Publish-Subscribe Wire Protocol (RTPS)

Plug-In Security

Cross-vendor portability

Cross-vendor interoperability

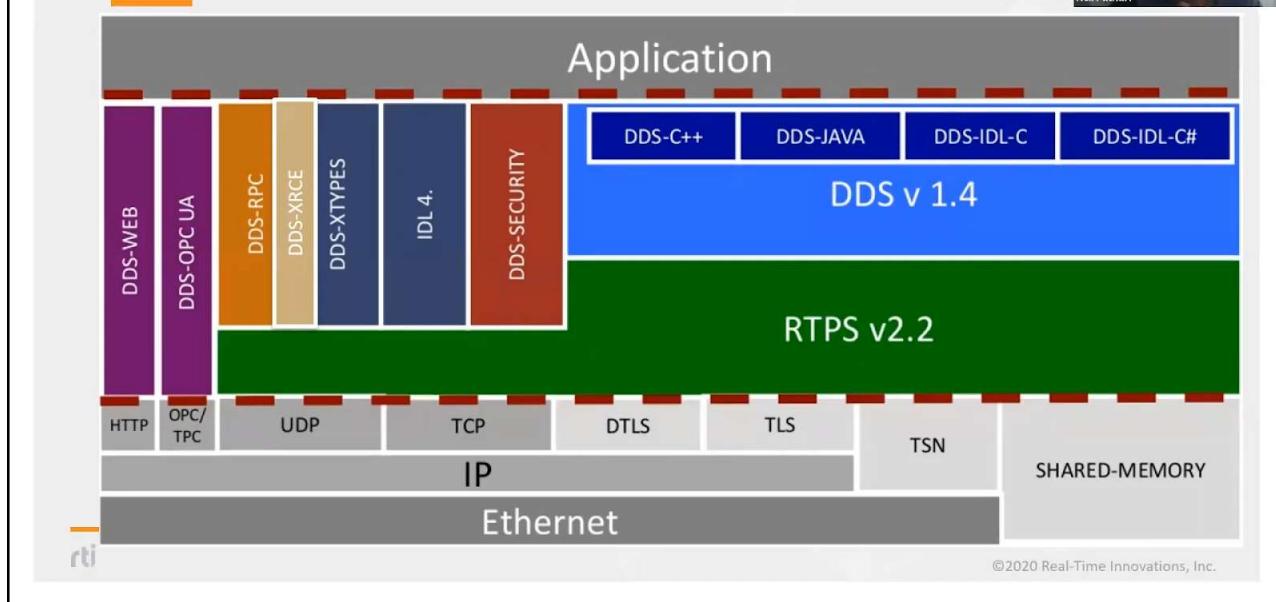
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DDS Standard Family:



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DDS Standard Family:



DDS is an OPEN STANDARD

- Freely downloadable
- More than a dozen commercially-supported & open-source implementations
- Periodic 'plug-fests' to ensure interoperability.

NAME	ACRONYM	VERSION	STATUS	ADOPTION DATE
Data Distribution Service	DDS™	1.4	formal	March 2015
Data Distribution Service + Data Local Reconstruction Layer	DDS-DLRL™	1.4	formal	May 2015
Java 5 Language PSM for DDS	DDS-Java	1.0	formal	November 2013
DDS Consolidated JSON Syntax	DDS-JSON	1.0 beta	beta	July 2019
ISO/IEC C++ 2003 Language DDS PSM	DDS-PSM-Cxx	1.0	formal	November 2013
RPC Over DDS	DDS-RPC	1.0	formal	April 2017
DDS Security	DDS-SECURITY™	1.1	formal	July 2018
Web-Enabled DDS	DDS-WEB	1.0	formal	February 2016
DDS Consolidated XML Syntax	DDS-XML	1.0	formal	December 2018
DDS For Extremely Resource Constrained Environments	DDS-XRCE	1.0	formal	February 2020
Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS	DDS-XTypes™	1.3	formal	February 2020
DDS For Lightweight CCM	DDS4CCM™	1.1	formal	February 2012
DDS Interoperability Wire Protocol	DDSI-RTPS™	2.3	formal	May 2019
Total		13		

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<https://www.omg.org/spec/category/data-distribution-service/>

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DDS Highlights



- Data-Centric
- *High Performance & Efficiency*
- Automated Discovery
- Transport-independent
- Rich set of QoS options

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DDS Quality of Service



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DDS Quality of Service



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Built-in QoS Profiles

Streaming
Sensor Data

Alarms &
Events

Configuration Data
(Last Value Cache)

Image or
Video Frames
(Large Data)

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Data Communication



```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
};
```

Source data Topic

Invisible process
that “Just Works”

```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
}
```

Destination data Topic

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Data Communication

The diagram illustrates the flow of data from a **Source data Topic** to a **Destination data Topic**. On the left, a blue box contains C++ code for a `StationValues` struct. In the center, a blue cloud-like shape contains the text "Invisible process that ‘Just Works’". On the right, another blue box contains the same `StationValues` struct code. Arrows point from the source code to the central cloud and from the central cloud to the destination code. A video feed of Neil Puttuff is visible in the top right corner.

Source data Topic

```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
};
```

Invisible process that “Just Works”

Destination data Topic

```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
};
```

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ROS 2 + DDS Interoperation

Data Communication

The diagram is similar to the one above, showing the flow from Source to Destination topics. It includes the same code snippets and central "Invisible process that ‘Just Works’" text. However, it features four large red circles with diagonal slashes through them, each containing a concept: **MESSAGES**, **ADDRESSES**, **BROKERS**, and **ROUTING**. A video feed of Neil Puttuff is visible in the top right corner.

Source data Topic

```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
};
```

Invisible process that “Just Works”

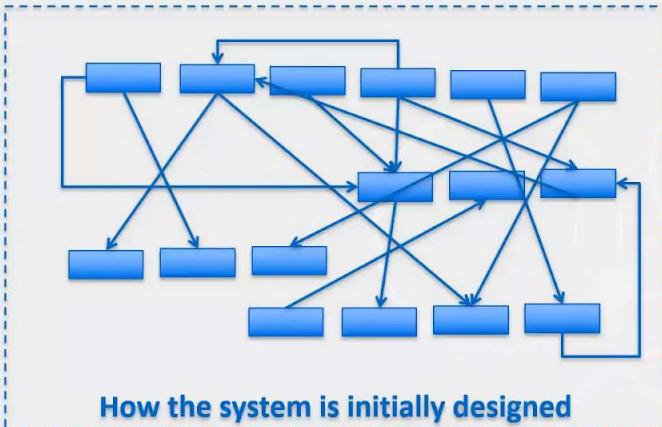
Destination data Topic

```
struct StationValues {
    unsigned long ID; // @key
    unsigned long count;
    float Temperature;
};
```

MESSAGES ADDRESSES BROKERS ROUTING

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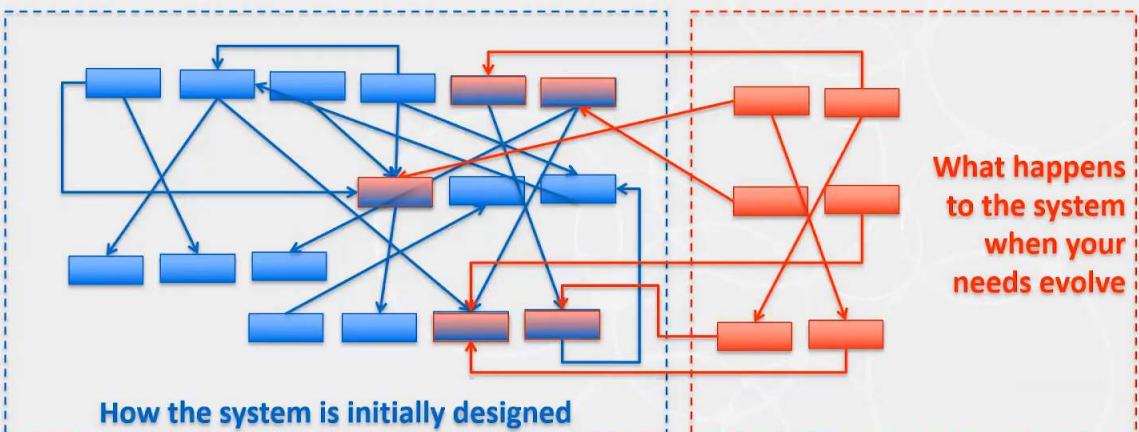
What You End Up Writing



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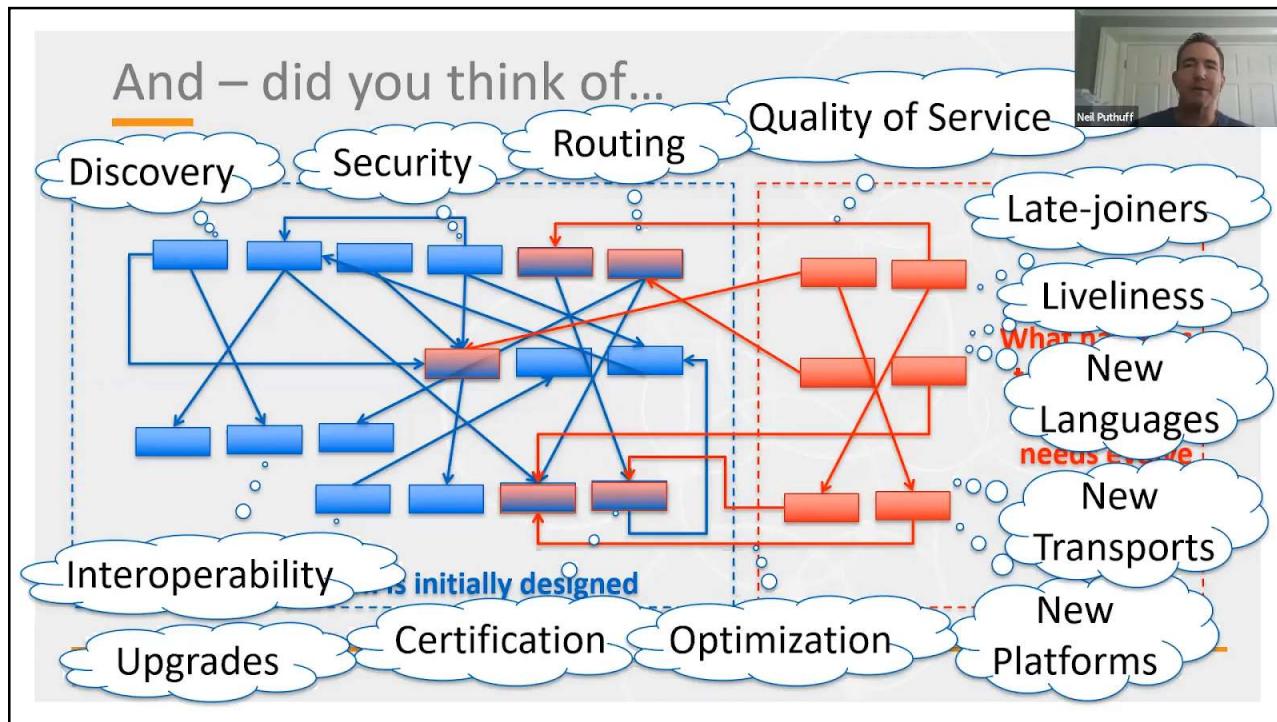
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What You End Up Writing

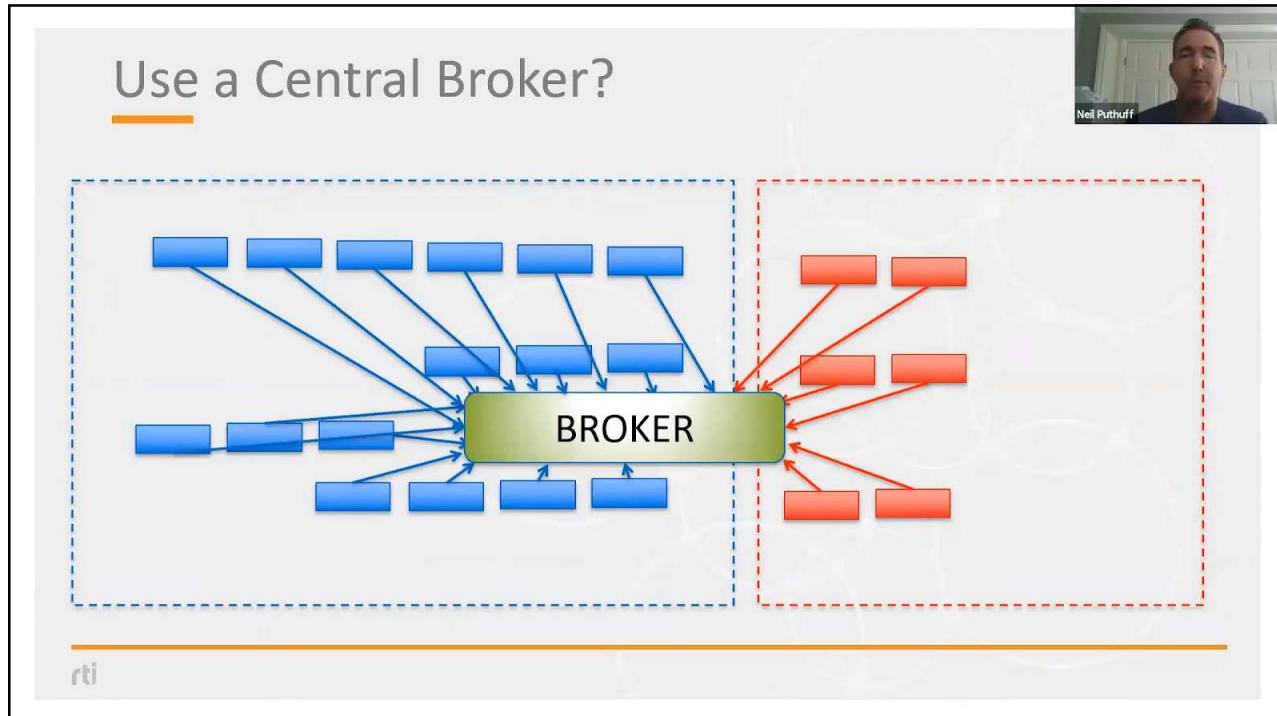


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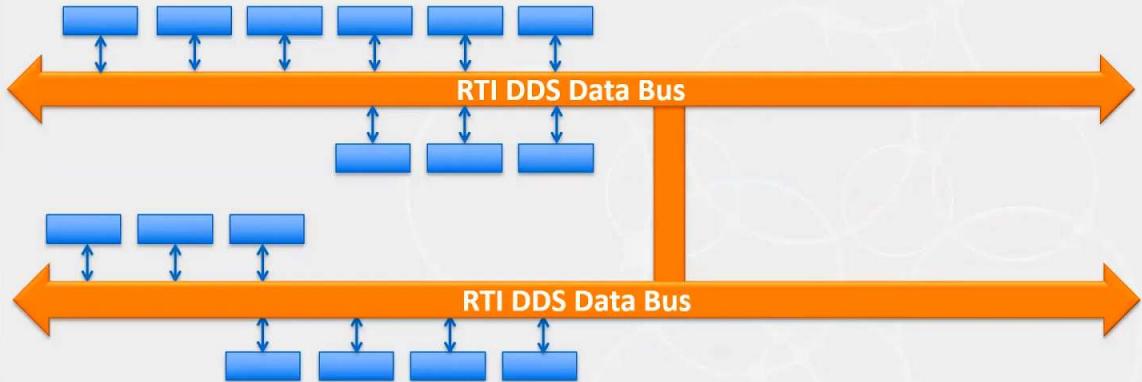


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DDS Creates This...

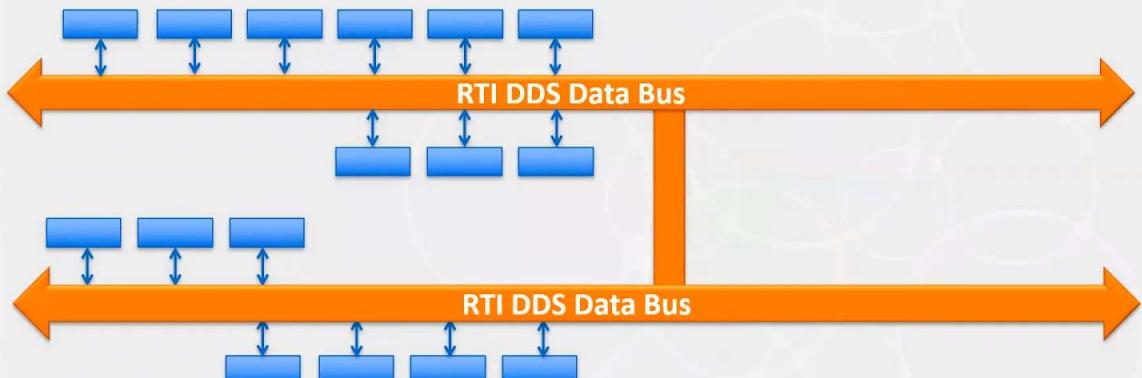


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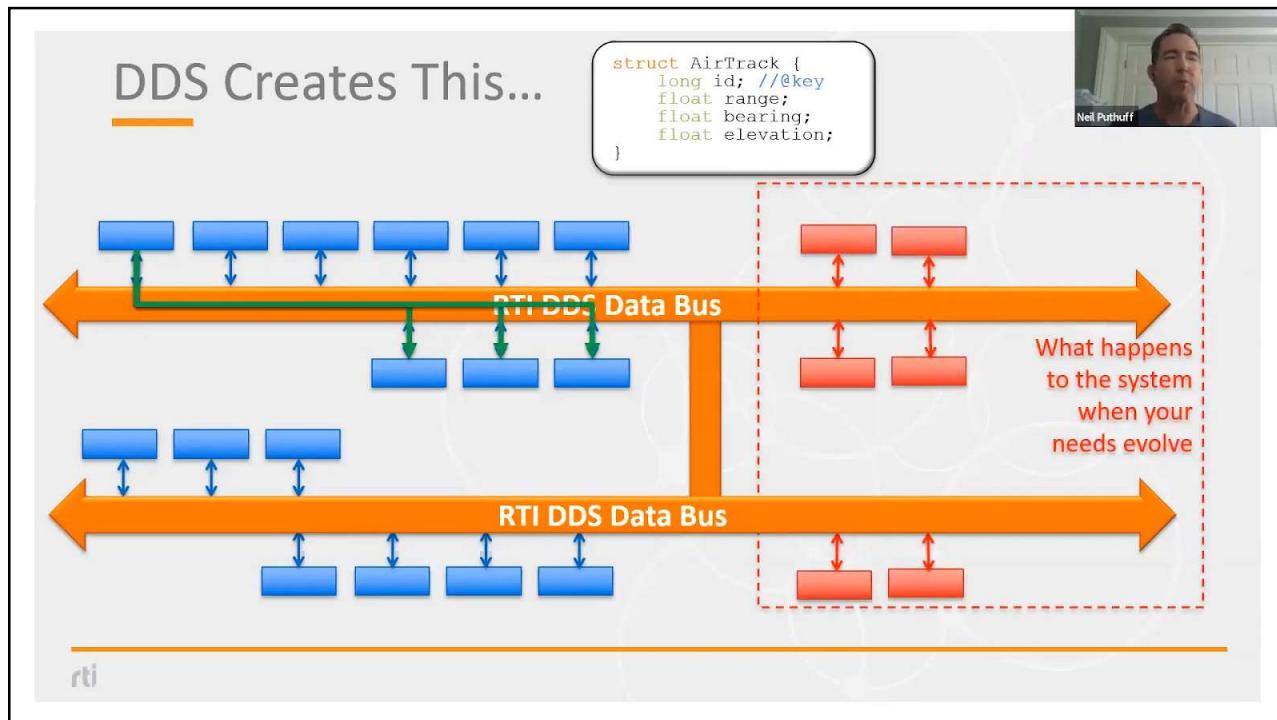
DDS Creates This...

```
struct AirTrack {  
    long id; // @key  
    float range;  
    float bearing;  
    float elevation;  
}
```

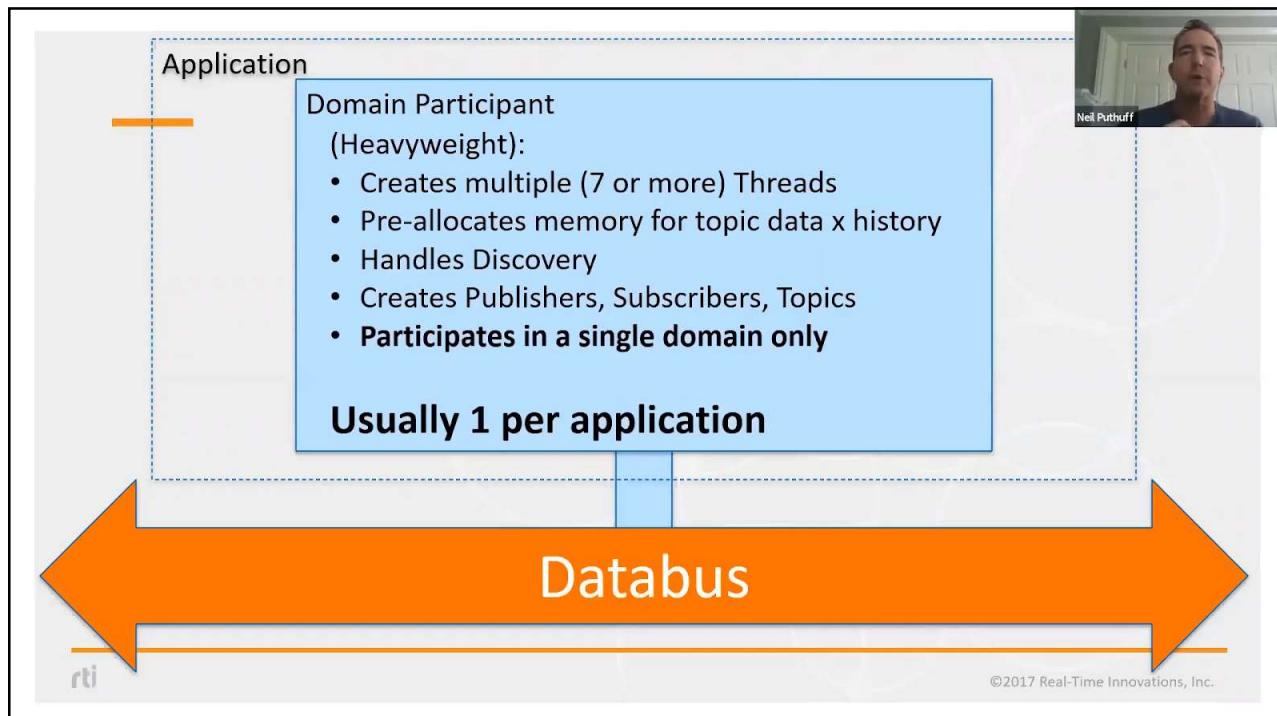


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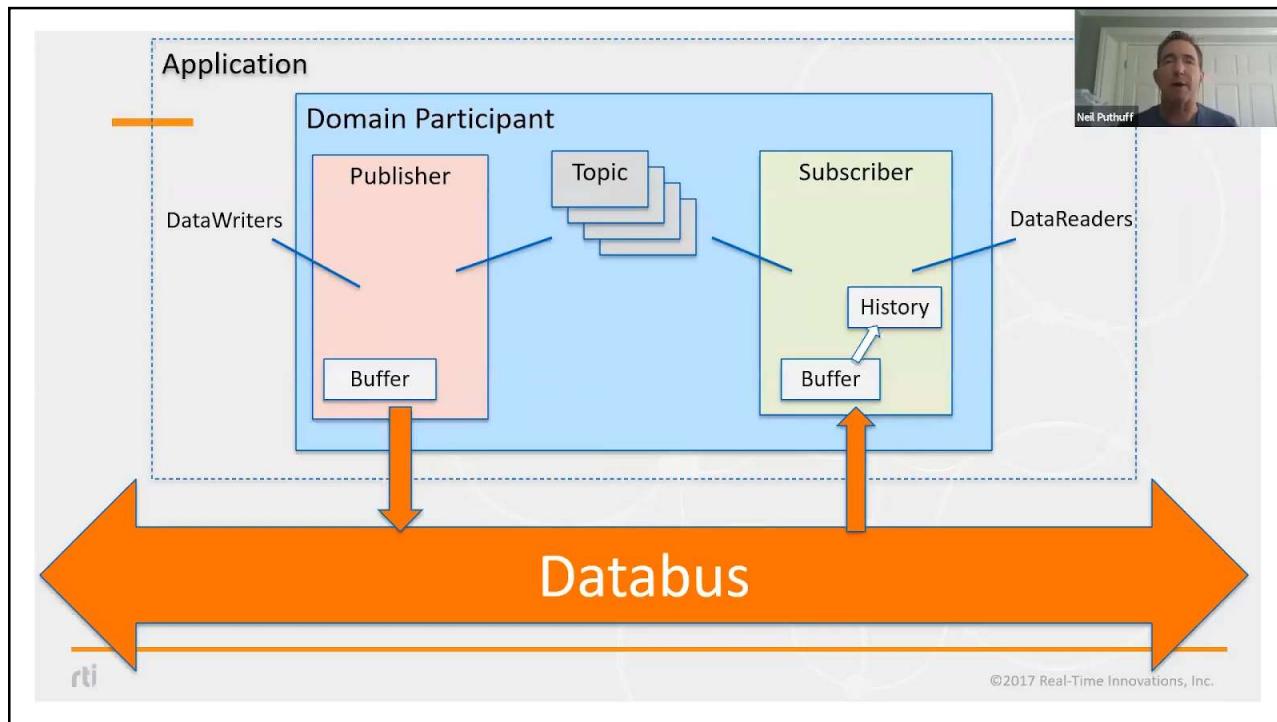
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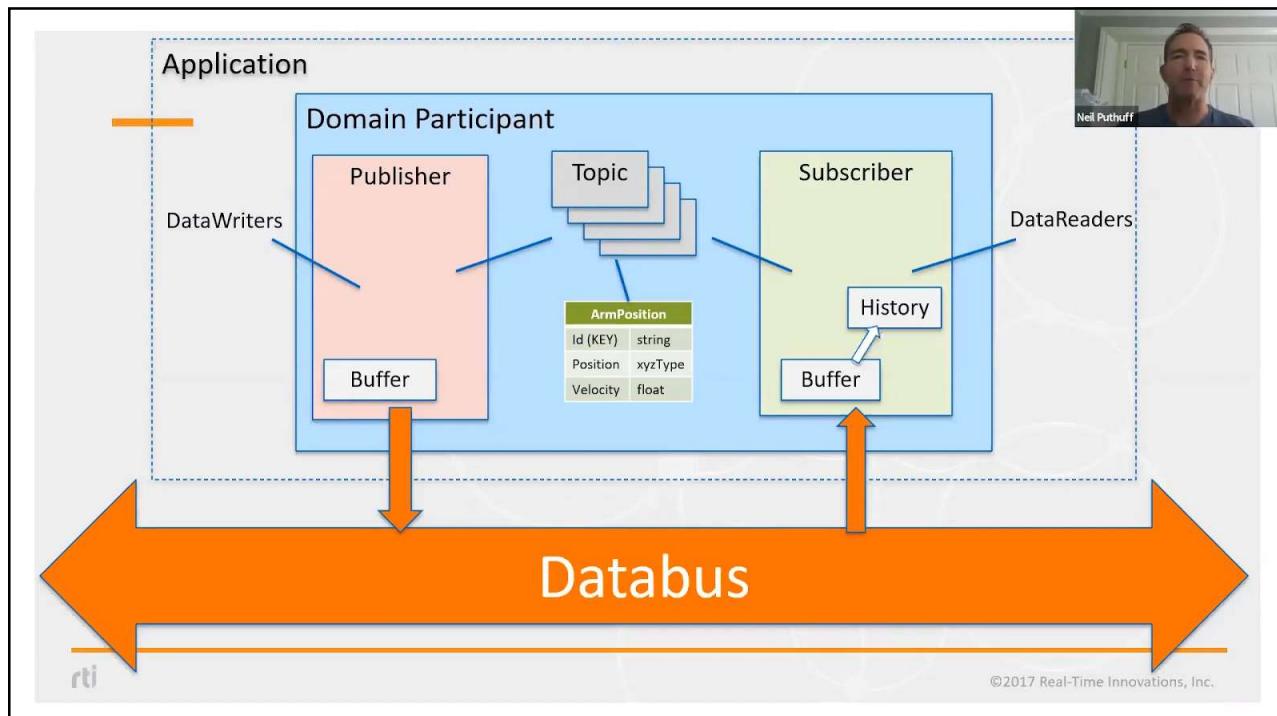
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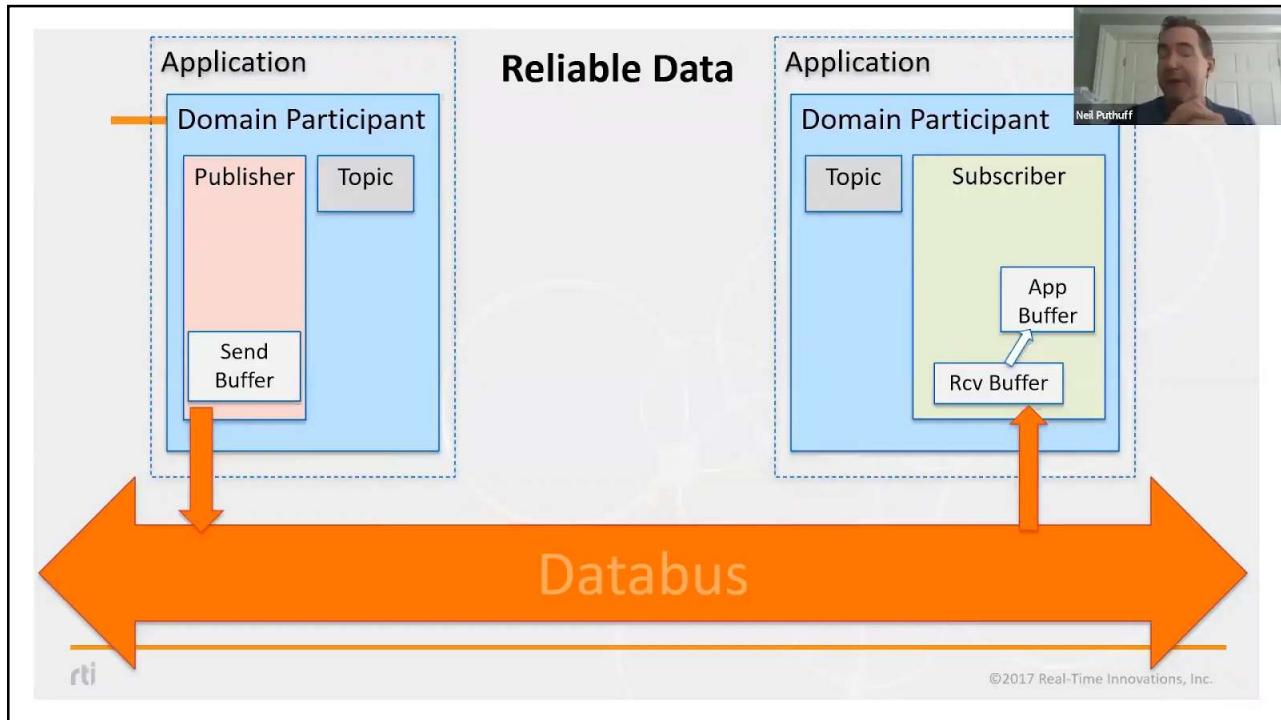
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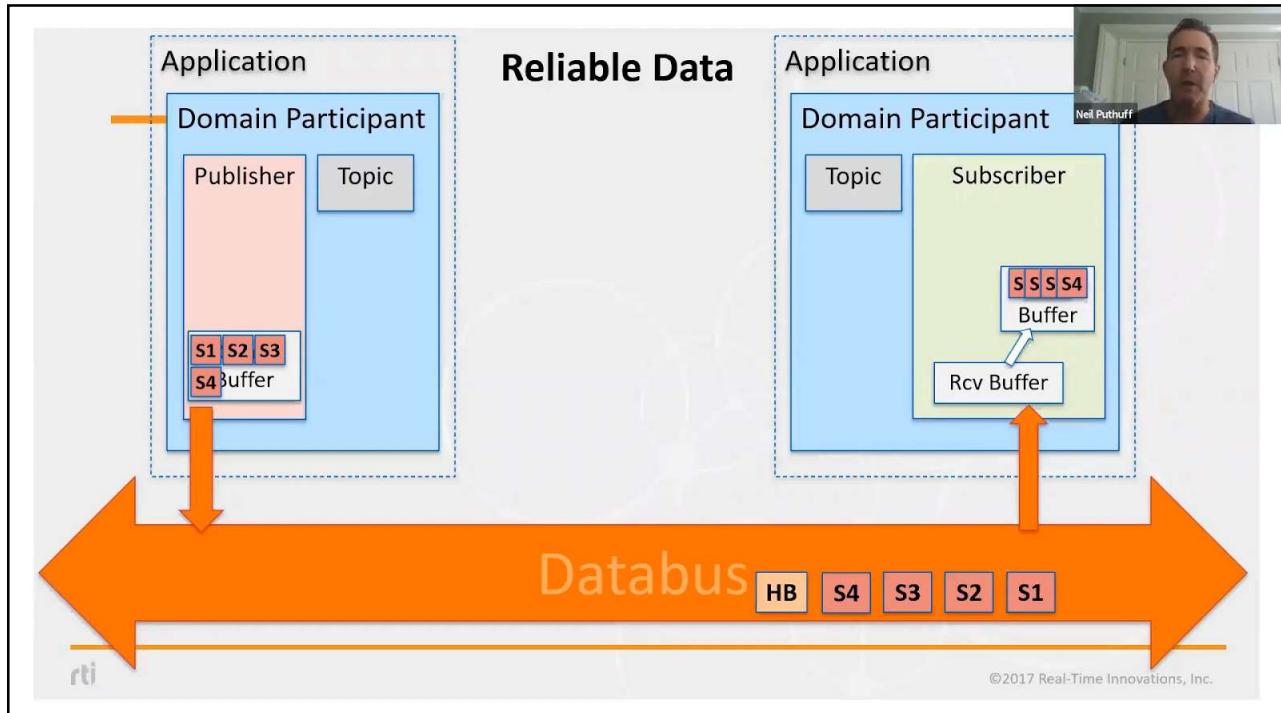
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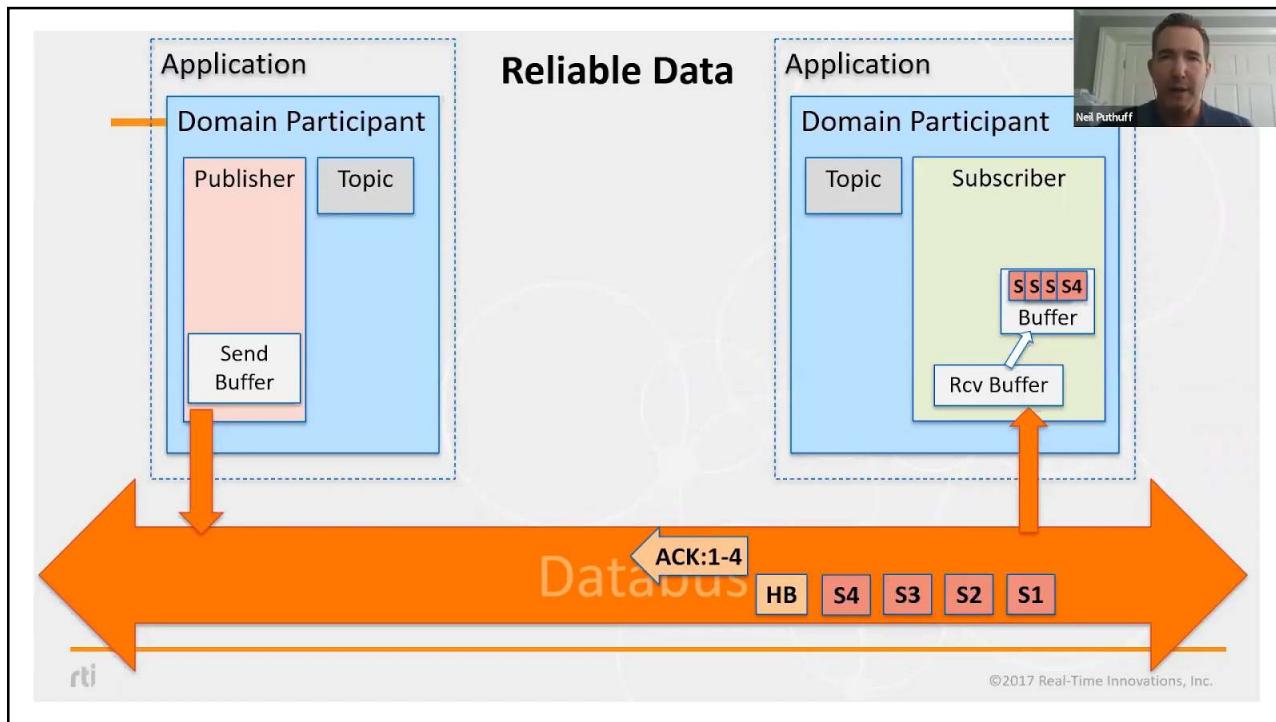
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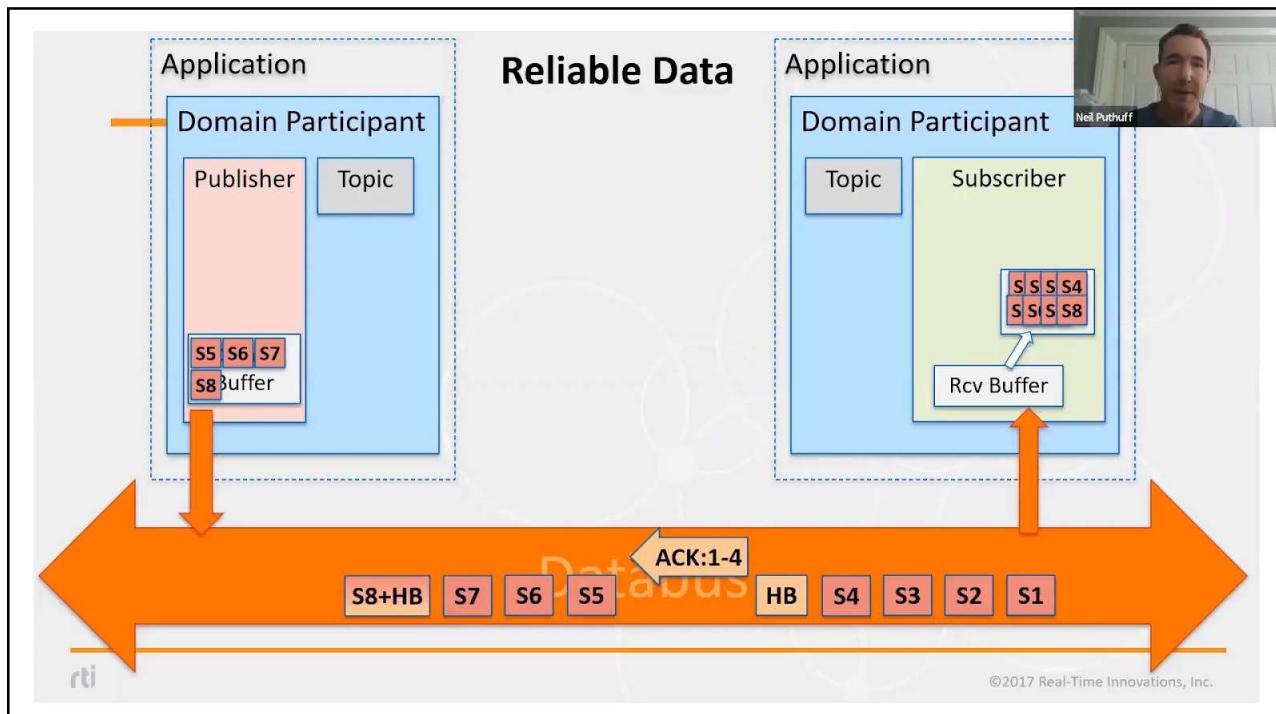
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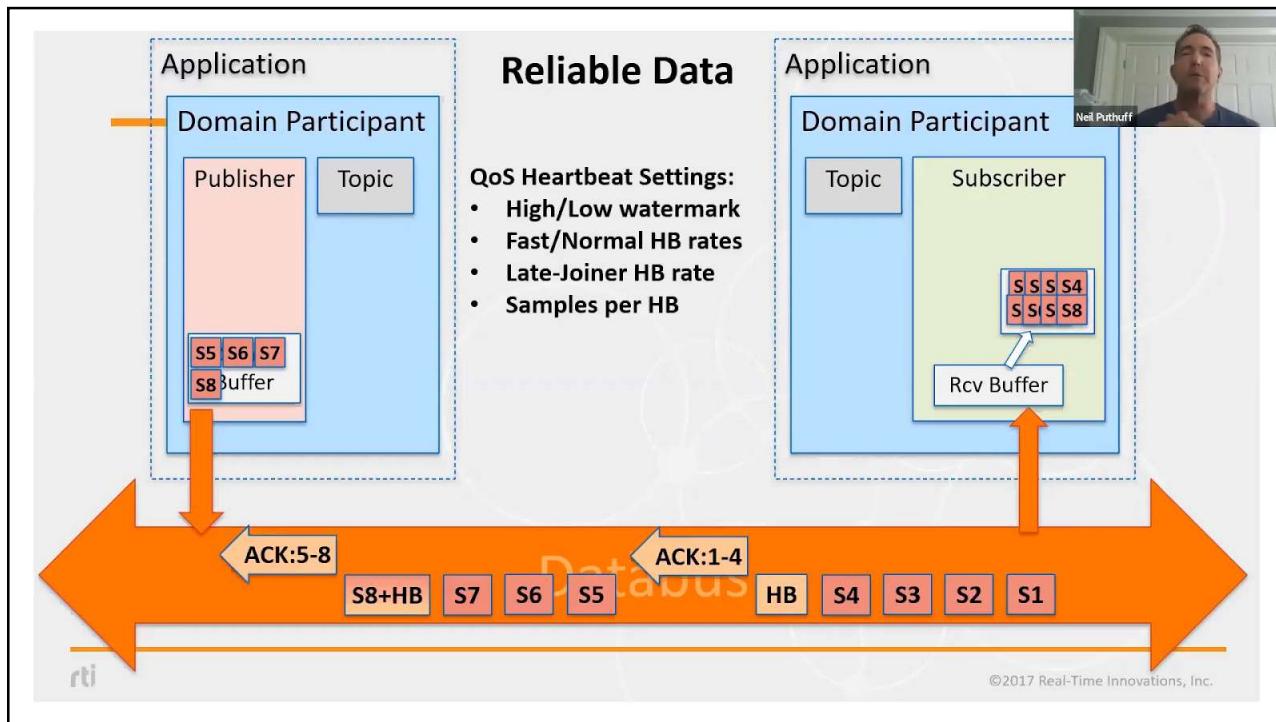
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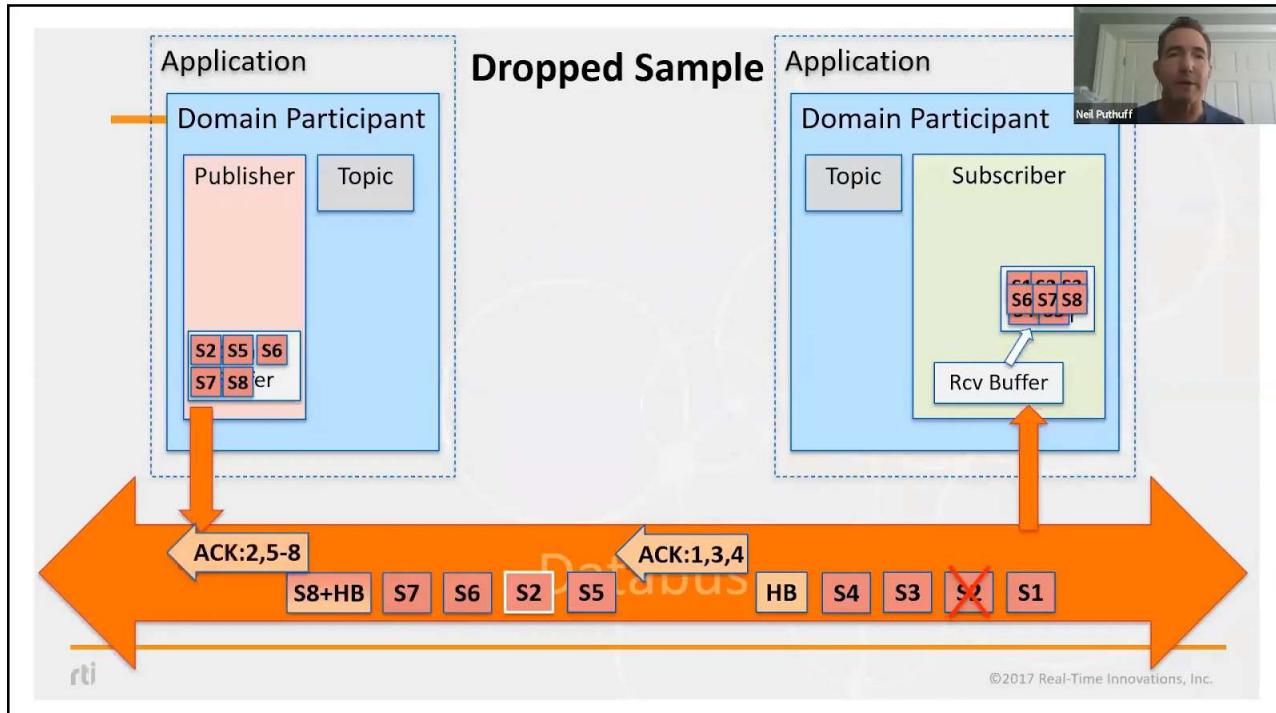
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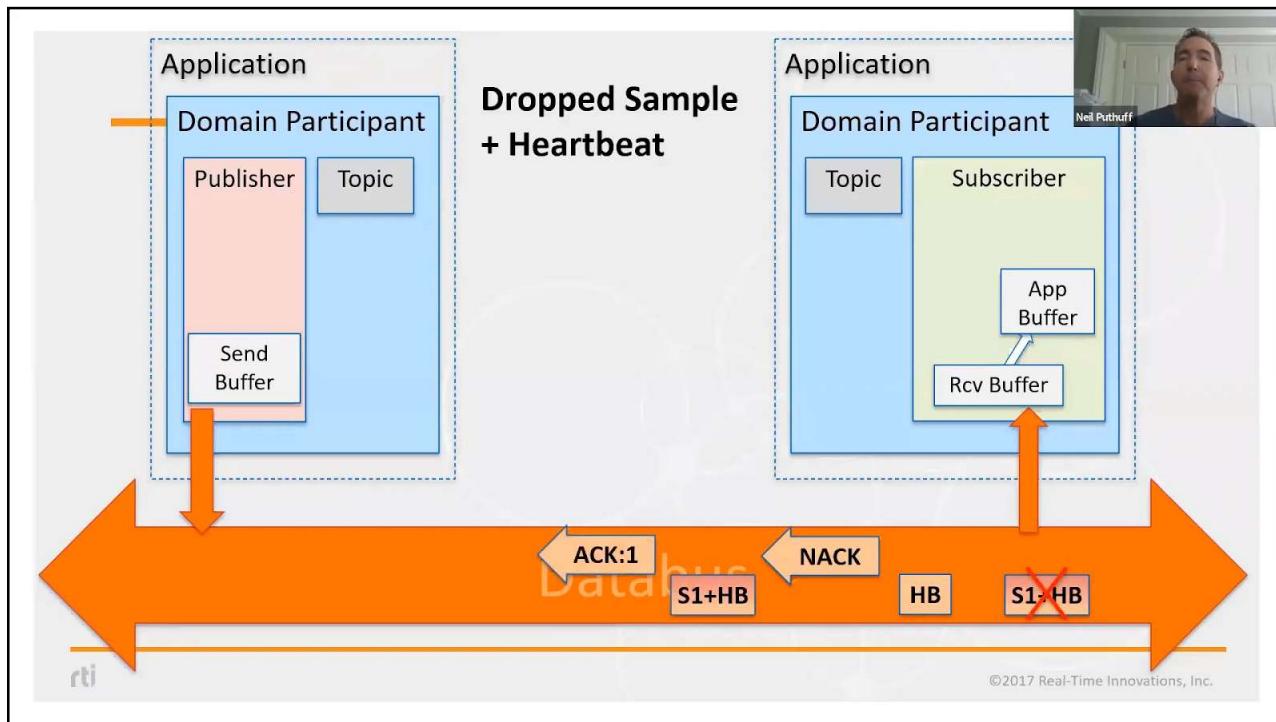
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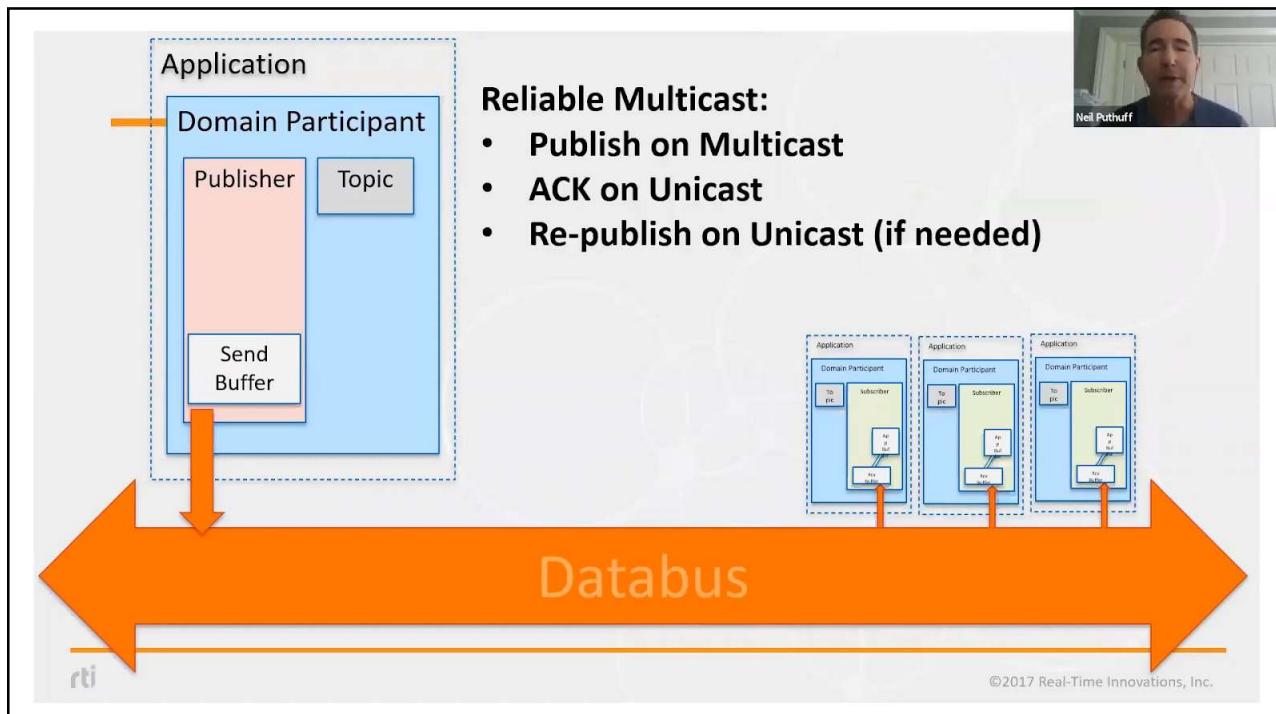
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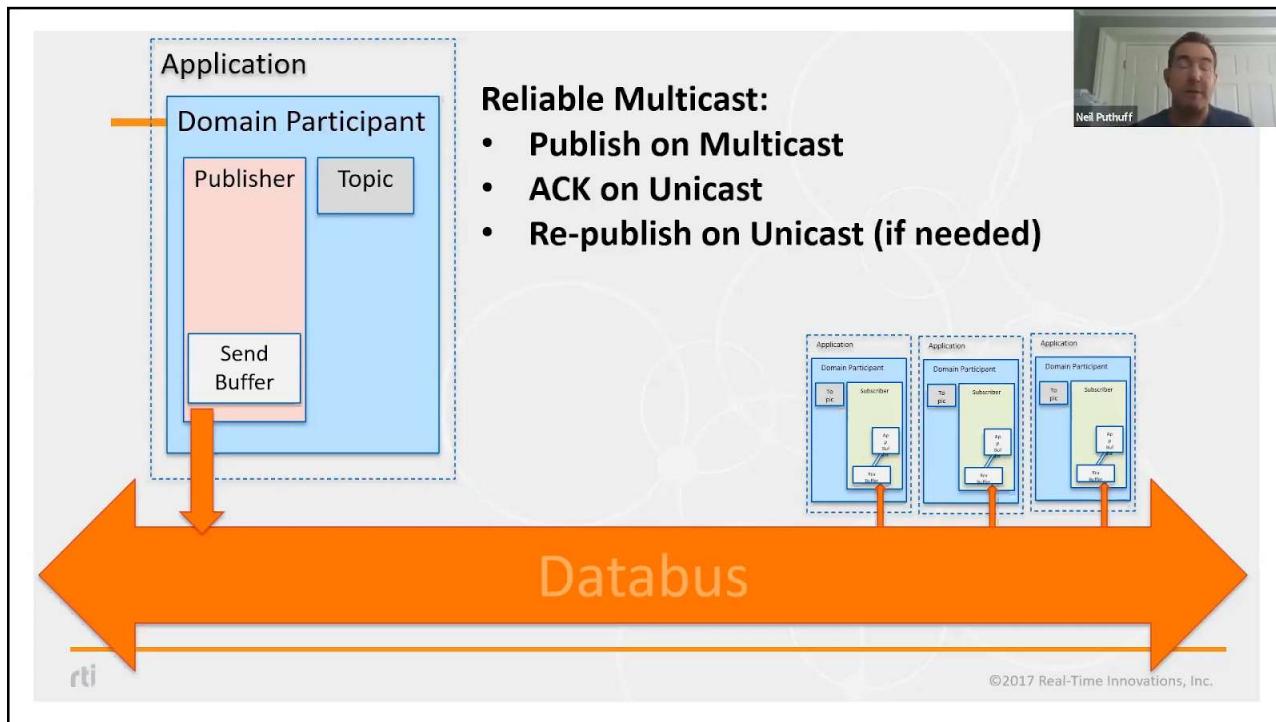
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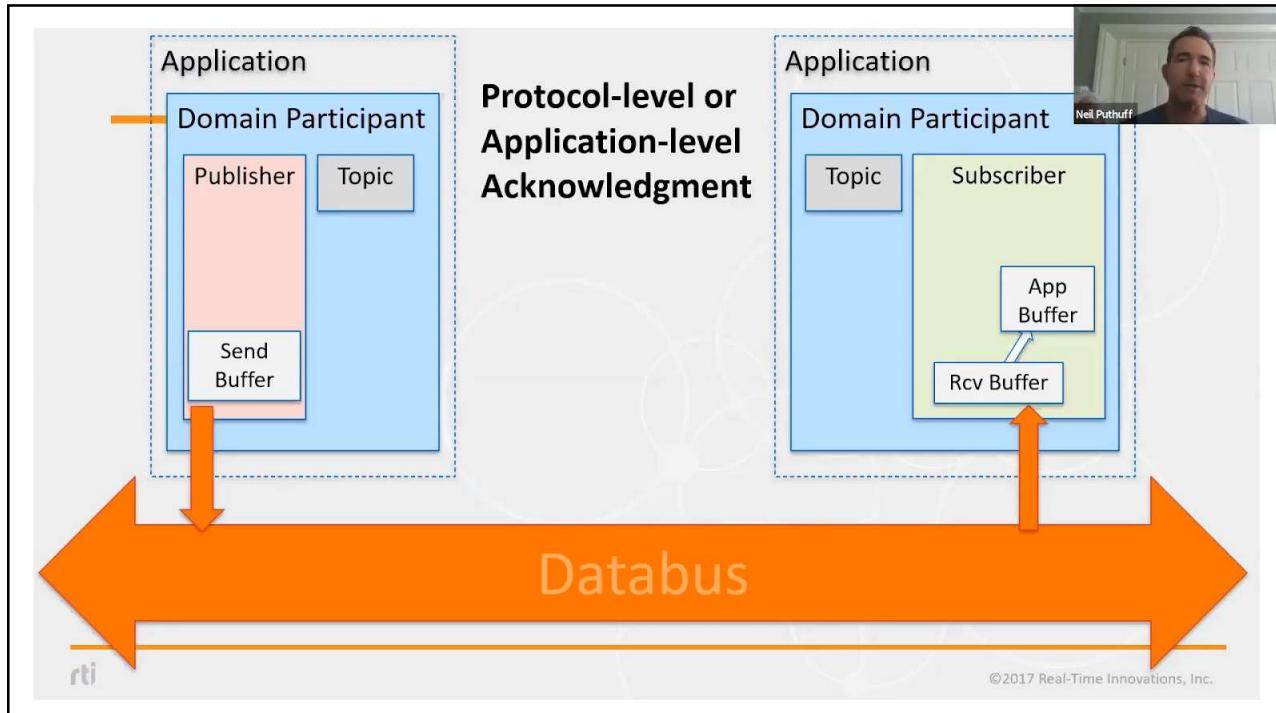
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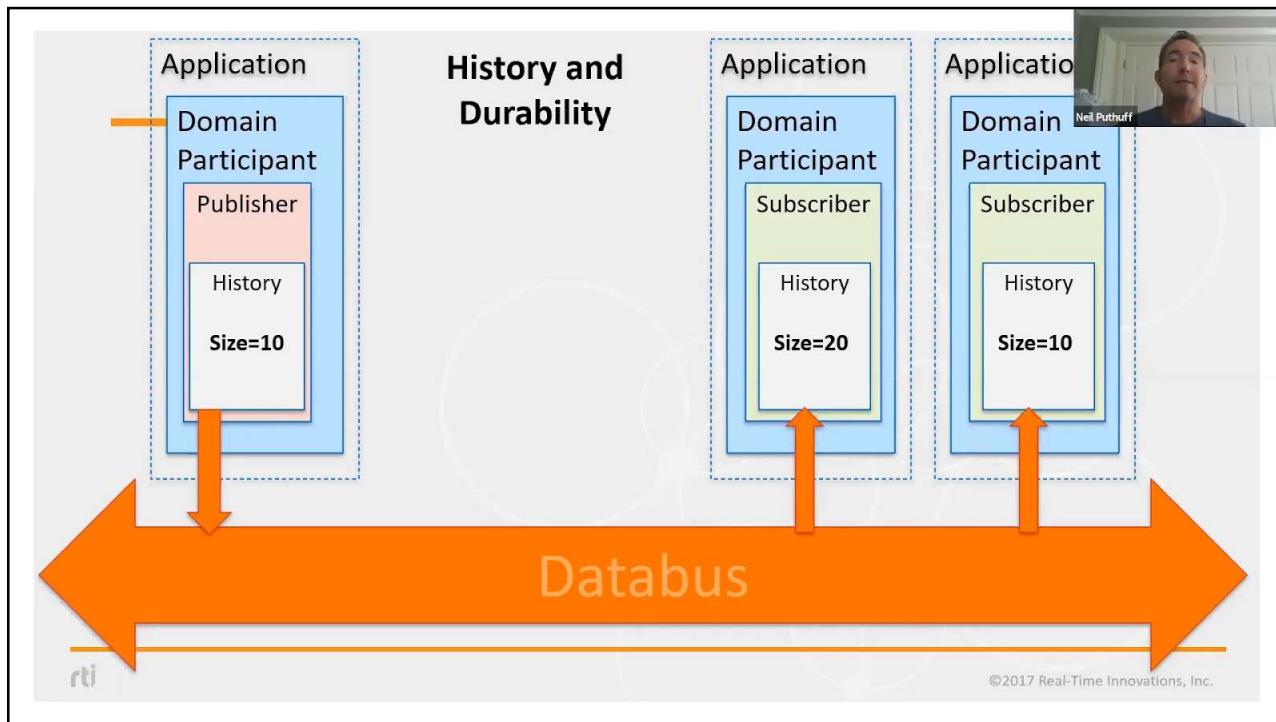
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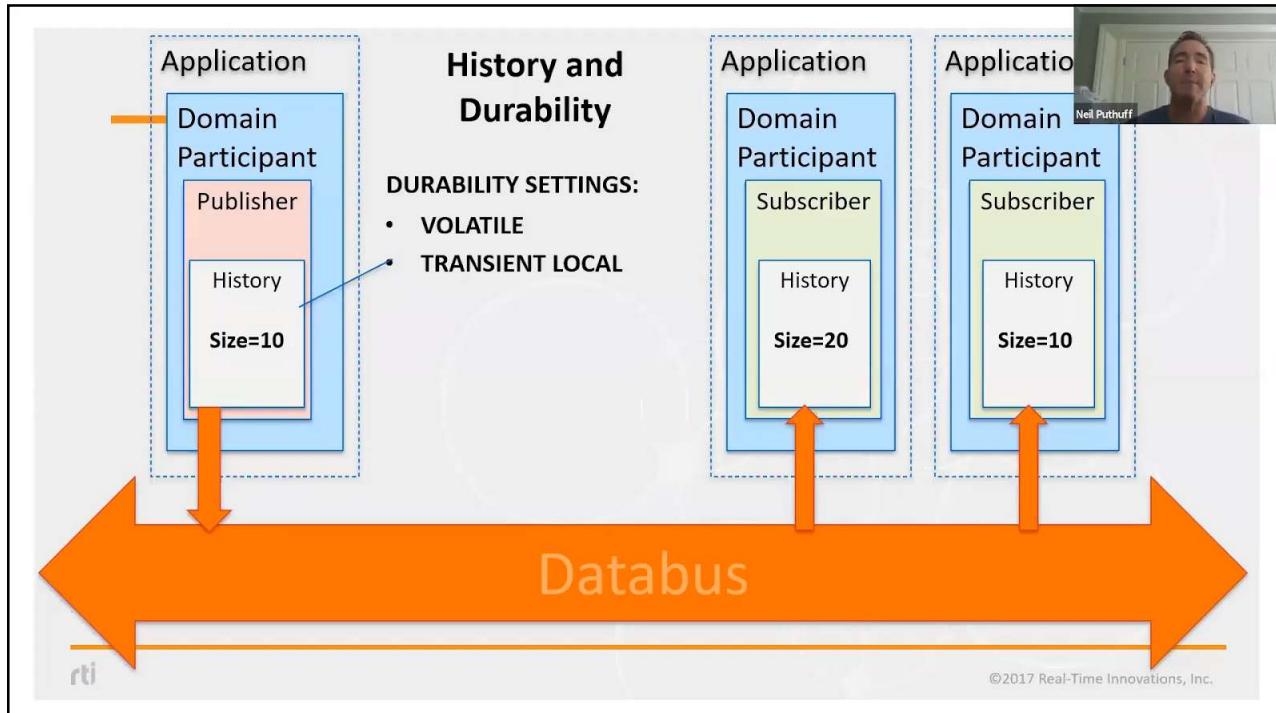
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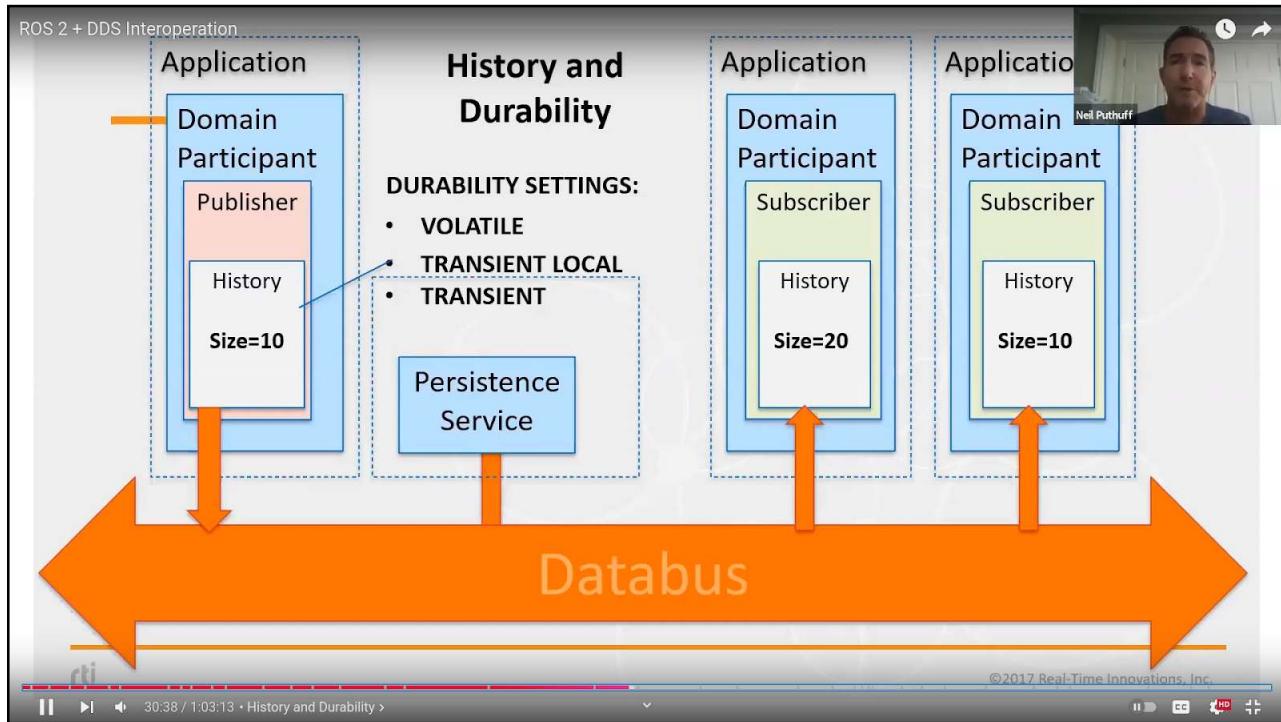
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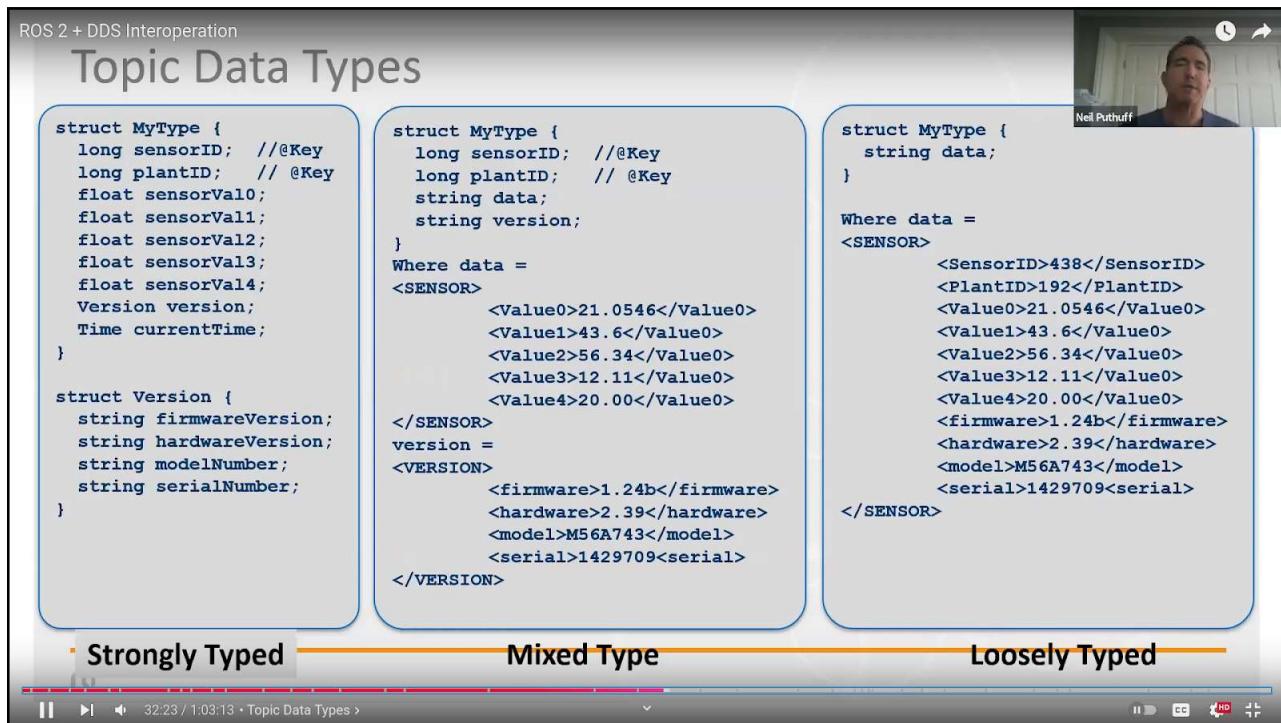
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Content Filtered Topics

Topic Instances in Domain

Sample 1	Value = 249
Sample 2	Value = 230
Sample 3	Value = 275
Sample 4	Value = 262
Sample 5	Value = 258
Sample 6	Value = 261
Sample 7	Value = 259
⋮	

Content Filtered Topic

Filter Expression
Ex. Value > %0

%0 = 260

The Filter Expression and Arguments will determine which instances of the Topic will be received by the subscriber.

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Data Type Extensibility

Final Type

- Type definitions are strictly defined

Extensible Type

- Newer applications can add fields to existing base types

Mutable Type

- Type representations can differ from each other with Additions, Deletions and Transpositions
- Support for Optional Fields

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Topic Attributes



Sample Timestamps (@Pub & Sub)

- Time-based filtering
- Lifespan of Samples
- Pub-order reception from many publishers

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Topic Attributes



Sample Timestamps (@Pub & Sub)

- Time-based filtering
- Lifespan of Samples
- Pub-order reception from many publishers

Ownership & Strength

- Automatic fail-over
- System upgrades with zero downtime

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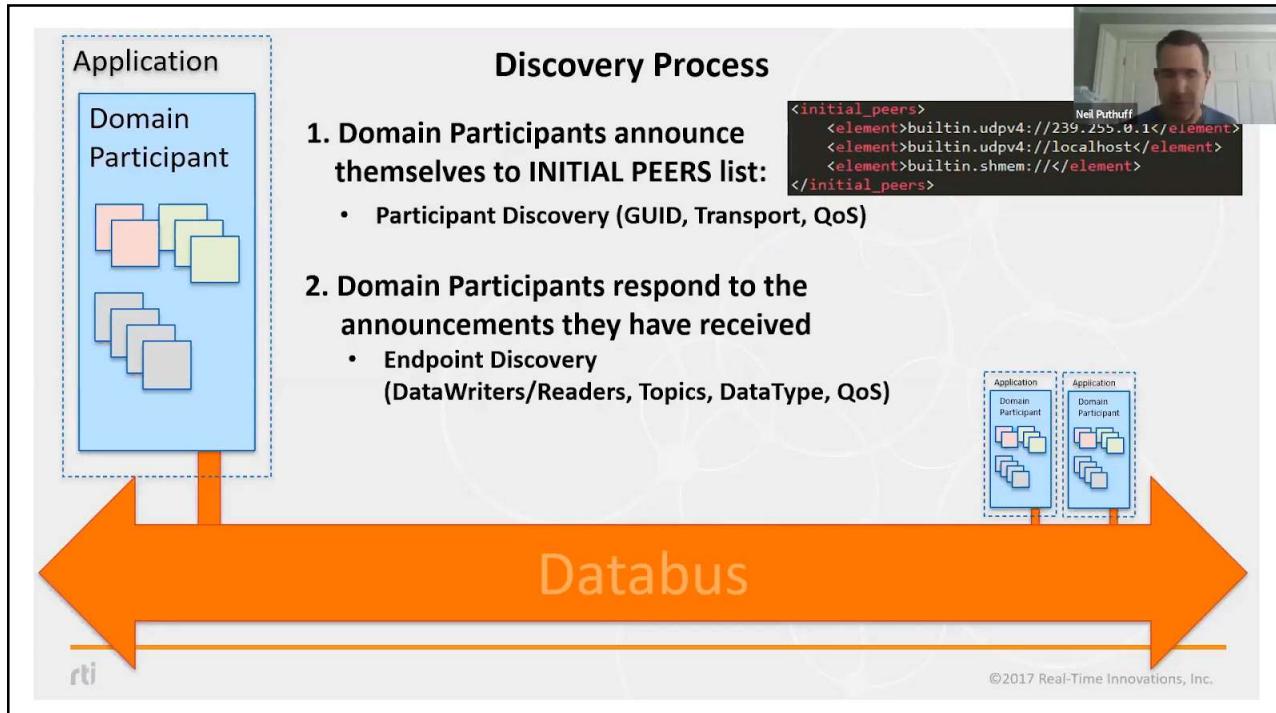


DDS Discovery

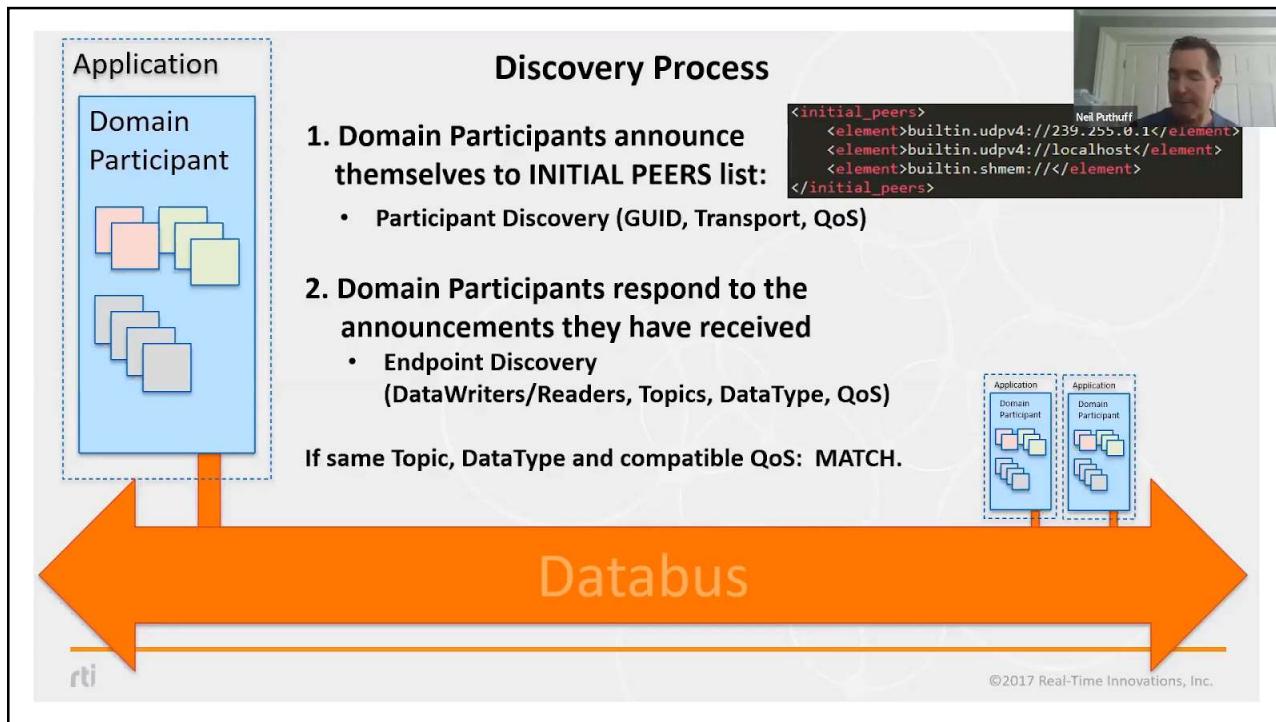
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The screenshot shows the RTI Admin Console interface. On the left, a sidebar lists "System", "Domain 0", and "Physical View". The main area displays a "Match Graph" with nodes like "rti/parameter_events" and "0.0.0.0/rvz:-793772032". To the right, there are several tabs: "DDS Logical View", "Processes", "Health", "Match Analysis", "DDS Data Type", and "Endpoints Table". The "DDS Data Type" tab is active, showing a table of QoS parameters with their values and status. A video call window with Neil Puttuff is in the top right.

Go-to tool for diagnosing DDS connectivity issues

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Connext DDS Patterns



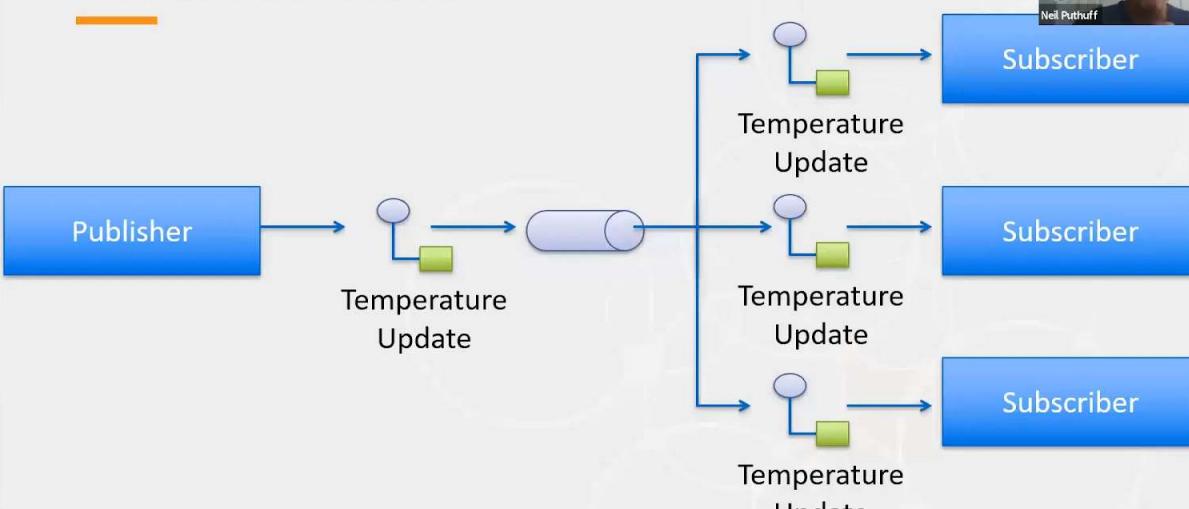
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Publish-Subscribe

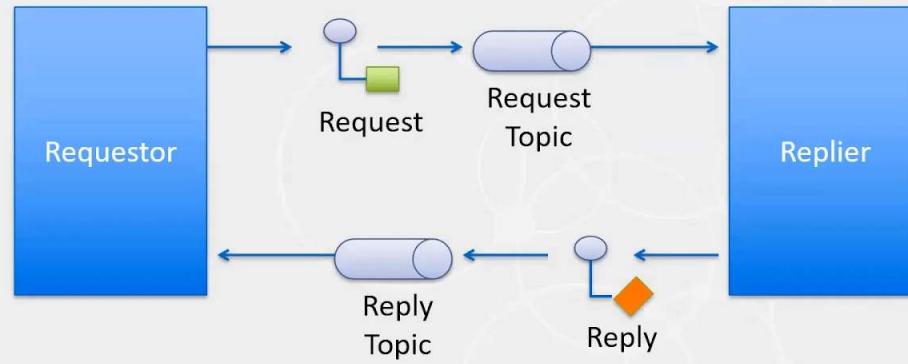


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Request-Reply

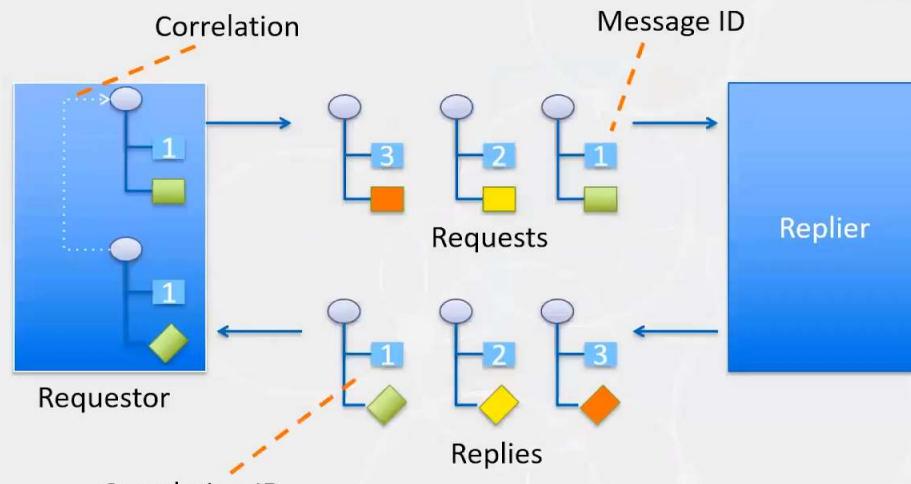


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Correlation

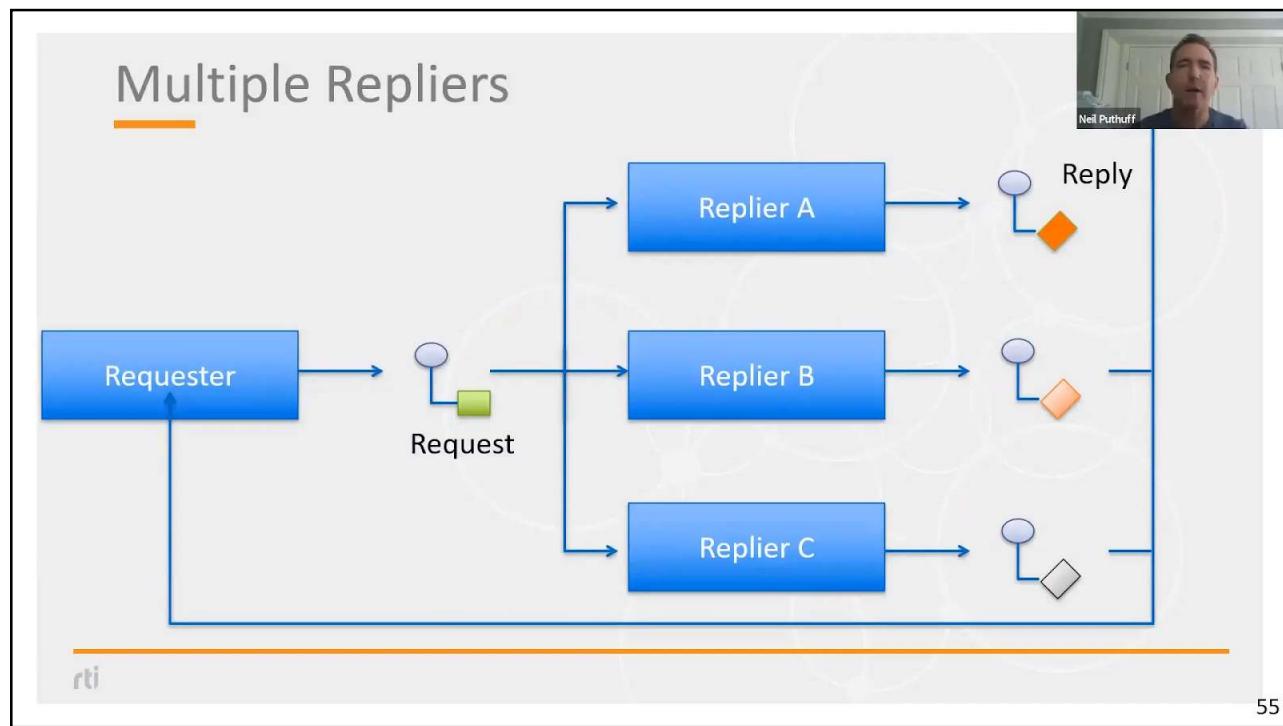


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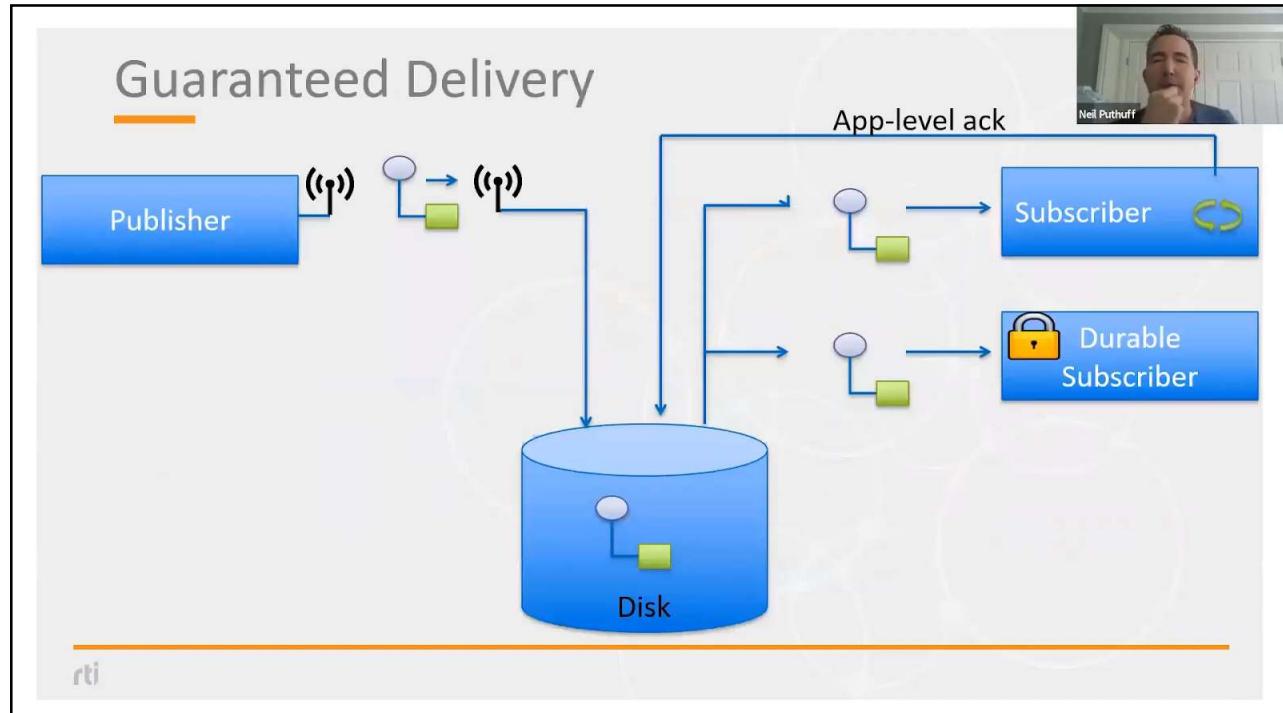
Multiple Repliers



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Guaranteed Delivery



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ROS 2 & DDS

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What is ROS

The Robot Operating System (ROS) is a set of software libraries and tools that help you build robot applications. From drivers to state-of-the-art algorithms, and with powerful developer tools, ROS has what you need for your next robotics project. And it's all open source.



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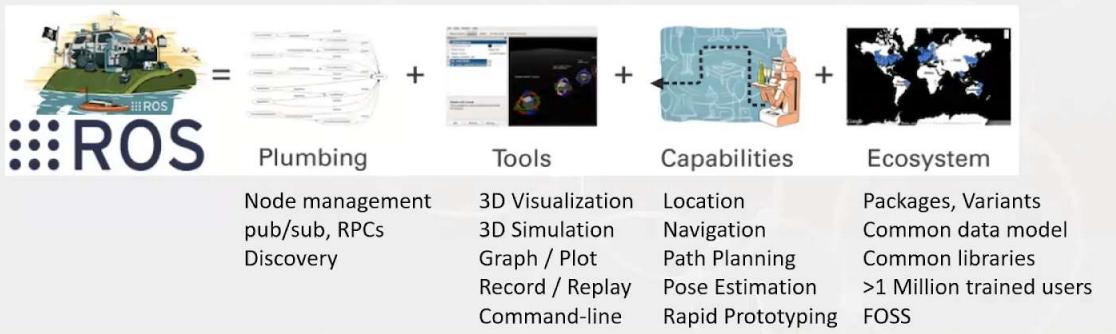
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What is ROS? (Robot Operating System)



- ROS is not an Operating System
 - it's a Framework for Robot Software
- Created for Research & Education



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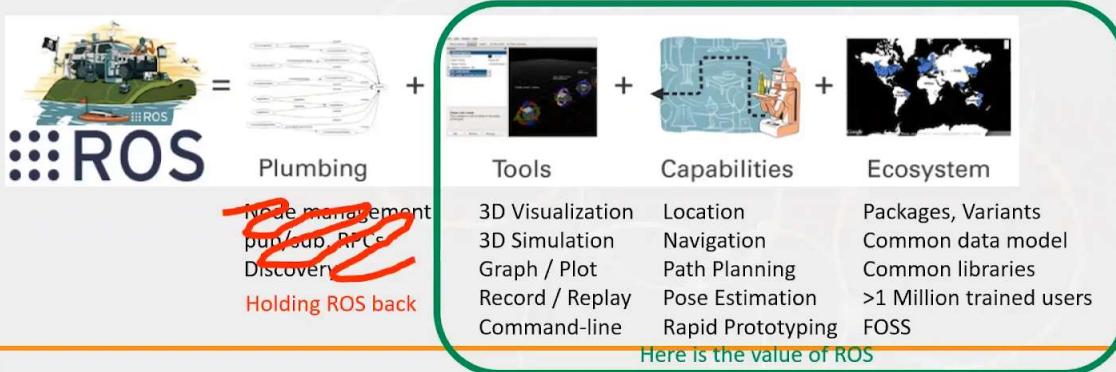
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What is ROS? (Robot Operating System)



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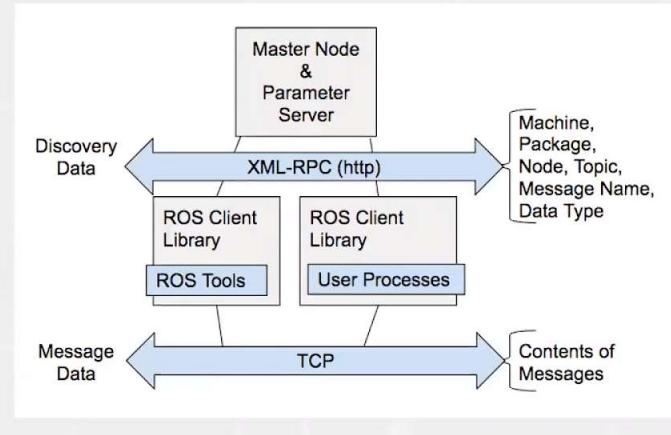
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Original ROS Architecture



- Massive ecosystem build around open-source project
 - Popular Tools (Gazebo, RViz)
 - Sensor and device drivers
 - Applications
- Original ROS (ROS1) evolved to serve academia and research
- Not suitable for commercial or emerging applications:
 - Minimal security capabilities
 - Does not scale
 - Not deterministic
- ROS2 created for expanded use-cases



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DDS in ROS2



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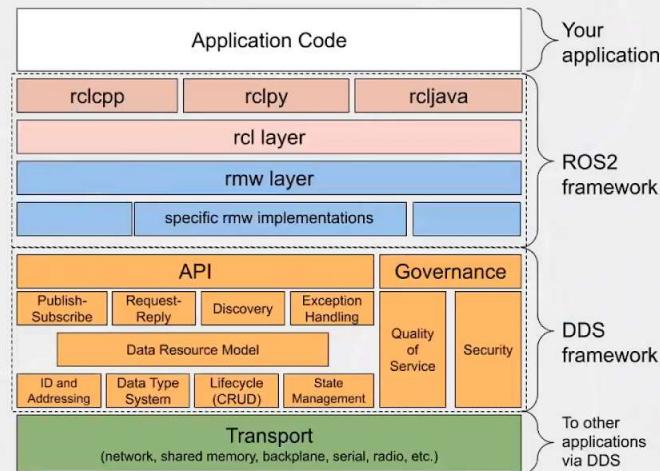
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ROS2 is DDS



ROS2 is built on the DDS Framework

All ROS2 applications
are actually DDS applications



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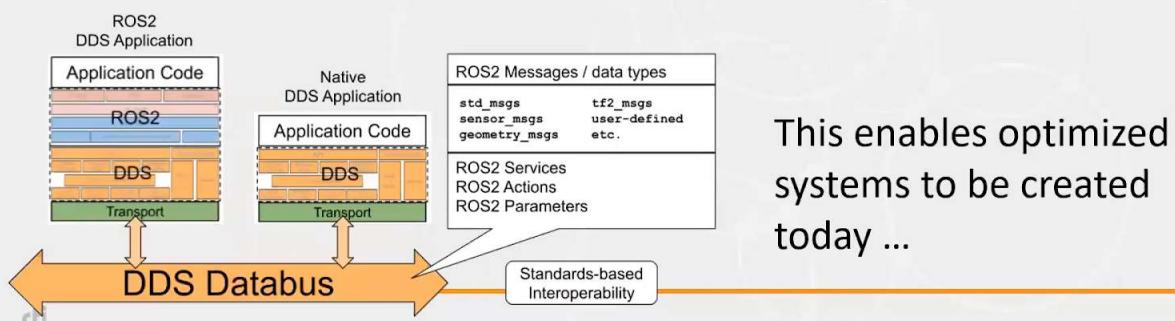
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Standards-based Interoperability



Native DDS applications can freely interoperate with ROS2 DDS applications, given:

- Same data type, topic name, compatible QoS and security.



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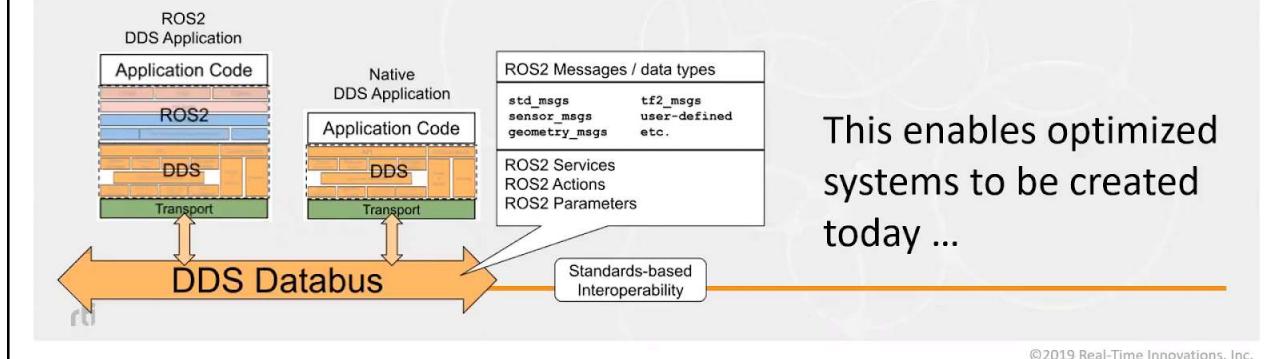
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Standards-based Interoperability



Native DDS applications can freely interoperate with ROS2 DDS applications, given:

- Same data type, topic name, compatible QoS and security.



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Optimized Systems, Merged Ecosystems

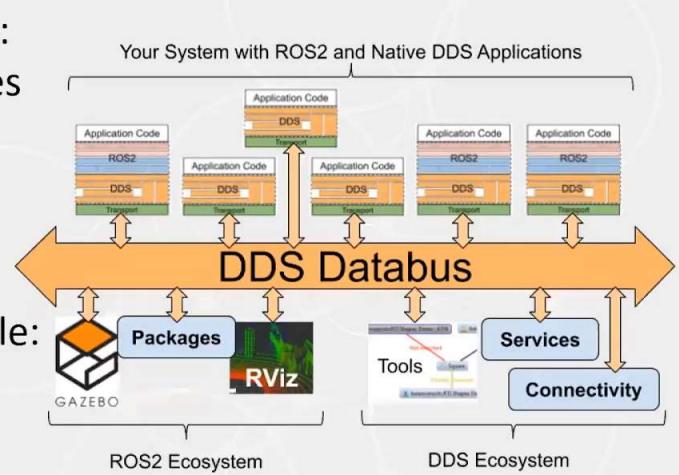


System Optimization Options:

- ROS2: pre-written packages
- DDS: safety certification, peak performance, difficult connectivity.

BOTH ecosystems are available:

- ROS2: packages, visualization tools
- DDS: layered services, **rti** connectivity, diagnostic tools



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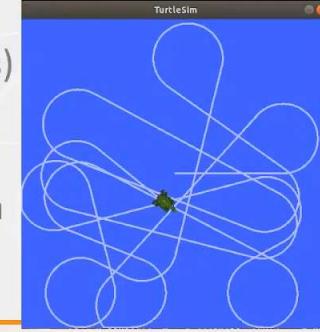
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ROS 2 Interoperability: Data Model



- 350+ struct definitions
 - RTI Community GitHub (IDL & XML)
- Used in ROS 2 for 4 ways to communicate:
 - **Messages:** pub/sub data topics
 - **Services:** request/reply (using pairs of topics)
 - **Actions:** request/reply + feedback (similar to objective state)
 - **Parameters:** request/reply access to global data

TurtleSim: small demo program, uses all 4 →



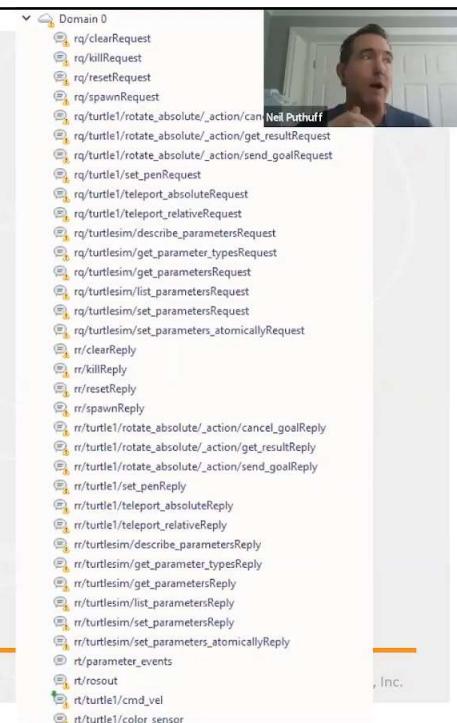
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ROS 2 Interoperability: Topics

- Topic names are used as “keys”
(topic keys are not used in ROS 2)
- Each application creates dozens of topics
 - This is from 1 instance of TurtleSim →
- Decoder ring:
 - rq/ = request
 - rr/ = response
 - rt/ = user topic (message)
 - */_action/* = action
 - */*_parameter* = parameters
 - */turtlesim/* = topics for the app
 - */turtle1/* = topics for a single turtle inst



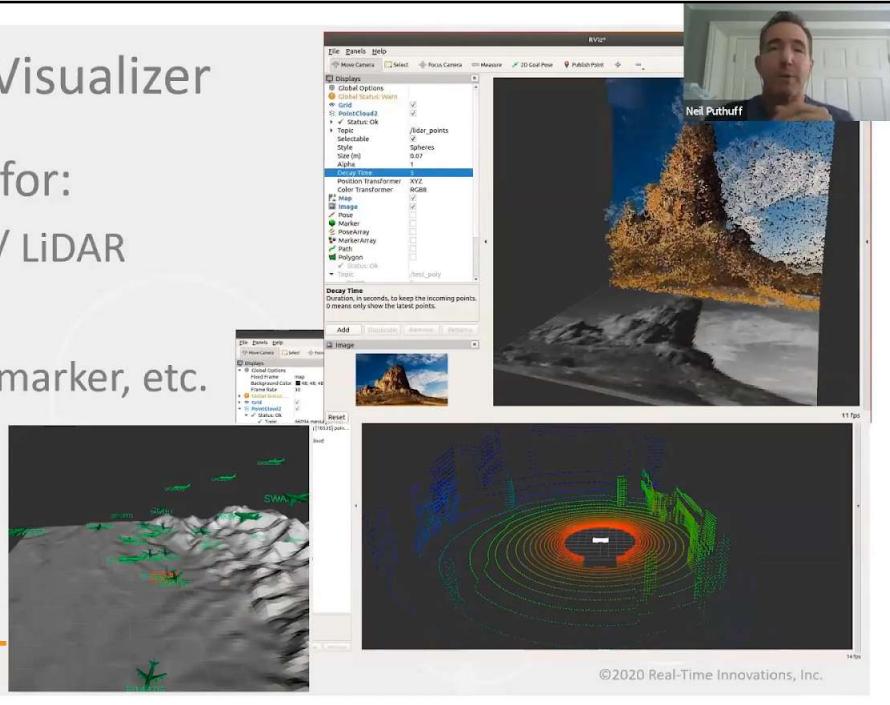
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“RViz2” 3D Visualizer

- 3D visualizer for:
 - PointCloud / LiDAR
 - Camera
 - Path, pose, marker, etc.



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Getting Started

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Download Connex Pro

Neil Puttuff

- rti.com/free-trial/dds-files-5.3.1
- Download and run the windows installer
- Copy the license from the welcome email to your PC
- Locate the license file using RTI Connex Launcher.

The screenshot shows the RTI website's download section for RTI Connex DDS 5.3.1. On the left, there's a video call window with a man identified as Neil Puttuff. The main area displays the download page with various system requirements and download links for Linux, Microsoft Windows, and macOS.

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Connex Pro Launcher

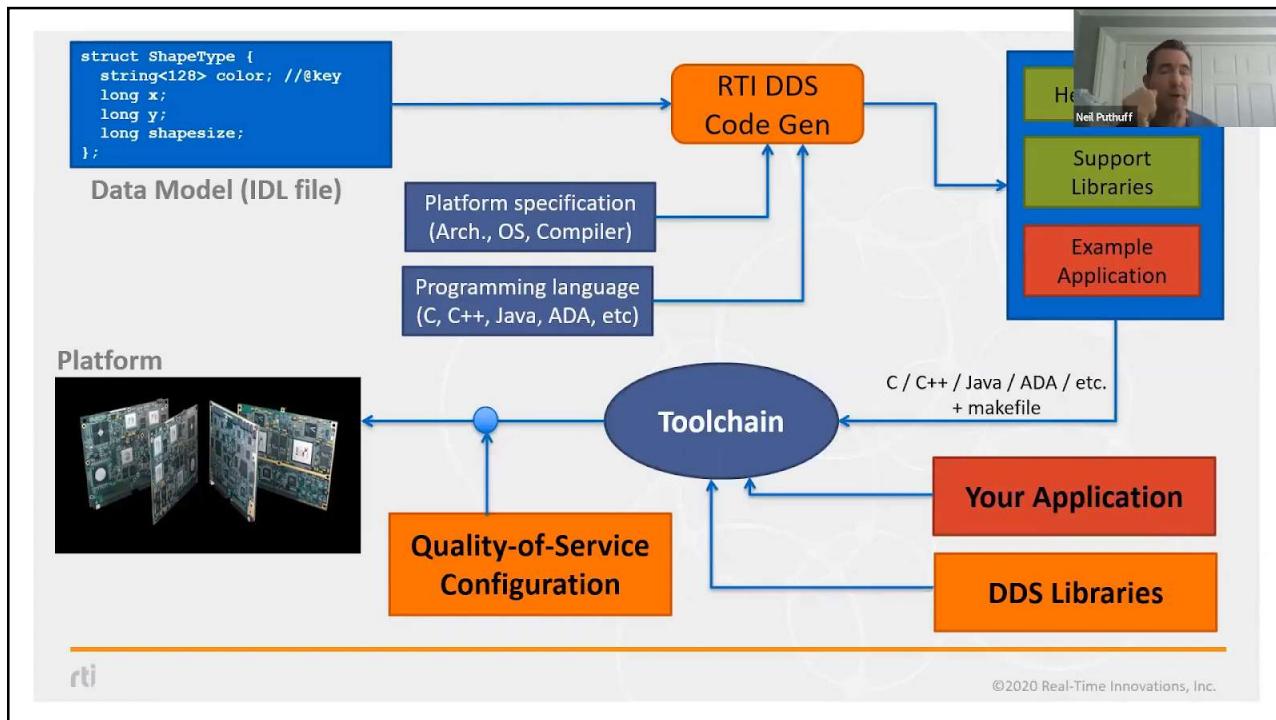
Neil Puttuff

The screenshot shows four windows of the RTI Connex Pro Launcher:

- Top Left Window:** Tools, Services, Utilities, Third-Party, **Labs**, User, Help, Installation. Icons include DDS Prototyper, Cloud Discovery Service, System Designer, and Connector.
- Top Right Window:** Tools, Services, Utilities, Third-Party, Labs, User, Help, Installation. Icons include InDDS, LabVIEW, SimVentions InformeDDS, and RTI DDS Toolkit for NI LabVIEW.
- Bottom Left Window:** Tools, Services, Utilities, Third-Party, **Labs**, User, Help, Installation. Icons include Admin Console, Monitor, Recording Console, Shapes Demo, Wireshark, and Spreadsheet Add-in for Microsoft Excel.
- Bottom Right Window:** Tools, Services, Utilities, Third-Party, Labs, User, Help, Installation. Icons include Routing Service, Recording Service, Replay Service, Persistence Service, Database Integration, Queueing Service, Web Integration Service, Code Generator, DDS Ping, DDS Spy, Type Convert, Record Convert, and RTI Package Installer.

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Admin Console

The Admin Console interface includes the following sections:

- System Awareness:**
 - Who/What/How?
 - Exact data types published/subscribed?
 - System performance*
- Debugging:**
 - QoS or datatype mismatches.
 - View/administer the log messages
- Administration:**
 - Control RTI Services remotely.
- Data Visualization:**

The interface also displays a Match Graph and a Topic Data Endpoints Table, showing various DDS data types and their configurations.

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ROS 2 + DDS Interop

Admin Console: Data Visualization

Neil Puttuff

- Subscribe to topics
- See live data
 - Customize fields
- Compare data
- Store data

The screenshot shows the Admin Console interface. On the left, there's a table titled '0 : Triangle' with columns for color, x, y, shapesize, instance_state, and publication_handle. The data rows are:

color	x	y	shapesize	instance_state	publication_handle
ORANGE	155	43	30	ALIVE	c0a80110.00001cd8.0000001.8000002
PURPLE	94	71	30	ALIVE	c0a80110.00001cd8.0000001.80002002
BLUE	84	220	30	ALIVE	c0a80110.00001cd8.0000001.80004002
RED	90	186	30	ALIVE	c0a80110.00001cd8.0000001.80006002
GREEN	43	187	30	ALIVE	c0a80110.00001cd8.0000001.80008002

Total Instances: 5. Throughput: 80.02 samples/second. Lost samples: 0

Match Graph Topic Data Endpoints Table Datatypes

Sample Inspector window showing fields like color, x, y, shapesize, etc., with their corresponding values and types.

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Admin Console: Data Visualization (2)

Neil Puttuff

The screenshot shows the Admin Console interface again. On the left, there's a table titled 'Sample Log 1' with columns for Index, Topic, Instance, Source Time, and Value of selected fields. The data rows are:

Index	Topic	Instance	Source Time	Value of selected fields
1540	Triangle	ORANGE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	x=104, y=148
1541	Triangle	PURPLE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	x=197, y=55
1542	Triangle	BLUE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1543	Triangle	RED	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1544	Triangle	GREEN	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1545	Triangle	ORANGE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1546	Triangle	PURPLE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1547	Triangle	BLUE	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1548	Triangle	RED	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	
1549	Triangle	GREEN	2015-02-26 18:44:45.478993834 EST	

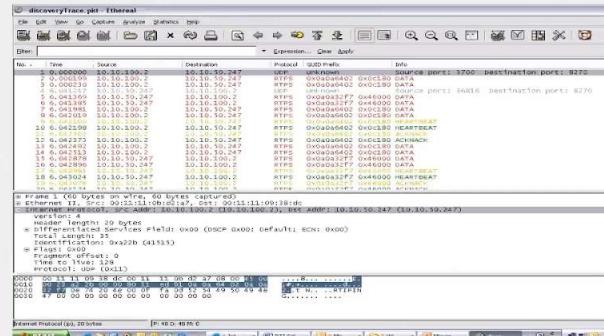
Time Chart 1 window showing a line graph of Value over Time for three series: ORANGE (green), PURPLE (red), and BLUE (blue). The x-axis represents Time from 18:45:47 to 18:47:47, and the y-axis represents Value from -35.9 to 382.5.

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Wireshark Support

- RTPS dissector for Wireshark
 - Traps RTPS packets
 - Dissect discovery & user data
 - Heartbeats, acknowledgements,...
 - Destination & source check
- Totally non-invasive
 - No additional subscribers
- Customized filtering
- Debugging:
 - Capture & share your dissected traffic.
 - Including RTI TCP Control messages
- Support most platforms

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Used to analyze wire traffic and adjust parameters for optimal performance

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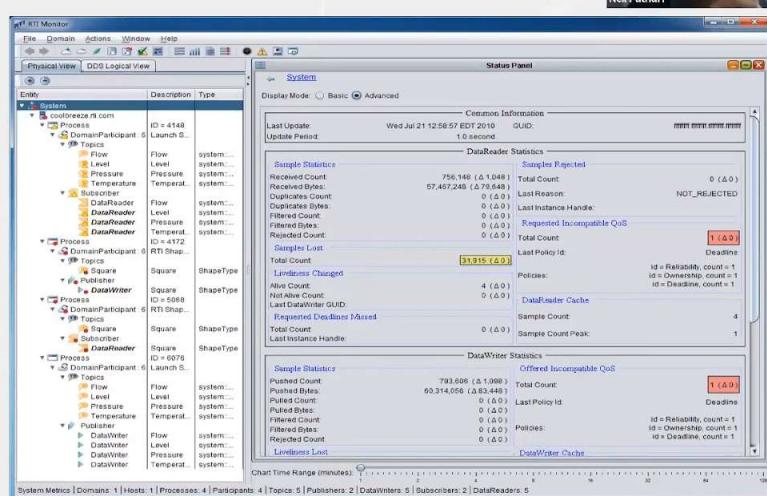
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Application Monitoring

- Detailed statistics on traffic, errors, and resource usage
- Detailed system topology display
- Configurable alerts and thresholds
- Helps to Track and tune performance
- Helps in diagnosing unusual behavior

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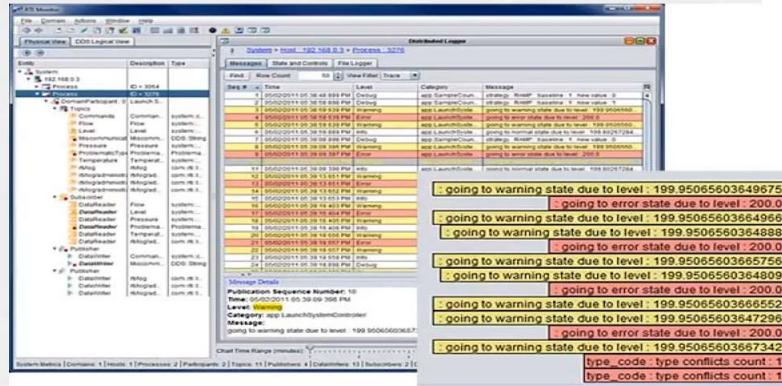
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Distributed Logger



- Not exactly a tool
- Easy remote debugging from
 - Monitor
 - Admin Console
- Enabled in most RTI tools & services
- Customize your own messages



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RTI Connector

Provides DDS access to Python, JavaScript, and other languages

<https://www.rti.com/products/tools/connector>

Available on GitHub, or
installable via pip or npm



Now You Can Access DDS using Python or JavaScript

RTI Connector for Connext® DDS consists of a family of APIs that provide a quick and easy way to write applications that publish and subscribe to the RTI Connext DDS database in Python and JavaScript. You can now integrate the powerful capabilities of Connext DDS in web applications using JavaScript, or in complex simulation or machine-learning applications with Python.

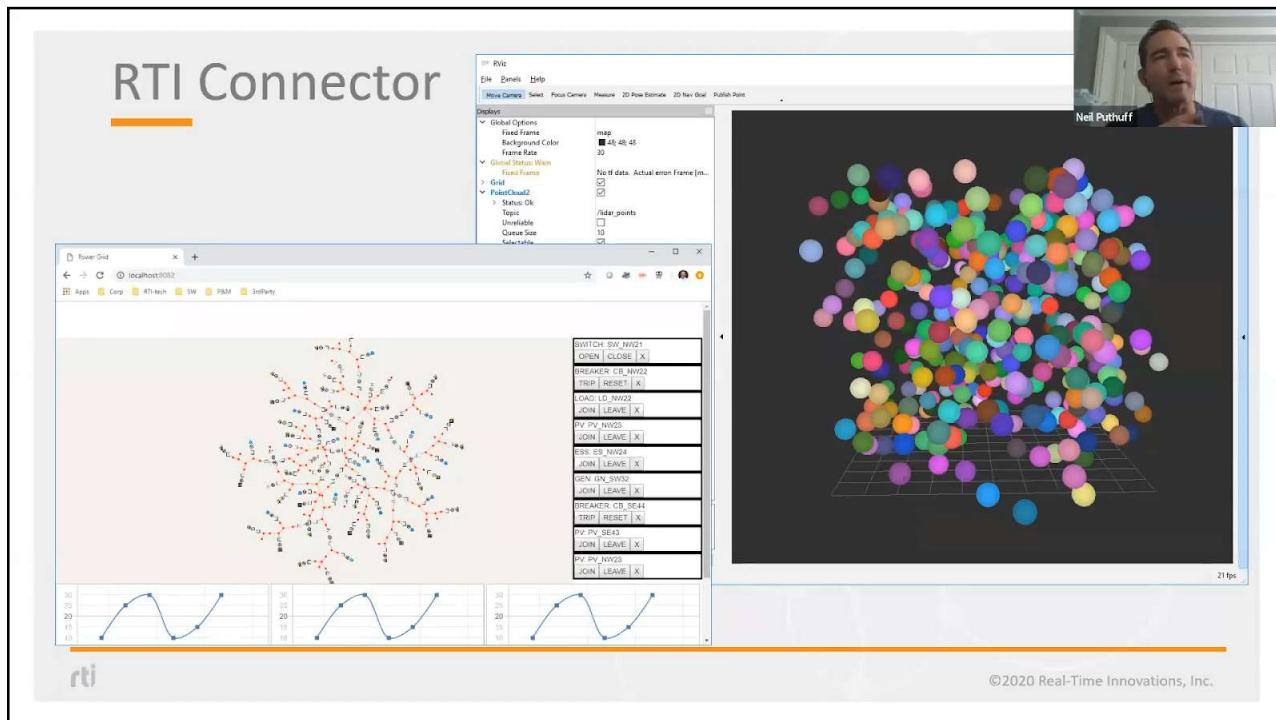
Looking for additional languages?

Additional experimental project versions are available from RTI Labs for C#, Go and Lua.

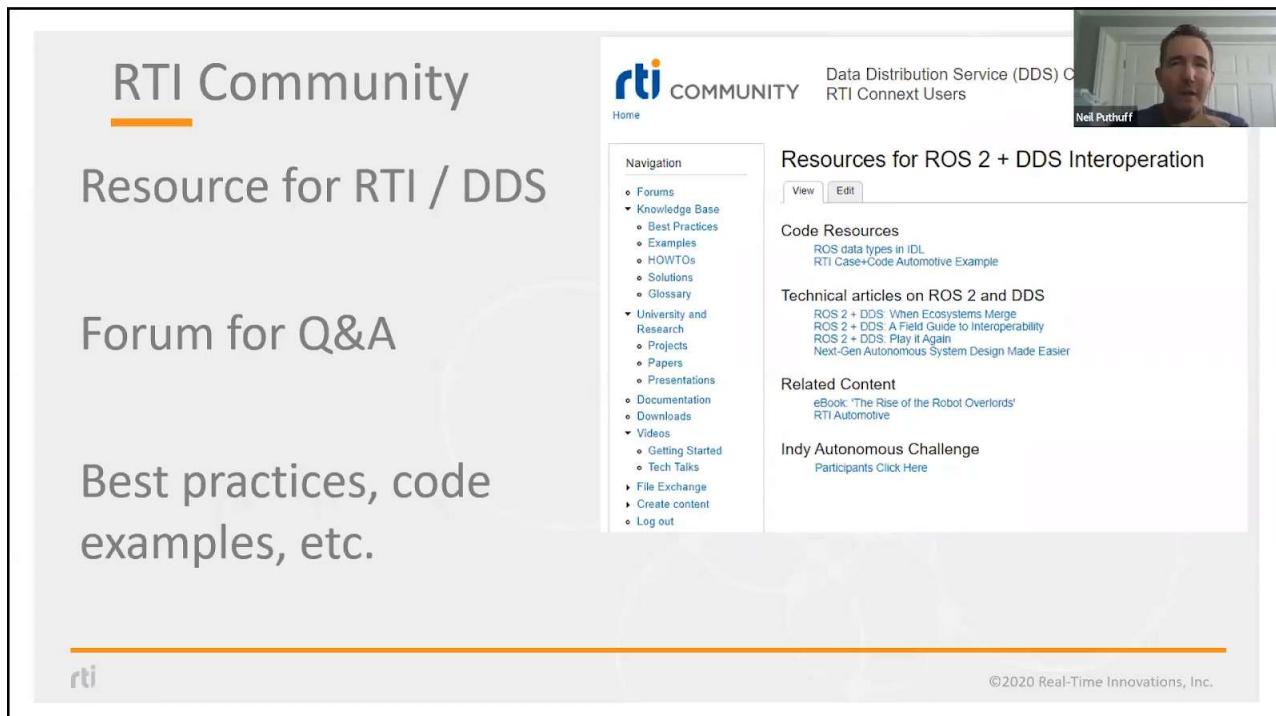
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Resources



- RTI Connext Pro v5.3.1:
<https://www.rti.com/free-trial/dds-files-5.3.1>
- RTI Community
<https://community.rti.com/ros>
- RTI Connector:
<https://www.rti.com/products/tools/connector>
- White paper: ROS2 / DDS interop
https://www.rti.com/hubfs/Collateral_2017/Whitepapers/rti-whitepaper-ros2-connext-dds.pdf
- Data types in IDL & XML:
<https://github.com/rticommunity/ros-data-types>
https://github.com/neil-rti/ros-data-types/blob/master/all_msgs/ros2interop/ROS2-Eloquent-all.idl
- Case + Code Automotive Example
<https://www.rti.com/developers/case-code/automotive>

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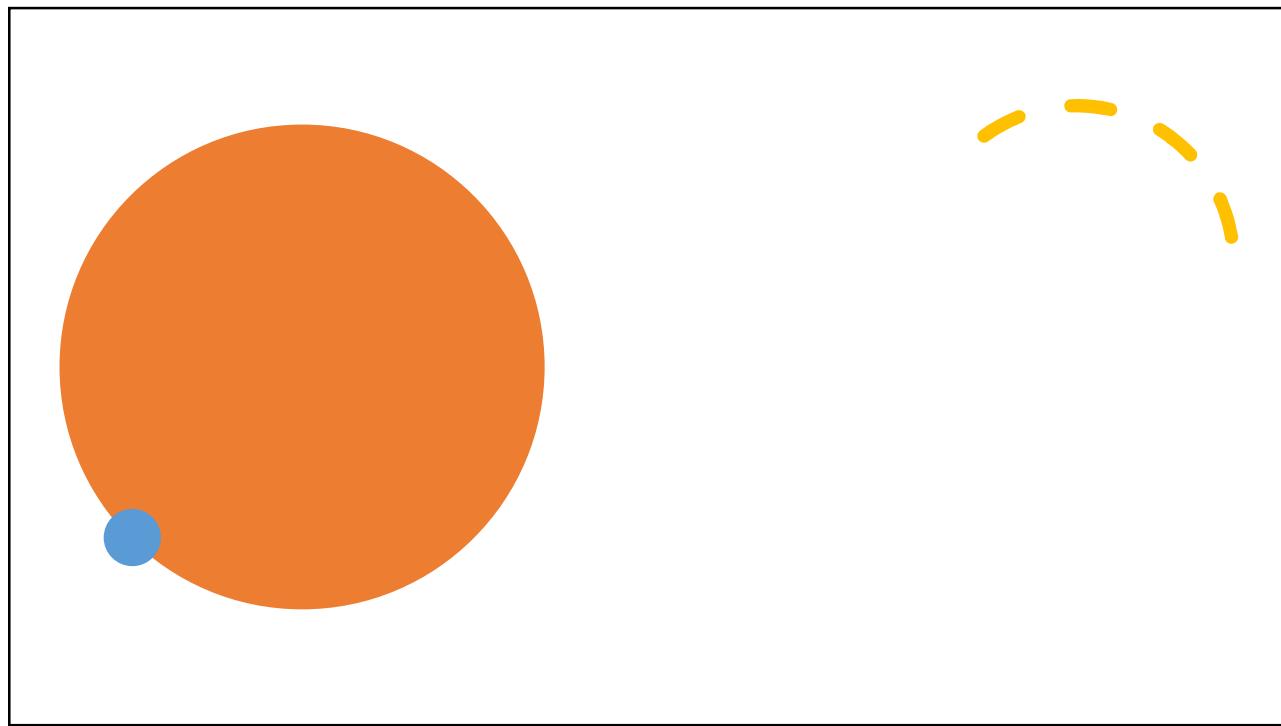
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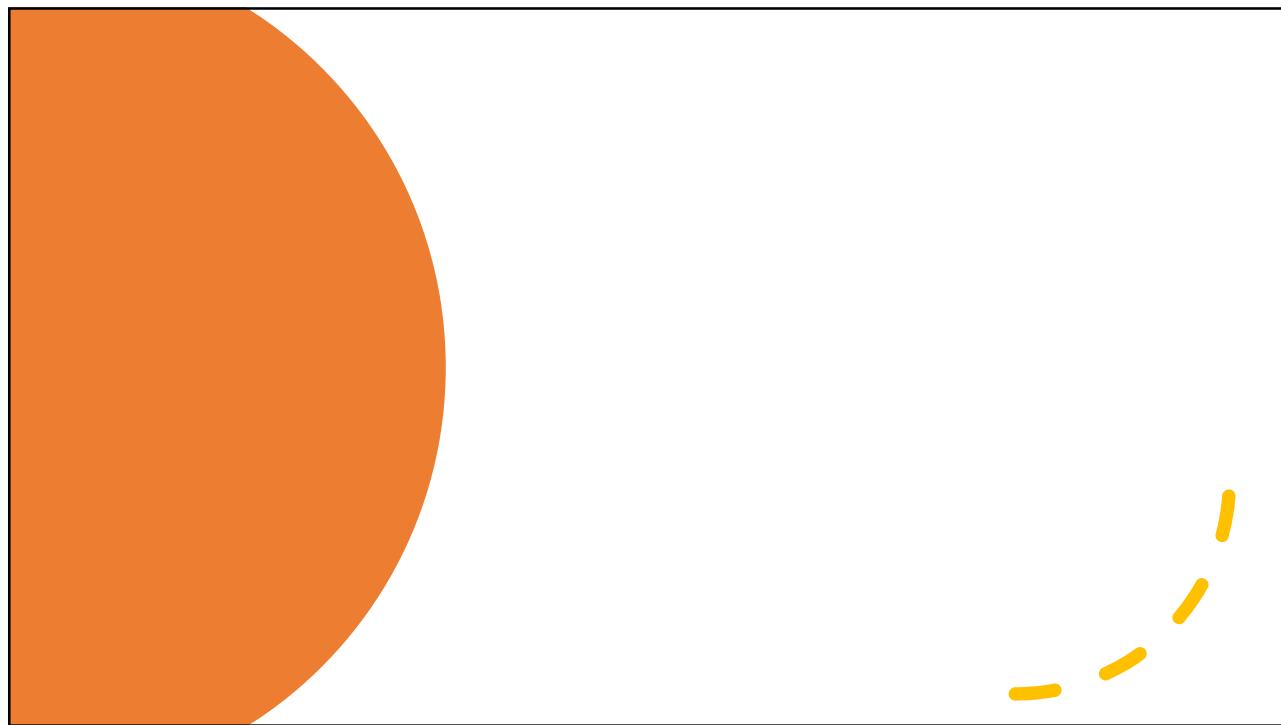


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