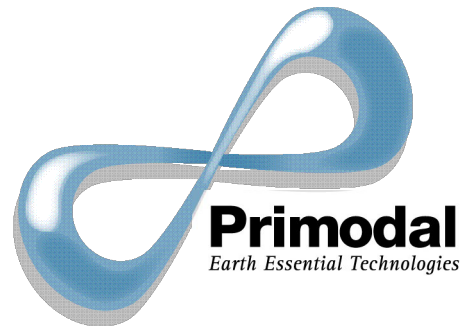


# Wastewater Treatment Digital Twins Made Possible:

A New Tool for the Integration of Data Analysis  
with Near Real-Time Simulation



John B. Copp, Ph.D.  
Primodal Inc. , Hamilton, ON, Canada

# Primodal

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- Based in Hamilton, ON. (est. 2005)
- Data-Driven Solutions
  - Mechanistic Process Modelling Specialists
  - Process Engineering & Modelling, Design, Control, Uncertainty Analysis, and Data Analytics
- **COMMON THEME → Data Evaluation**
  - the need for accurate and representative data
  - data analytics (quality, analysis, open data, ... )
- *PrecisionNow*<sup>©</sup> software suite (data analysis, modelling)
  - dDesk, dDock & dDockDT

# PrecisionNow → Why?

- **Simply Put:**

- Practical Process Understanding / Better Operation, Decision-Making (in a user-configurable tool using data **already** being collected)

Empirical Design Criteria

Simple Control Loops

Model-Based Design Criteria

Advanced Control / Expert Systems

Uncertainty-Based Design Criteria

**Data-Driven Process Optimisation**

# Towards A Digital Twin

## ➤ How ?

- Staged Approach  
(realising benefits  
at each step)



**Plant-wide Mechanistic Process Model**

- end-to-end full plant process model
- data analysis / quality assessment
- modelled control / operational procedures
- detailed system understanding

**One-Site Digital Twin**

- real-time data acquisition & real-time model operation
- simplified data-driven models for real-time KPI and process optimisation

**Real-Time Process Optimisation**

- real-time calculation of process/operational variables

**Automated Process Control**

- link DT to plant actuators
- adoption of DT by all disciplines

# Barriers to Implementation

## ➤ Data Quality

## ➤ SILO issue

- PROBLEM:

- Communication within organisations

- EXAMPLE:

- Terrible DO control, erratic blower activity
- Effluent ammonia spikes

- INITIAL ANALYSIS

- DO setpoint based on ammonia value (ABAC)
- Setpoint algorithm reasonable
- Valve / Pressure / Blower algorithms reasonable

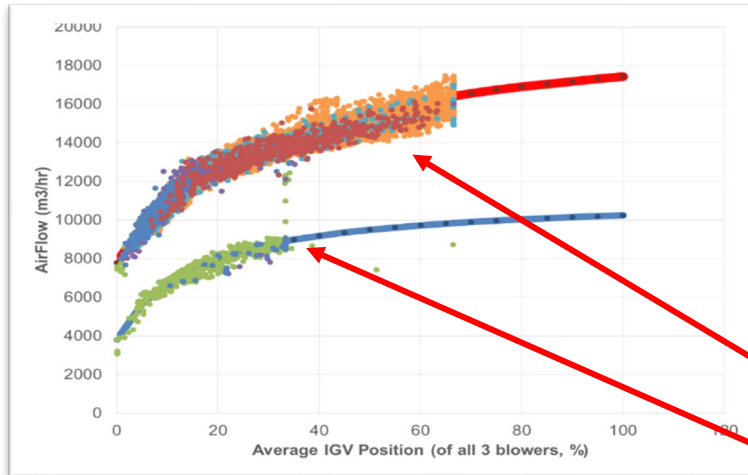


# Barriers to Implementation

## ➤ SILO issue

- DATA ANALYSIS / MODEL-BASED RESULT

- Aeration response too slow → response dampening
- Ammonia sensor inappropriately deployed
  - Spatial issues
  - Maintenance issues



### AirFlow Control:

- not correlated to actuators being controlled,
- impact of delays in aeration response??

Two blowers

One blower

# Barriers to Implementation

## ➤ SILO issue

- PROBLEM:

- Everyone doing their jobs correctly
- Lack of understanding how each task impacts next step outcome
- Lack of understanding how the pieces work together (i.e. SILOs)

- SOLUTION

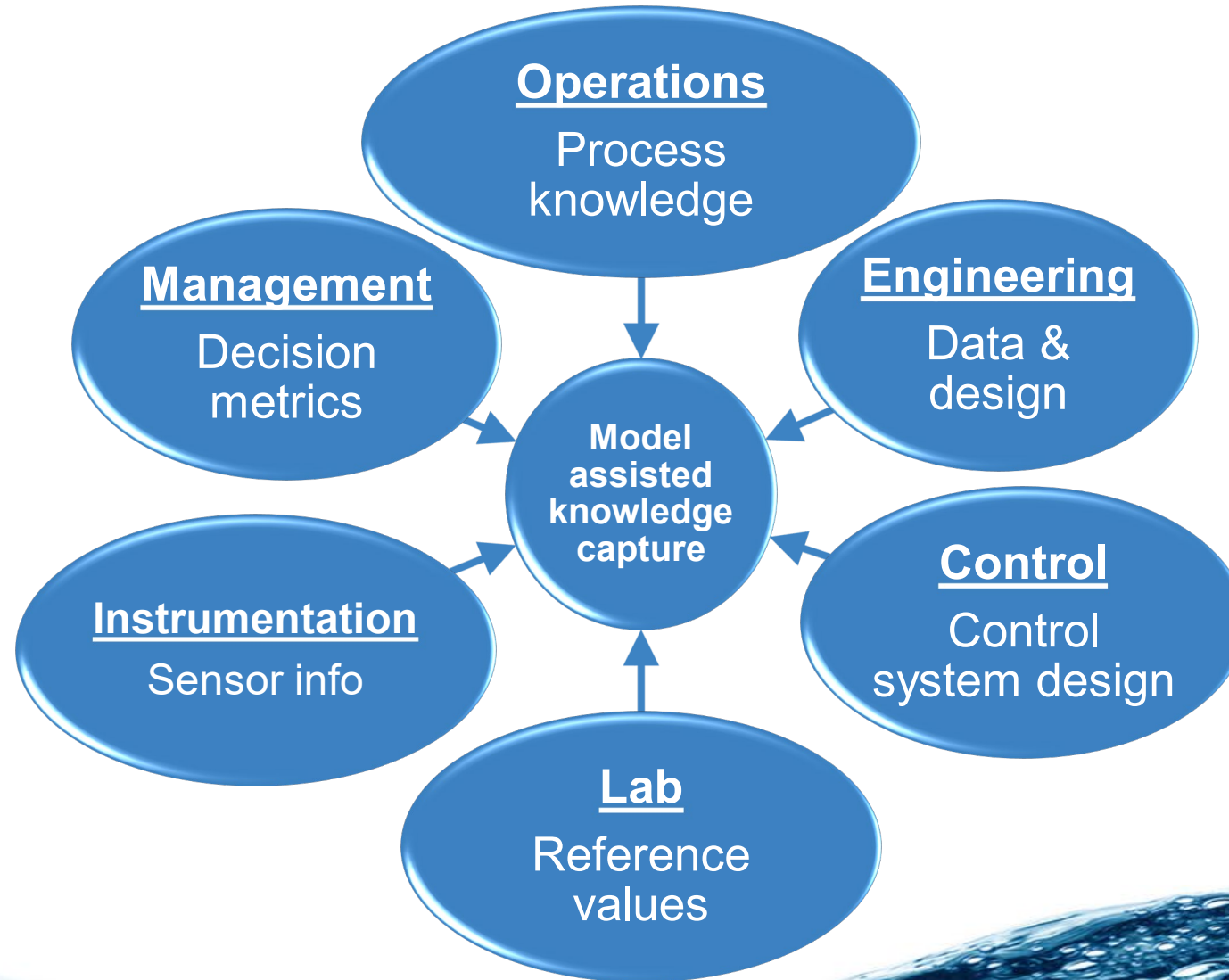
- Interdisciplinary process analysis
- Model-based knowledge capture and decision intelligence

- VISION

- Digital Twin implementation with real-time data verification & automated model updating for real-time plant status and operation



# Interdisciplinary Approach





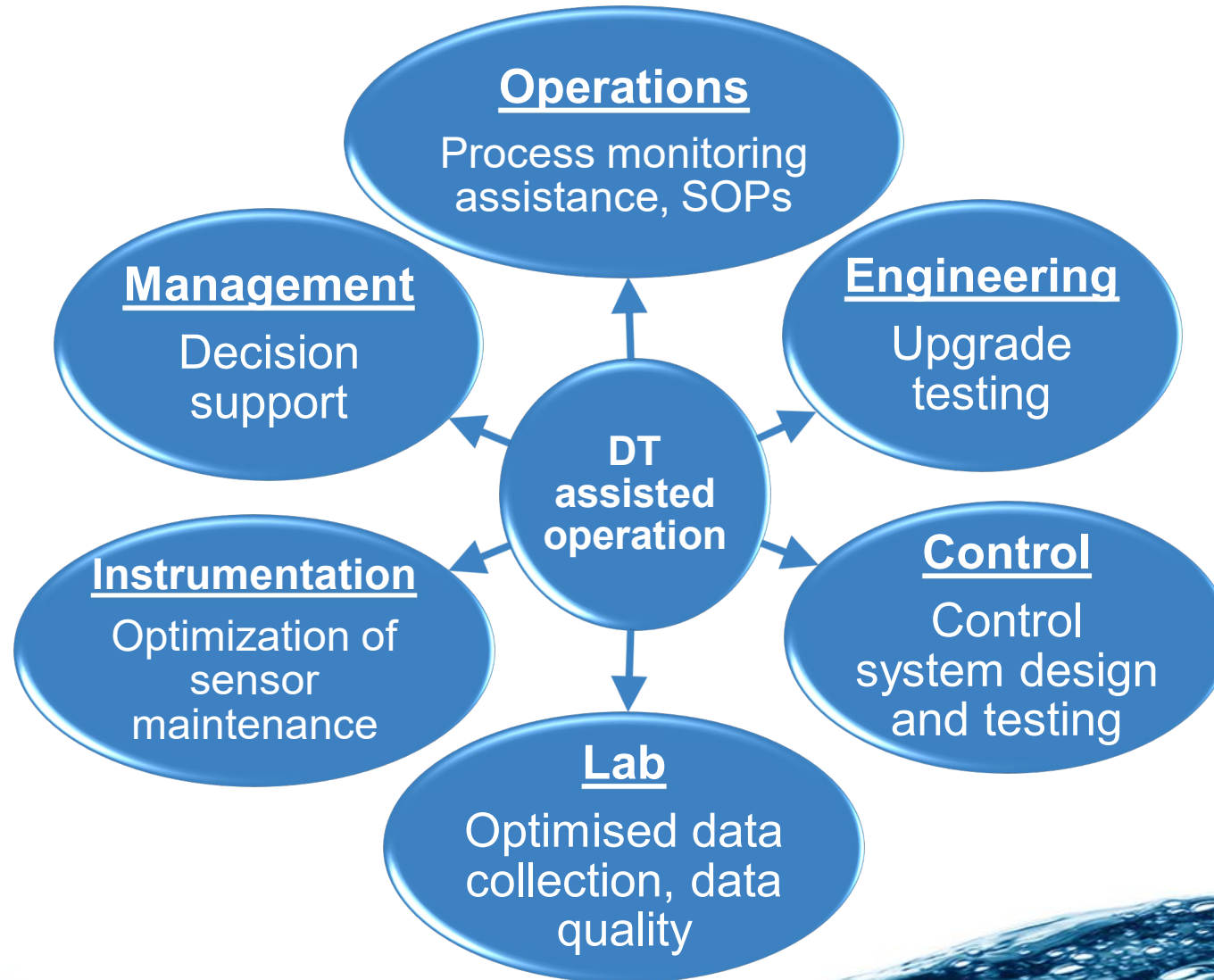
# Successful DT Implementation

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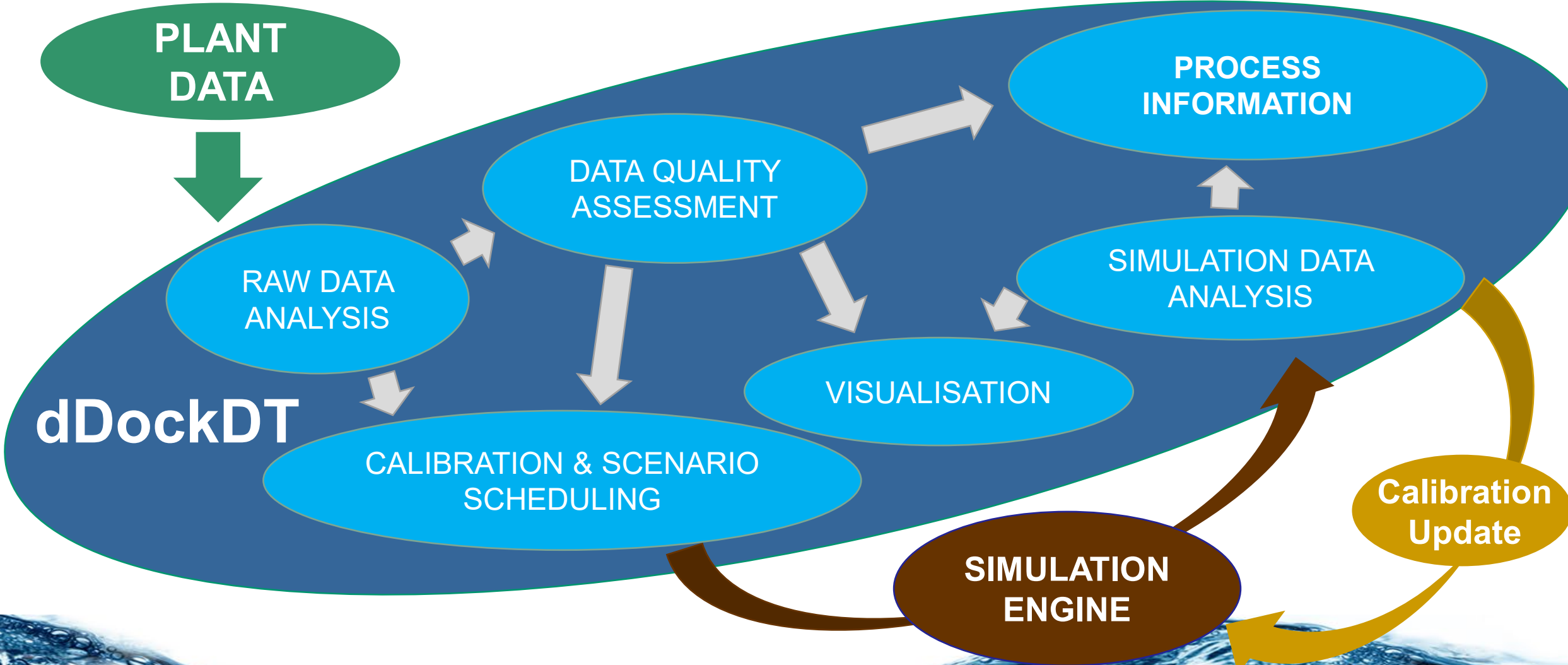
- Includes all disciplines
- Creates incentives for all disciplines
- Incorporates existing operations in DT
- Data quality control
- Optimises data usage
- Incorporates new data-driven operational outcomes into existing SOPs and operator work schedules



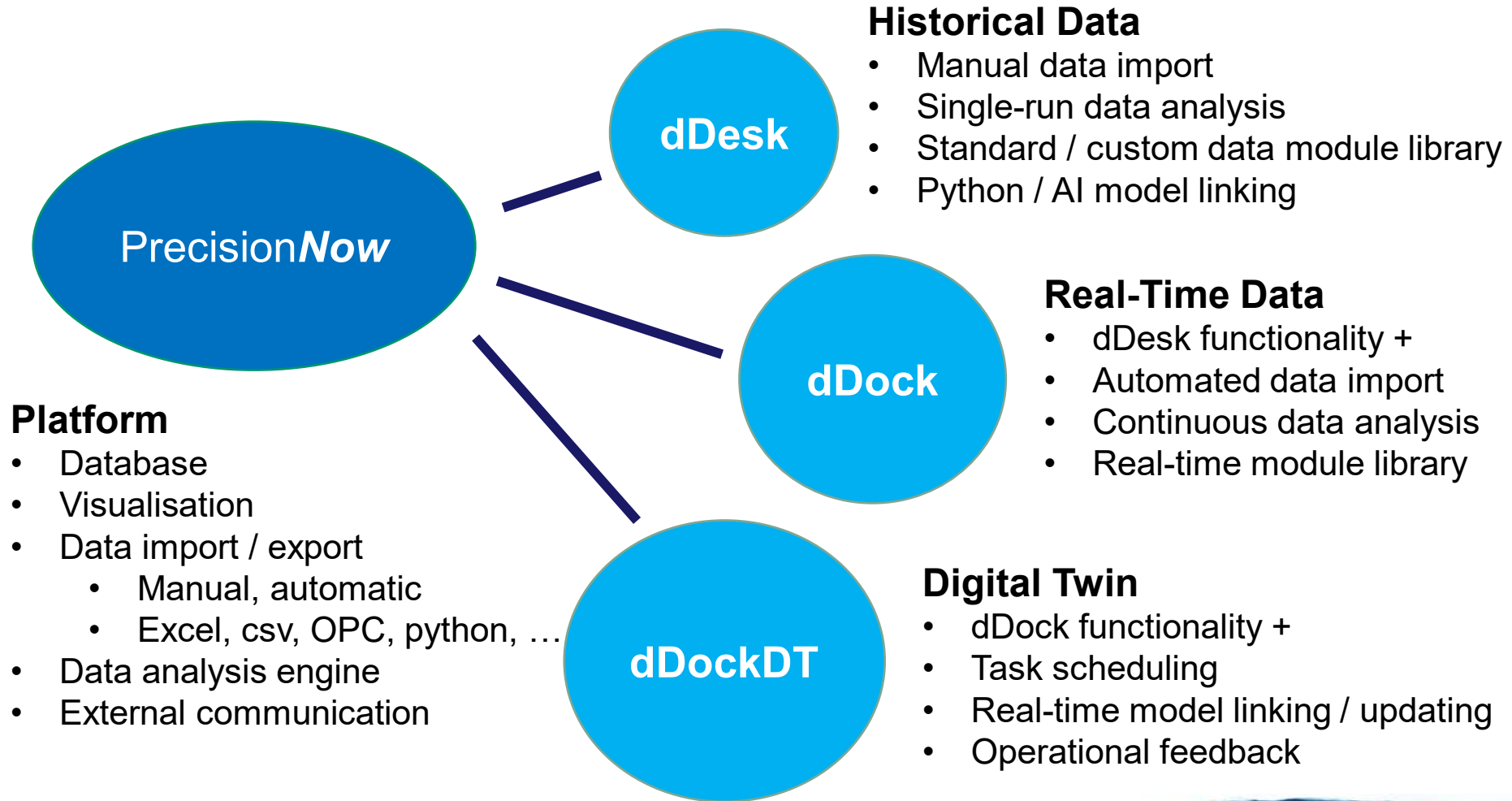
# Successful DT Implementation



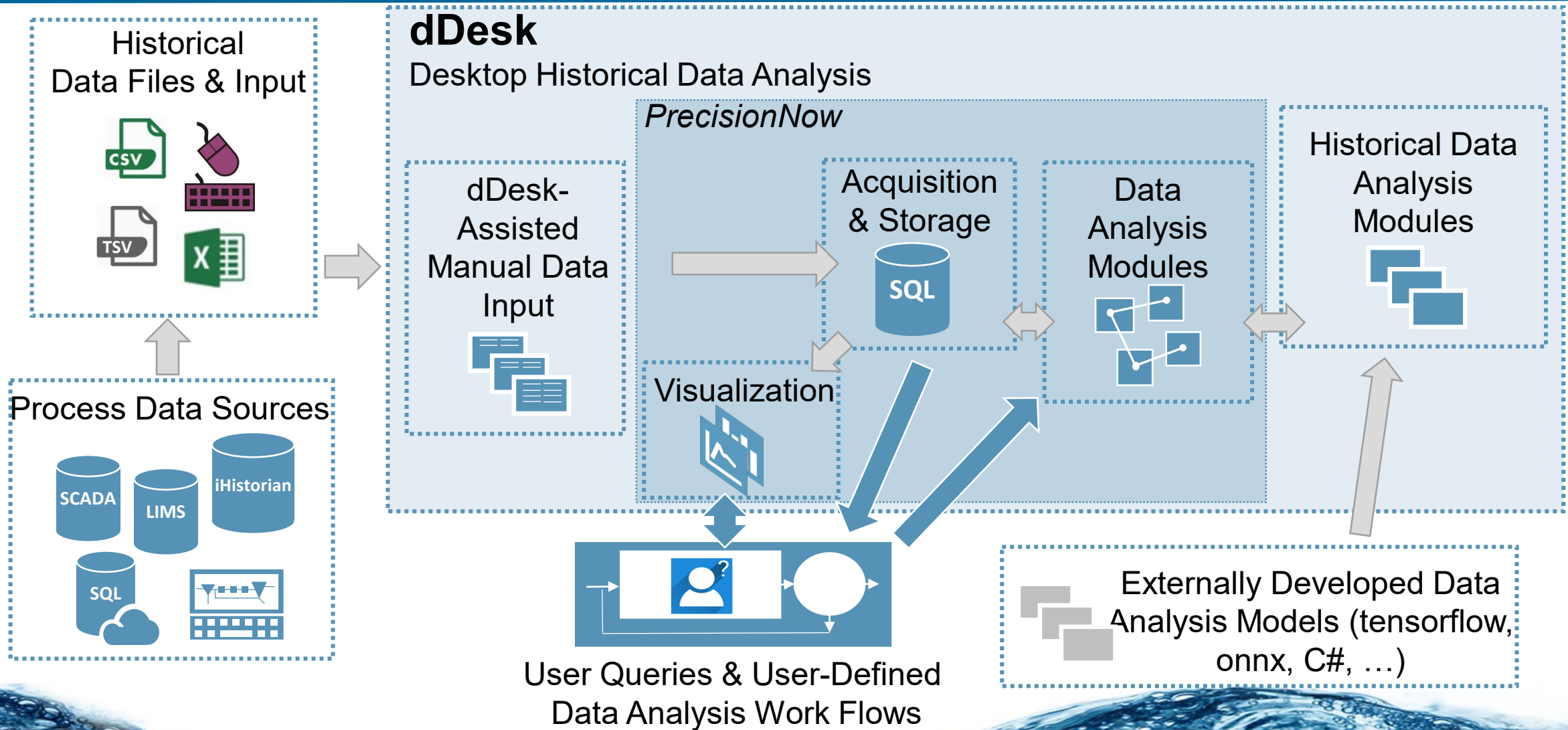
# PrecisionNow: dDockDT



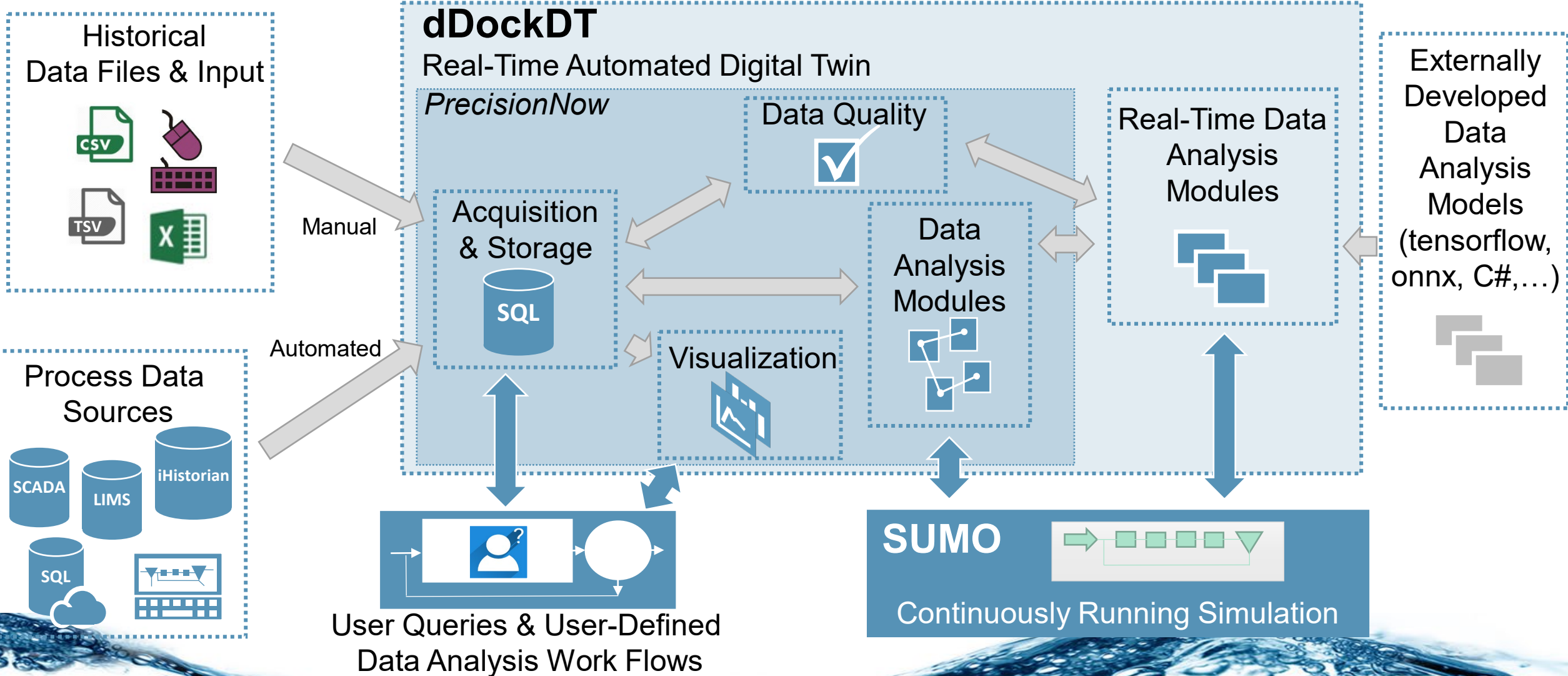
# Precision*Now* Software Suite



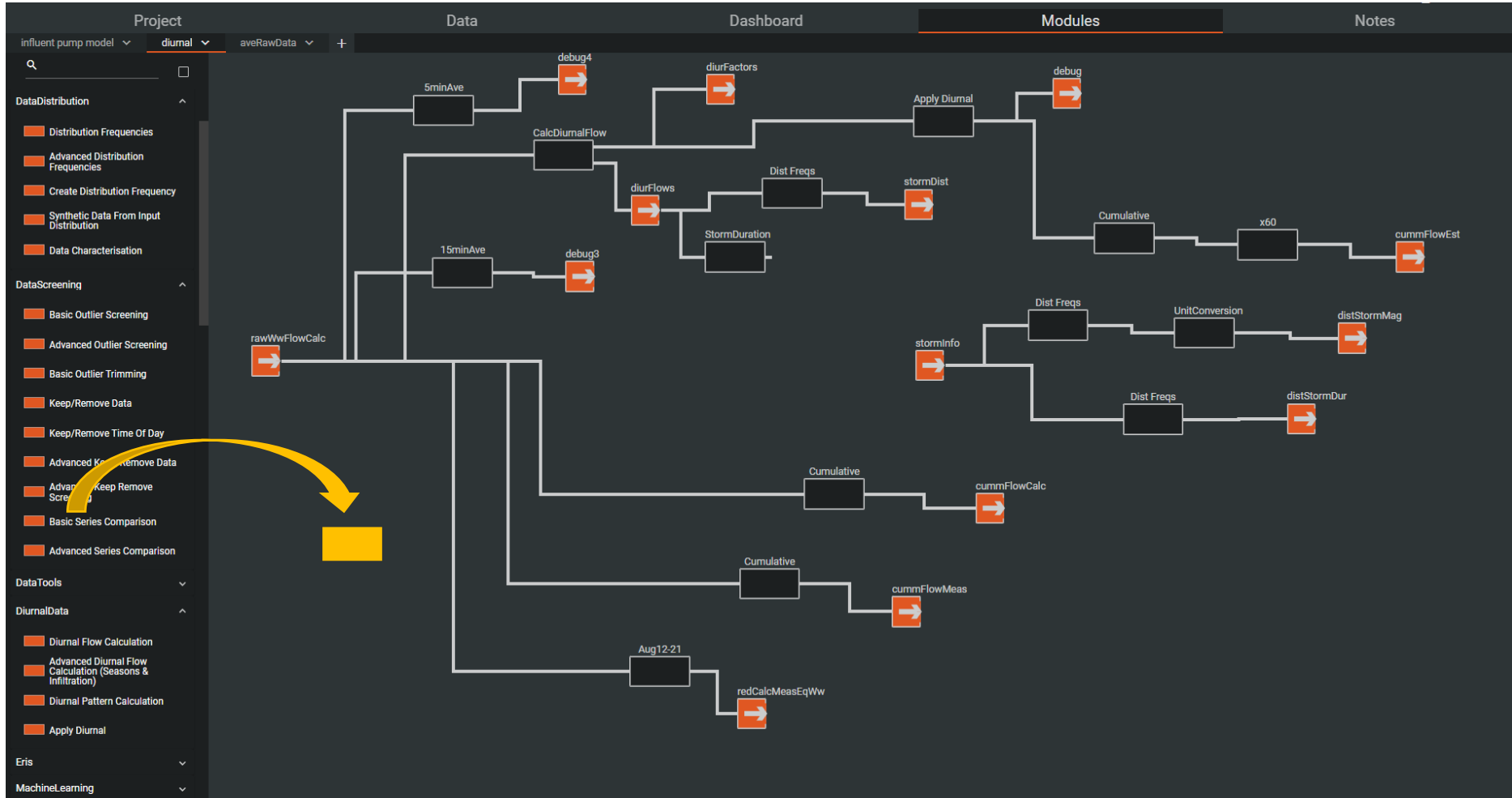
# PrecisionNow: dDesk



# PrecisionNow: dDockDT



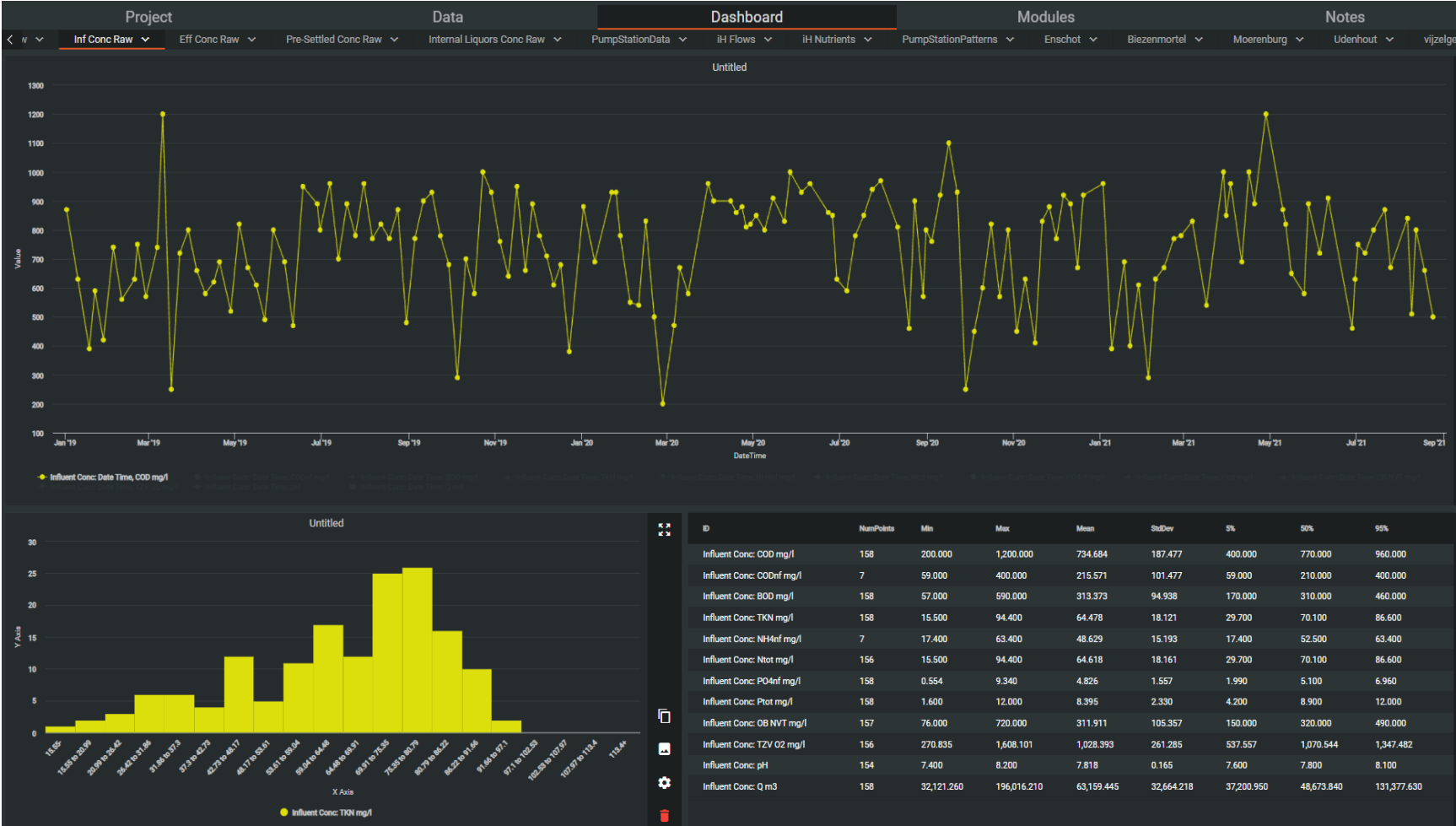
# PrecisionNow → User-Configurable Data Analysis



- Drag-n-drop 100s of user-configurable data analysis modules, then connect them up
- Visualise your data analysis flow

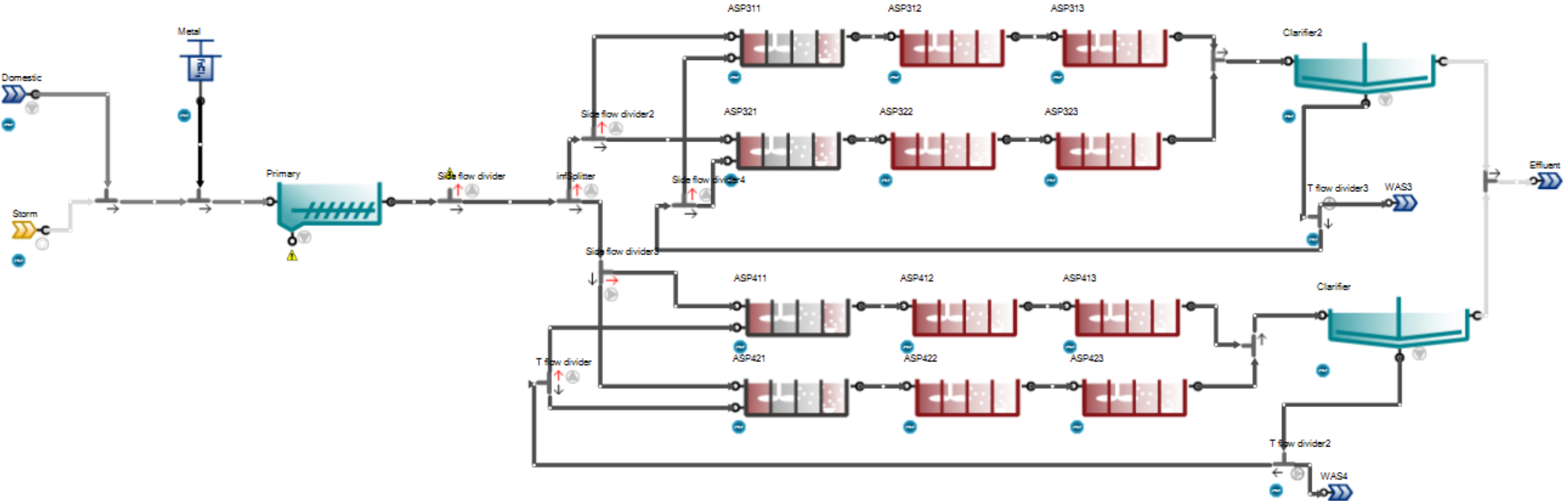
# PrecisionNow → User-Configurable Visualisation

- Choose your own visualisation options
- Configure personalised dashboards





# Demo



# Demo

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*PrecisionNow*

# dDesk

A PRIMODAL SYSTEMS DATA ANALYSIS PRODUCT

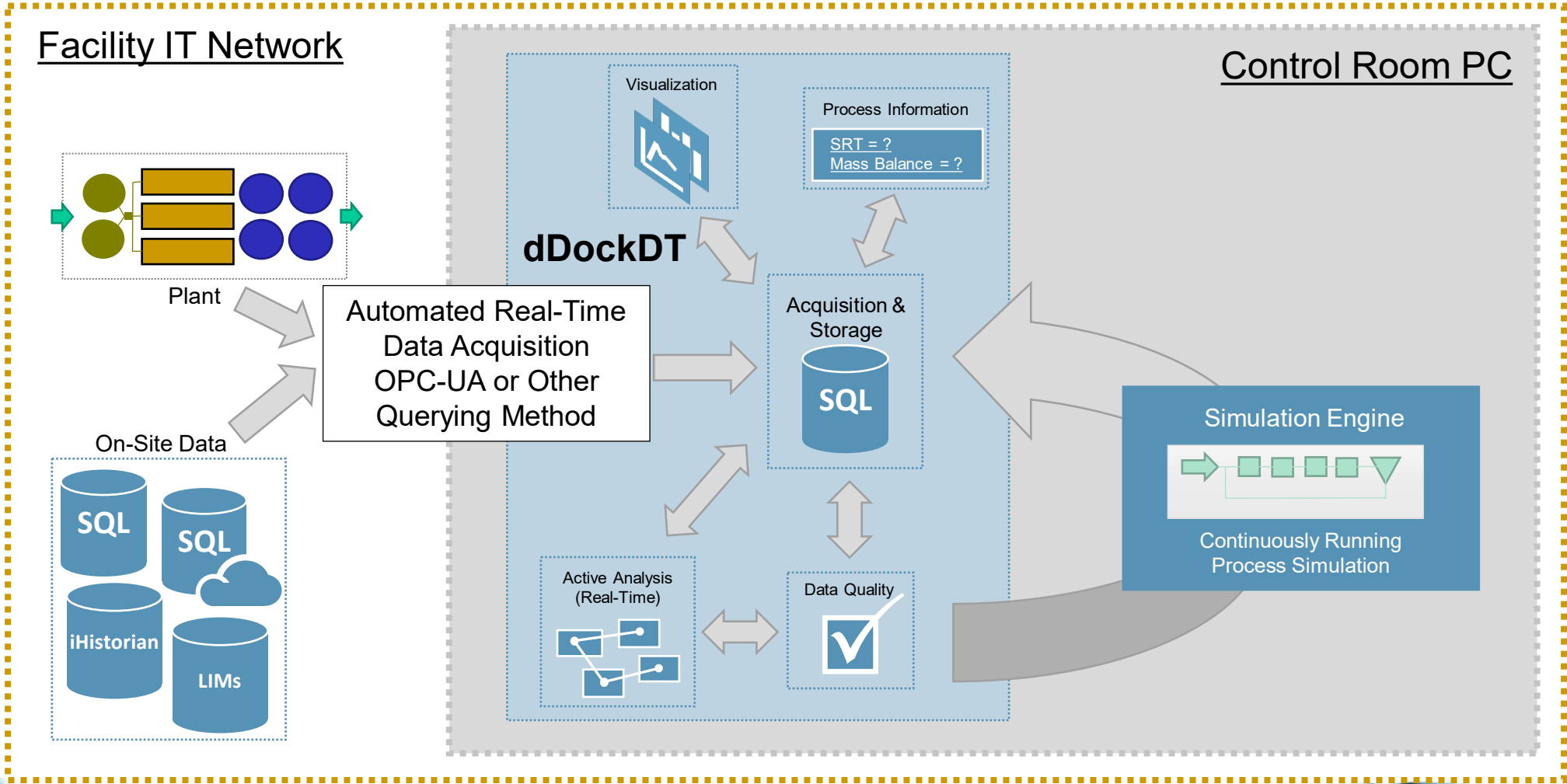
*PrecisionNow*

# dDockDT

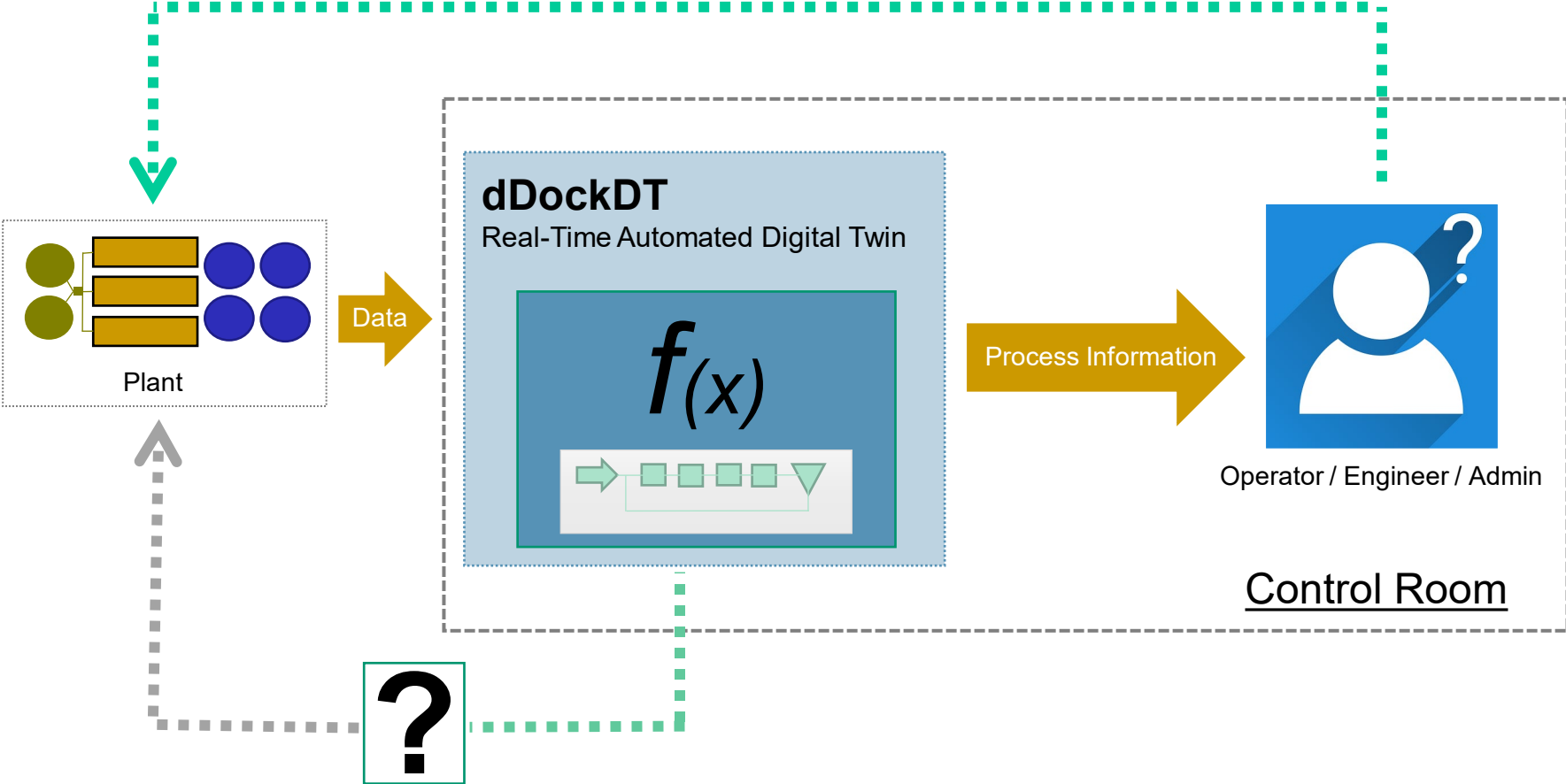
A PRIMODAL SYSTEMS DIGITAL TWIN TECHNOLOGY



# PrecisionNow: dDockDT

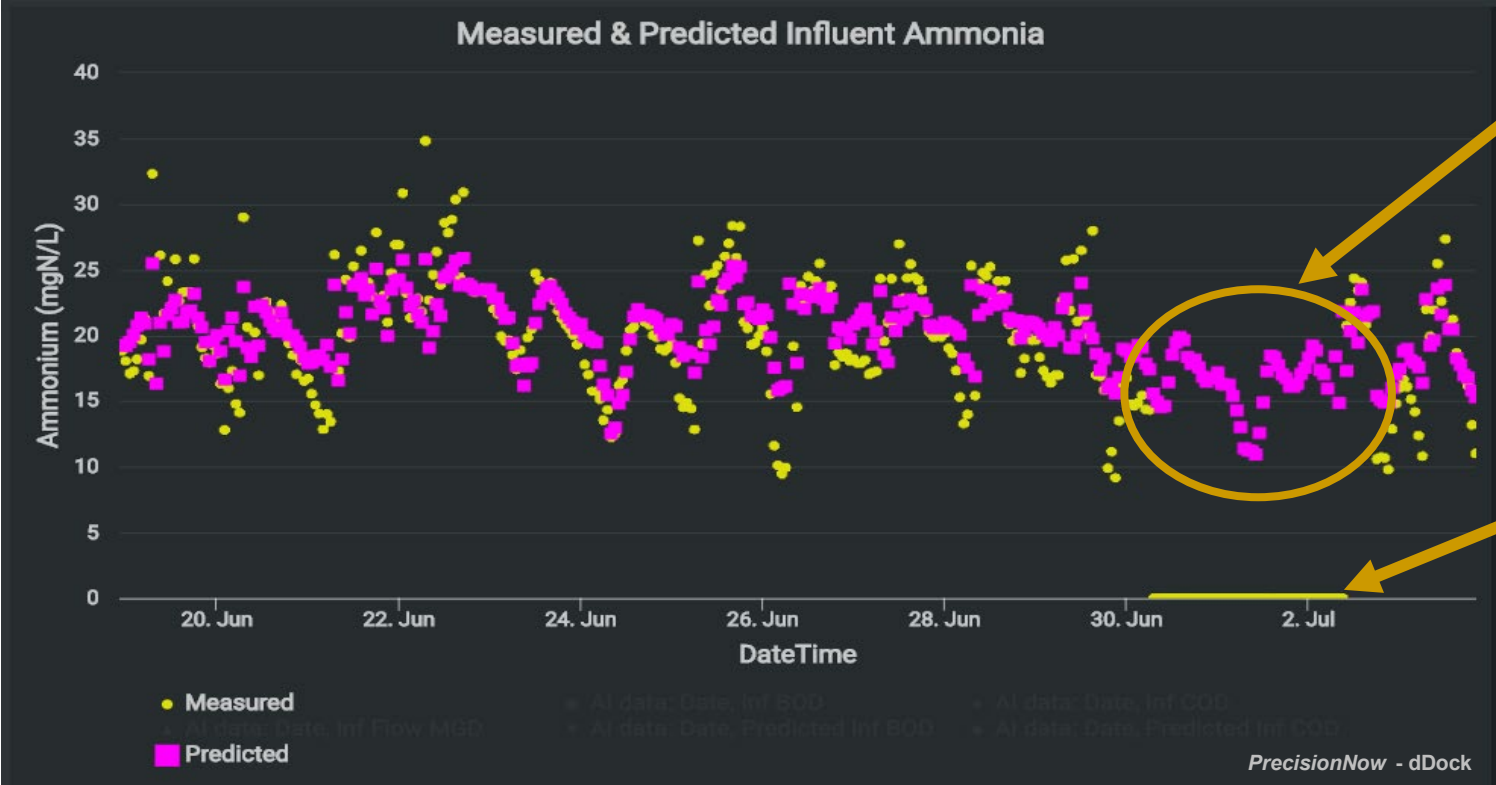


# PrecisionNow: dDockDT



# Failures, Process Oddities ...

## ➤ Predictive Fault Detection & Soft Sensors



Real-time soft sensors running in parallel, or alone

Sensor failure & alarm

# Failures, Process Oddities ...

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- Predictive Fault Detection & Soft Sensors
- Optimise and adaptive control structures
  - DO, SRT, MLSS, Chemical Dosing, ...
- Flow & Mass Balances
  - Influent/Effluent, Flow splits
- Identify maintenance issues
  - Statistical comparison of parallel ASPs
  - DO probes, Airflows, Valves, Ammonia ...



# Conclusion

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## ➤ Data Quality

- Data Quality is essential
  - You've invested in the equipment, so spending the time and money ensuring data quality will help realise the benefits
- Maintenance
  - Understanding when and how often maintenance is required saves money (avoid *ad hoc* estimates)

# Conclusion

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## ➤ Digital Twins Need Prior and Post Model Data Analysis

- Raw data analysis for proper data to the model
- Model output analysis for real-time operational efficiency

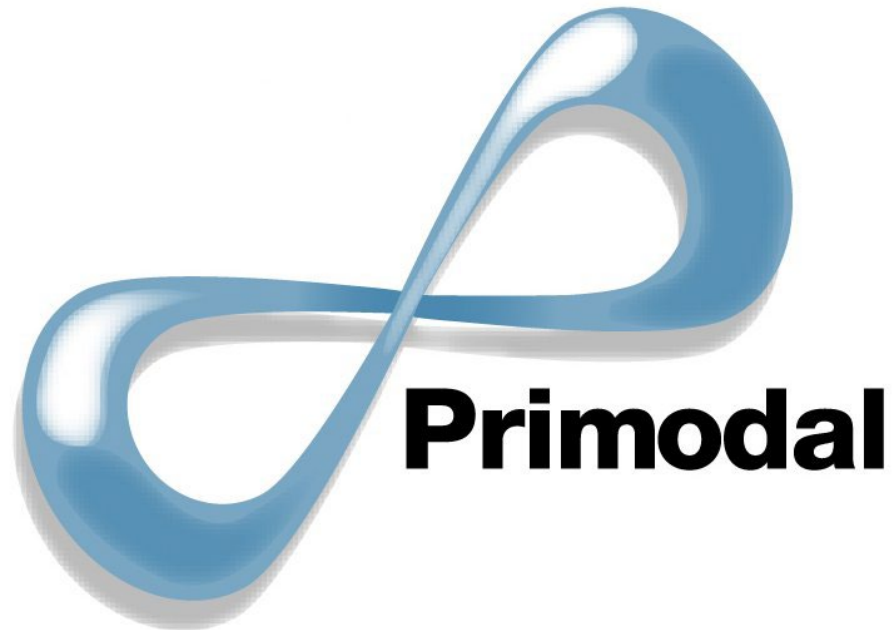
## ➤ PrecisionNow

- User-Configurable DT technology
  - data analysis & visualisation
  - data flow to/from the model
  - multiple model capabilities, scheduling, optimisation



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# Thank-you !



**John B. Copp**

*Primodal Inc.*

*Hamilton, Ontario*

*copp@primodal.com*