



Integrate VSS with Automotive Systems: Aligning Data Collection with Business Requirements

Dr. James J. Hunt | CTO & CEO aicas | COVESA AMM, Detroit | October 11, 2023

Technical Aspects of Data Collection

1. Signal Definition

- a. Source
- b. Name
- c. Conversion

2. Self Awareness

- a. Knowledge of what signals a vehicle can supply
- b. How are after-manufacture changes handled?

3. Transmission

- a. Bandwidth efficiency (G4/G5)
- b. Interruptions (spooling, priority)

4. Data Acquisition Plan

- a. Which signals
- b. When to collect
- c. What data to send
- d. What local processing to do

Dynamic and Efficient Data Acquisition

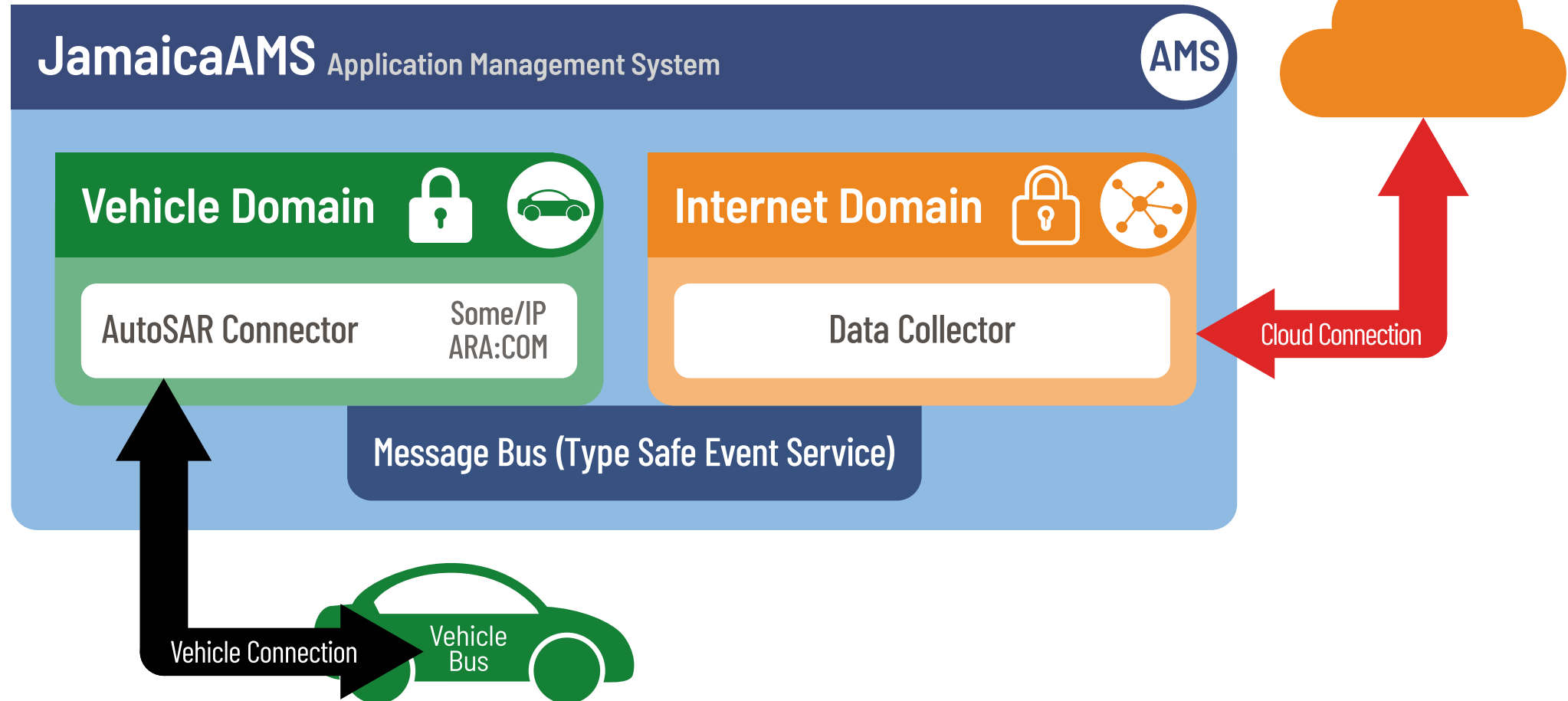
Why Does Data Acquisition Need to be Dynamically Determined?

1. Data experts need to make data acquisition decisions, not programmers.
2. Support diverse data requirements should be supported
 - a. Conditional delivery
 - b. Signal Synthesis
 - c. Form conversion
 - d. Model-based transmission
3. DCS (Data Collection Scheme) is just the start,

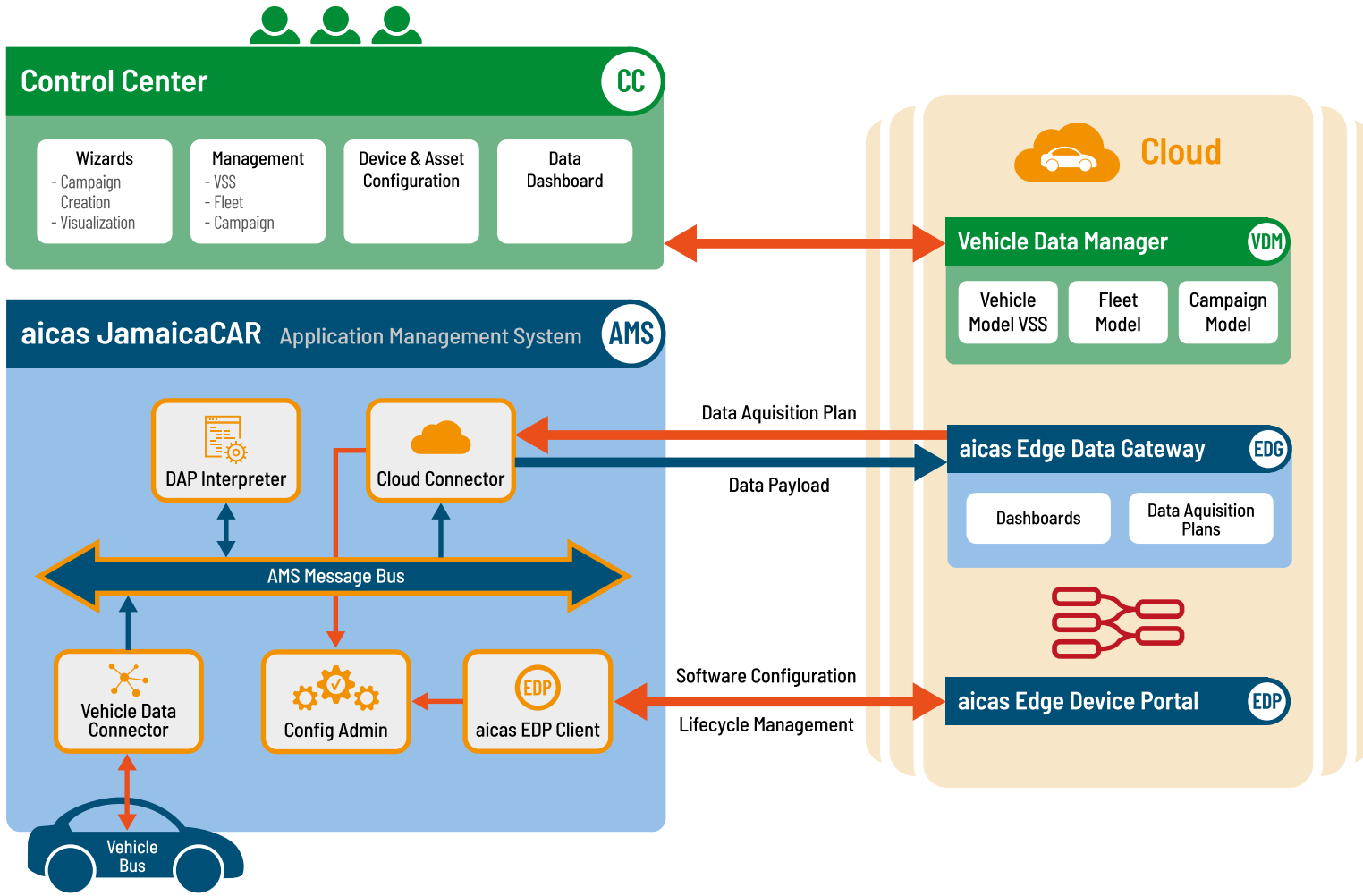
Vehicle to cloud must deal with limited bandwidth

1. VISS is fine for intracloud communication, but rather verbose for vehicle to cloud communication.
2. AWS Fleetwise compresses data using ProtoBuf and generated IDs.
3. Predefined signal IDs would help.

Vehicle Data Collection Architecture



Data Collection Architecture in Vehicle



Data Acquisition Plan Examples

W/O
CODING

Tailored Data Acquisition Plans

- Collect all required data; no more, no less.
- Graphically editable.
- Safe and secure update.

SIMULATE

Rapid Turnaround

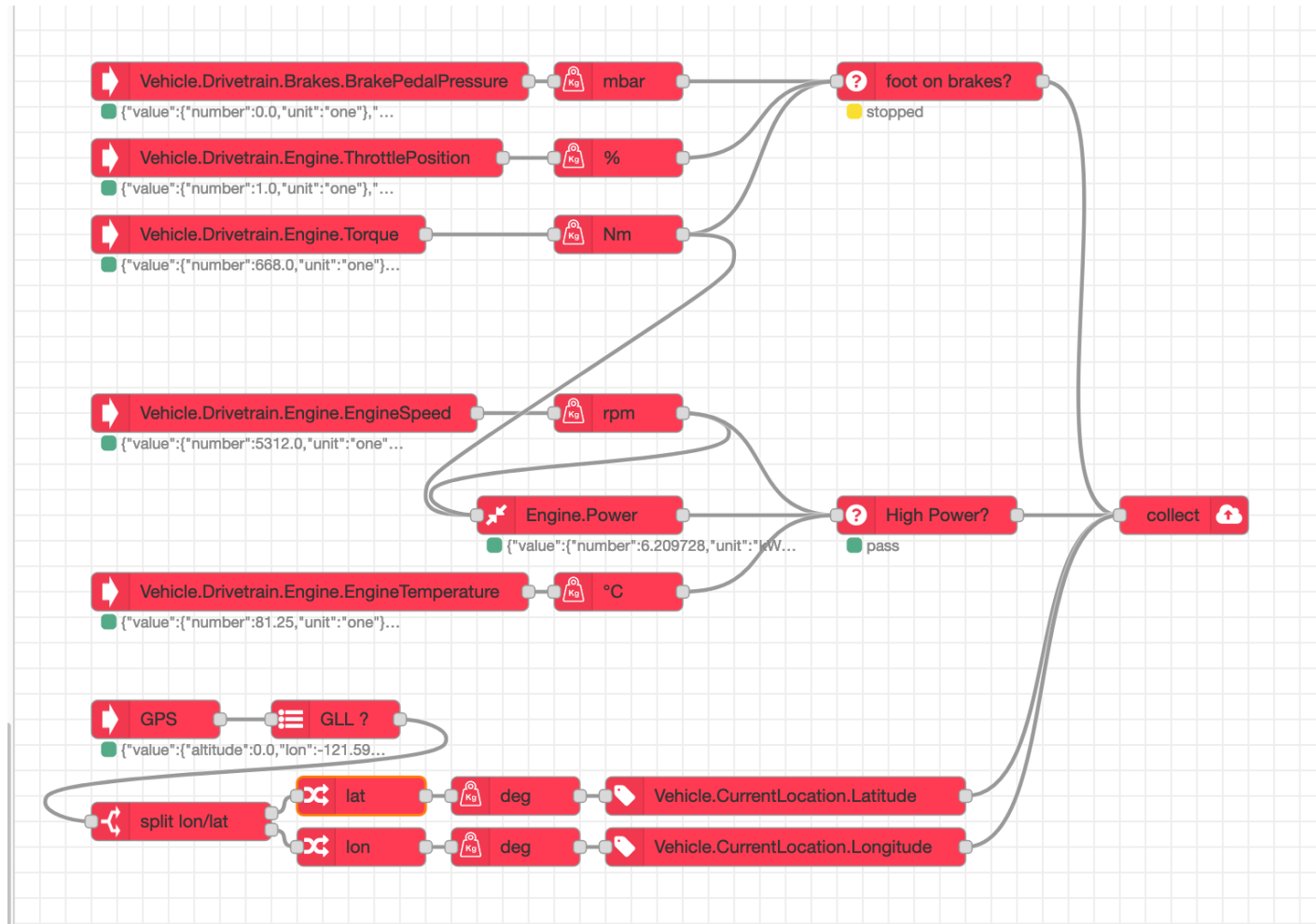
- Off-board testing.
- Same tools for data generation.
- Generate VSS defined signals.

Data Acquisition Plan Examples

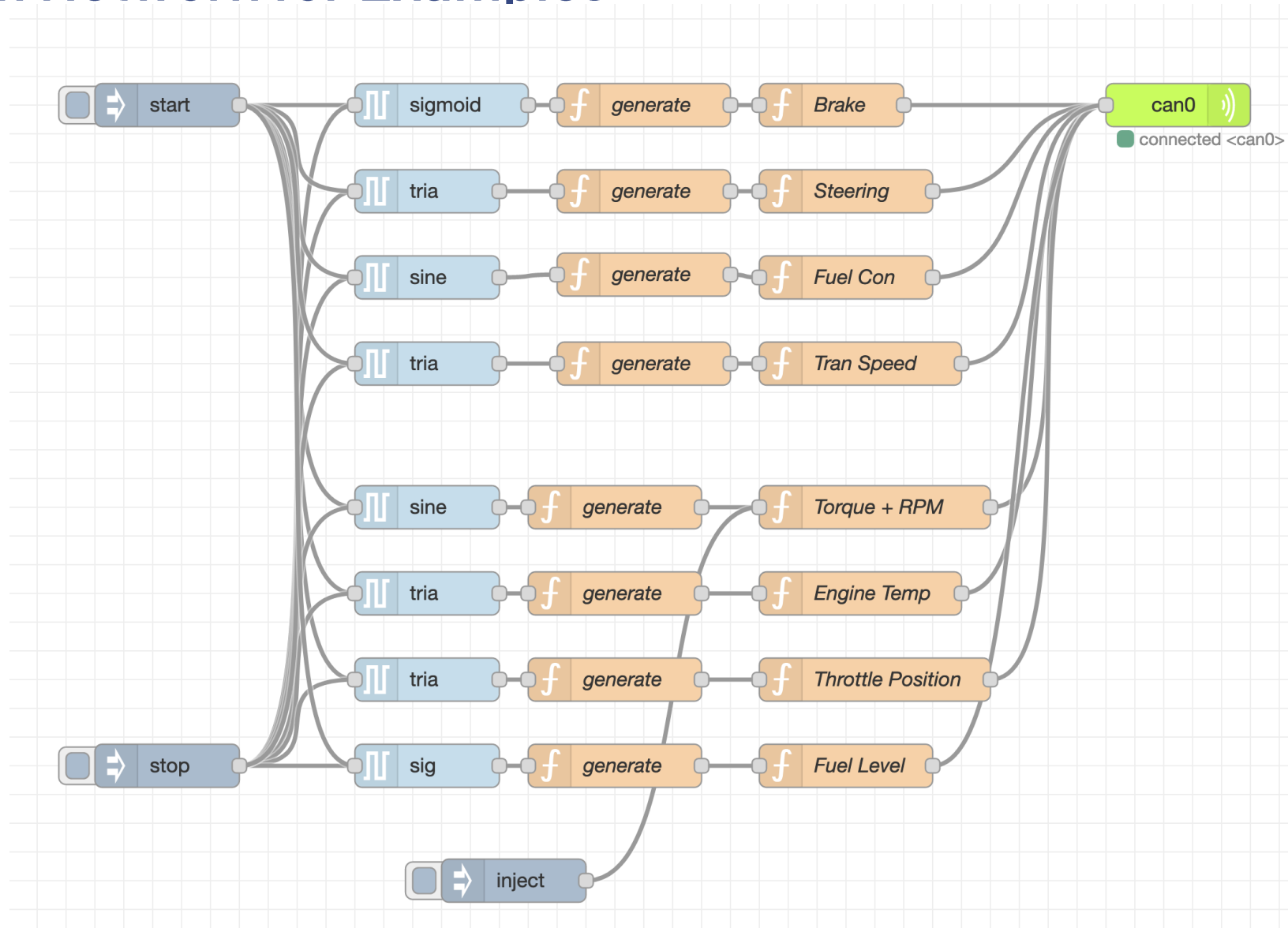
1. Conditional
Pressure on
Brake & Throttle

2. Synthesis
Power from
RPMs & Torque

3. Conversion
Device binary or
text data stream
to VSS signal



Simulation Network for Examples



Vehicle Signal Specification SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Single language for sensors & actuators
- Open Standard
- Logically structured
- Extendable

Weaknesses

- Lacks rigorous definition (DDT)
- No distinction between definition and use
- Overlay concept lacks structure
- Units of measurement not well handled

Opportunities

- Open standard for defining signals & actuators
- Promotes interoperability of tools & services
- VISS for enterprise communication

Threats

- Overreach: "have hammer, everything is a nail"
- Reduce Data collection to retrieving signal values
- Forcing data communication into a single form

Business Aspects of Data Collection

1. Data Collection and Analysis Roles

- a. Quality and maintenance analysis
- b. Vehicle service
- c. Value creation
- d. External consumers

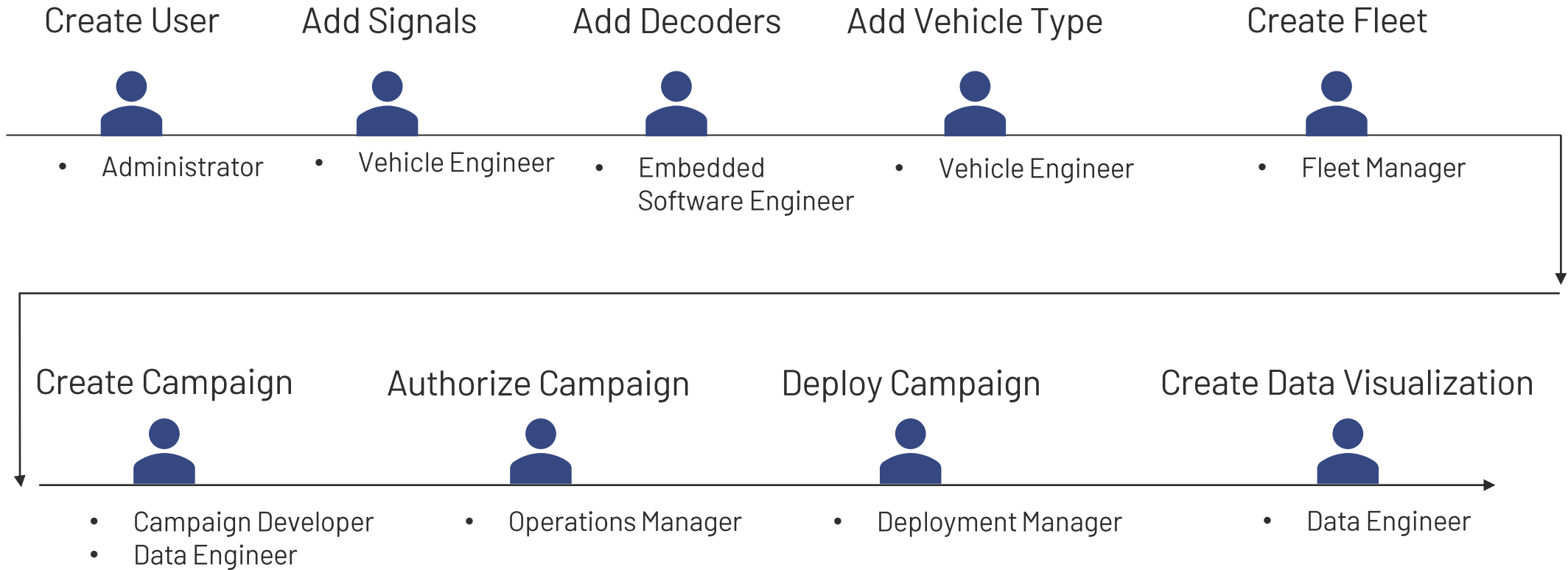
2. Data Management

- a. Data persistence
- b. Digital Twins

3. Data Privacy

- a. Track what data may be collected
- b. Track who has the right to see what data, e.g. prevent data leakage
- c. Manage data aggregation to prevent identity leakage
- d. When can data be released

Role-Based Access UI



Data Acquisition Plan Deployment Process



Initial Development

- Select signals
- Design Preprocessing
- Test functionality with simulated data

Integration Test

- Test with simulated data
- Integrate with other data collection plans
- Check performance

Deployment Test

- Test with real-world data
- Check performance
- Test usefulness

Who needs Data Collection? Example Roles and Permissions



| Acquisition Element | Create | Read | Use | Authorize | Update | Delete |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Vehicle connector | ESW Eng | ESW Eng SW Eng | ESW Eng SW Eng | QA | ESW Eng | ESW Eng Ops Mgr |
| Enterprise VSS catalog | Vehicle Mgr | Vehicle Mgr SW Eng | Vehicle Mgr SW Eng | QA | Vehicle Mgr | Ops Mgr |
| DB Schema | IT Eng | IT Eng SW Eng | IT Eng SW Eng | QA | IT Eng | Ops Mgr |
| Vehicle Data | Vehicle Eng | Vehicle Eng Data User | Vehicle Eng Data User | Vehicle Mgr | Vehicle Eng | Vehicle Mgr Ops Mgr |
| Vehicle Definition (VSS) | Vehicle Eng | Vehicle Eng Data User | Vehicle Eng Data User | Vehicle Mgr | Vehicle Eng | Vehicle Mgr |
| Fleet | Fleet Mgr | Fleet Mgr Data User | Fleet Mgr | Deploy Mgr | Fleet Mgr | Fleet Mgr |
| Data Acquisition Plan | Data User | Data User | Data User | Deploy Mgr | Data User | Data User |
| Campaign | Data User | Data User | Data User | Ops Mgr | Data User | Data User |
| Visualization Template | UI Design | UI Design Data User | UI Design Data User | Data Mgr | UI Design | UI Design |

Summary

1. VSS is a great contribution to interoperability for automotive data collection
2. Vehicles should be self-aware (maintain their own VSS description)
3. More work needs to be done to formalize the semantics (DDL)
4. VISS is fine for cloud communication but rather verbose
5. A better protocol for vehicle to cloud would be helpful
6. A flexible means of selecting, preprocessing, and sending data is needed
7. Rolls, responsibilities, and data protection for data collection
is a whole other ballgame



Simplify Edge-to-Cloud

aicas. embedded. connected.

Dr. James J. Hunt
Cofounder, CEO, and CTO

aicas GmbH
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
www.aicas.com
+49 721 66 39 68-0

