

478th Aeronautical Systems Wing

Delivering 21st Century Air Dominance!



Aircraft Structural Integrity and the F-22

Brig Gen C.D. Moore

***2007 USAF ASIP Conference
Palm Springs, California
4-6 December 2007***

U.S. AIR FORCE



Outline



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- **Program Overview**
- **Why is ASIP Important?**
- **ASIP on the F-22**
- **Lessons Learned**
- **Way Forward**
- **Summary**



(U.S Air Force photo by Staff Sgt Eric T. Sheler)



Program Overview



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Program Overview

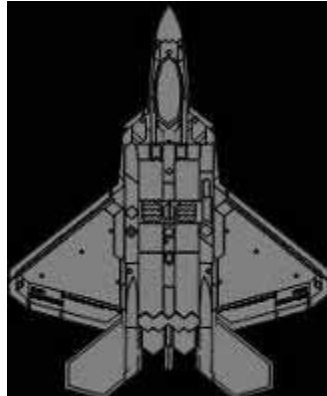
Aircraft Characteristics



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- **Primary Function: Air dominance, multi-role fighter**
- **Wingspan: 44 feet, 6 inches**
- **Length: 62 feet, 1 inch**
- **Height: 16 feet, 8 inches**
- **Weight: 19,700 pounds**
- **Maximum Takeoff Weight: 83,500 pounds**
- **Power Plant: Two Pratt & Whitney F119-PW-100 turbofan engines**
- **Speed: 1,140 mph (Mach 1.72); supercruise at altitude**
- **Armament:**
 - **1 M61A2 20-millimeter cannon**
 - **2 AIM-9 infrared missiles in side weapon bay**
 - **6 AIM-120 AMRAAMs in main weapon bay**
 - **or 2 GBU-32 JDAMs and 2 AIM-120 AMRAAMs**



*Information taken from public Air Force website (www.af.mil)



Program Overview

How goes it in 2007



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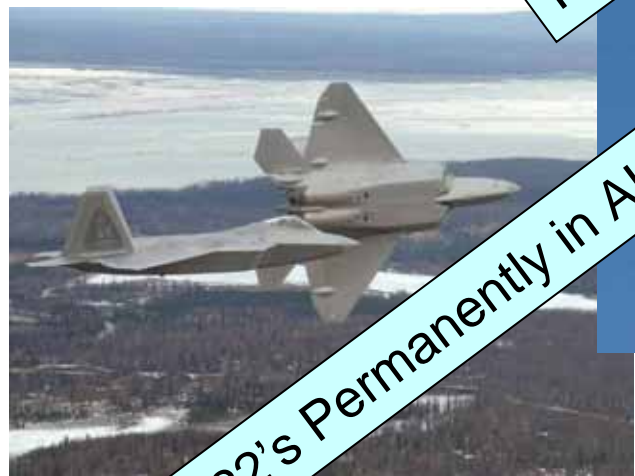
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First F-22 Multi-year Contract



100th F-22 Rolls-out



F-22's Permanently in AK



Sheppard Schoolhouse Opens



F-22 wins Collier Trophy



Program Overview

F-22 Program Schedule

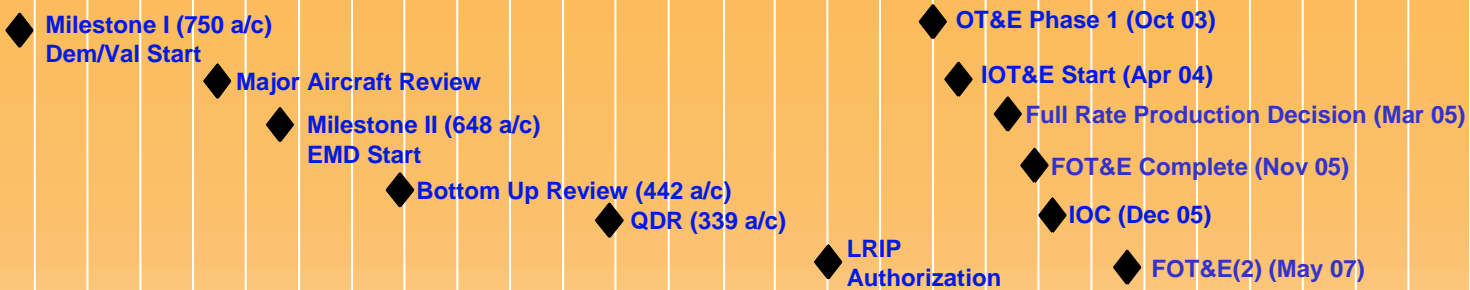


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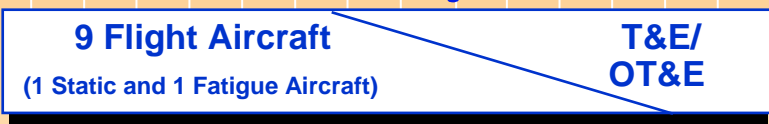
Milestones



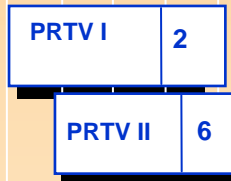
Demonstration / Validation



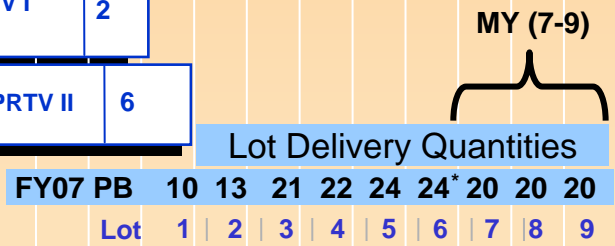
Engineering and Manufacturing Development



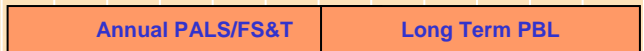
Production Representative Test Vehicles



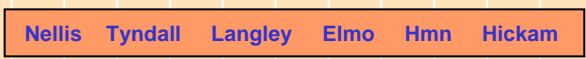
Production Quantities



Sustainment



Beddown



* Lot 6 quantity includes RTA



Program Overview

Production Program of Record

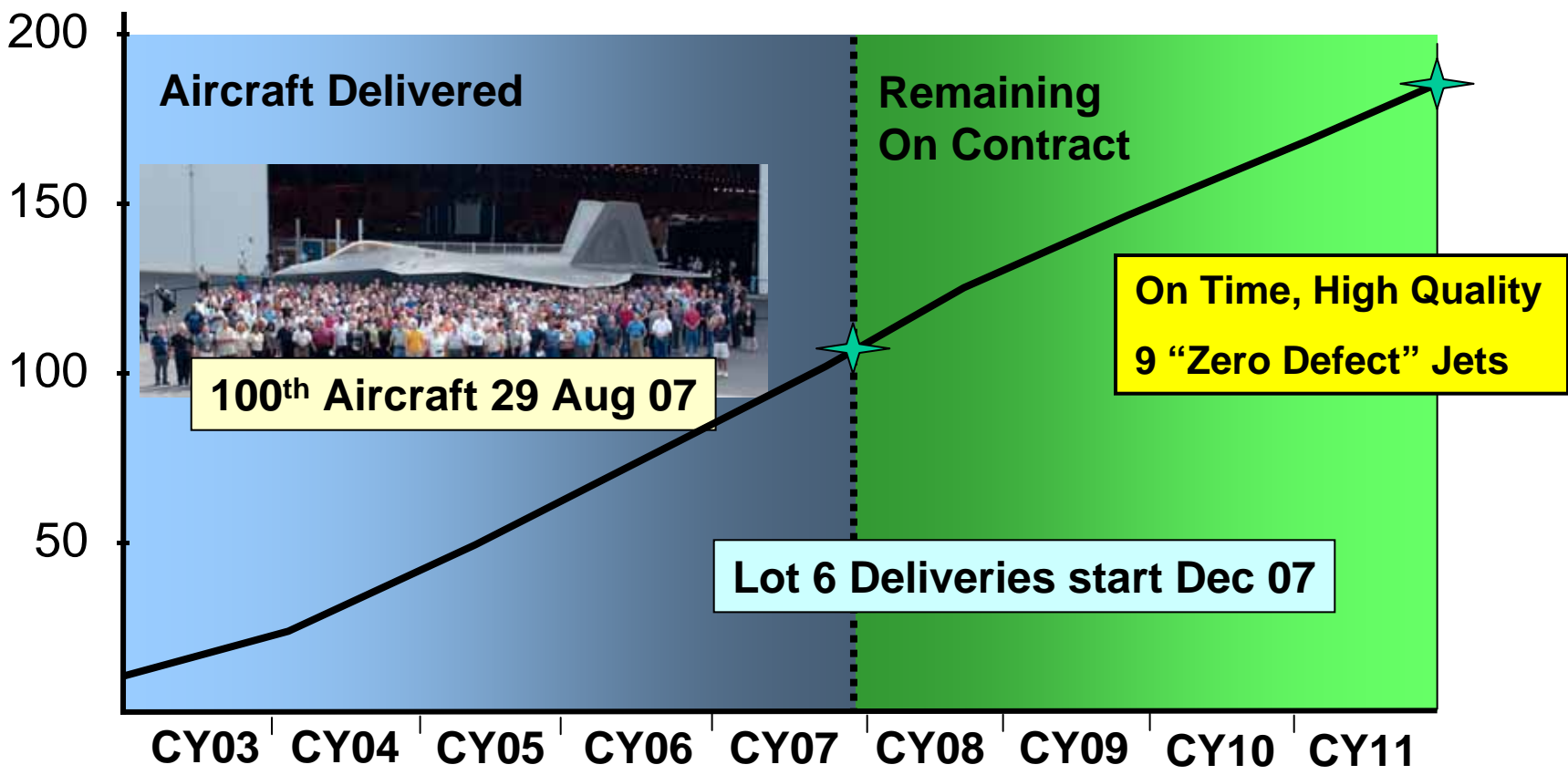


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Total AC



100% of Production on Contract and Over 50% Delivered



Program Overview

F-22 Basing Plan



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Why is ASIP Important?



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- **Delivering 21st Century Air Dominance**
 - Our Vision: “To provide the warfighter with the most capable and available fighter in the world...the F-22”
- **F-22 ASIP provides the means to achieve:**
 - Flight safety and mission effectiveness
 - Proactive approach to force management
 - Risk mitigation

(www.af.mil, U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt Justin D. Pyle)



Why is ASIP Important?



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- **Delivering 21st Century Air Dominance**



(www.af.mil, U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt Justin D. Pyle)



Why is ASIP Important?



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- **ASIP is mandated by the Air Force**
 - Required via AFI 63-1001 / AFPD 63-10 / Mil-Std 1530
 - The only integrity program covered by USAF policy
- **Experience makes it very clear: “Do it”**
 - Legacy USAF aircraft, early Raptor program

(www.af.mil, U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt Justin D. Pyle)



Why is ASIP Important?

Proactive approach to force management



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- Ensures structural integrity throughout service life
 - Accurately accounts for fleet variation of usage and loads environment
- Enables flexible response to force management issues
- Reduces operational risk and maintenance impact
 - Supports planning of future maintenance actions
 - Minimizes maintenance effort required for inspections
 - Improves accuracy of analytical predictions through repetitive verification
- Provides effective data base to support modernization changes
- Provides useful data for external programs (e.g. F-35)
- Reduces life cycle cost

(www.af.mil, U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt Justin D. Pyle)

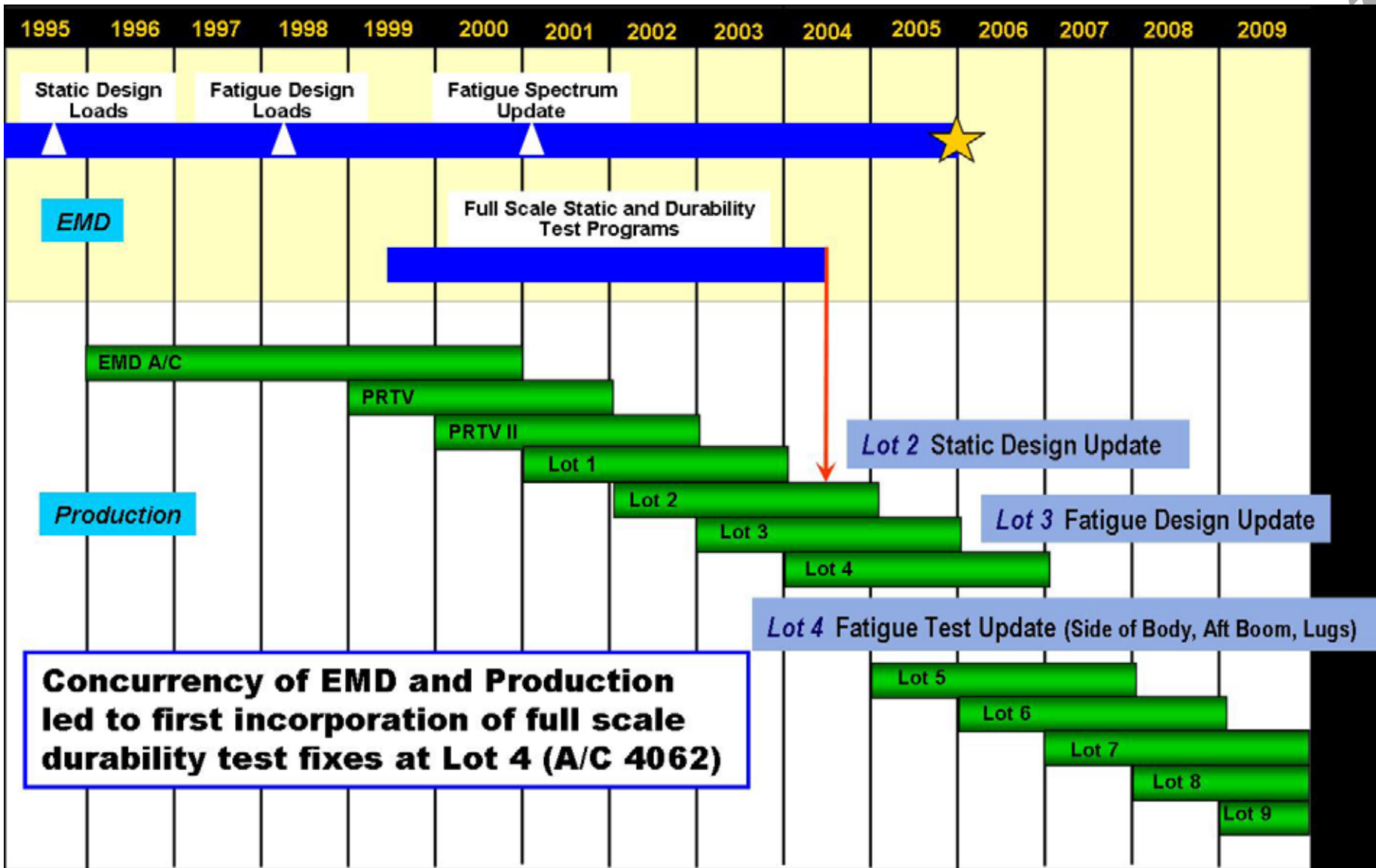


ASIP on the F-22

Engineering/Production Concurrency

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Concurrency of EMD and Production led to first incorporation of full scale durability test fixes at Lot 4 (A/C 4062)

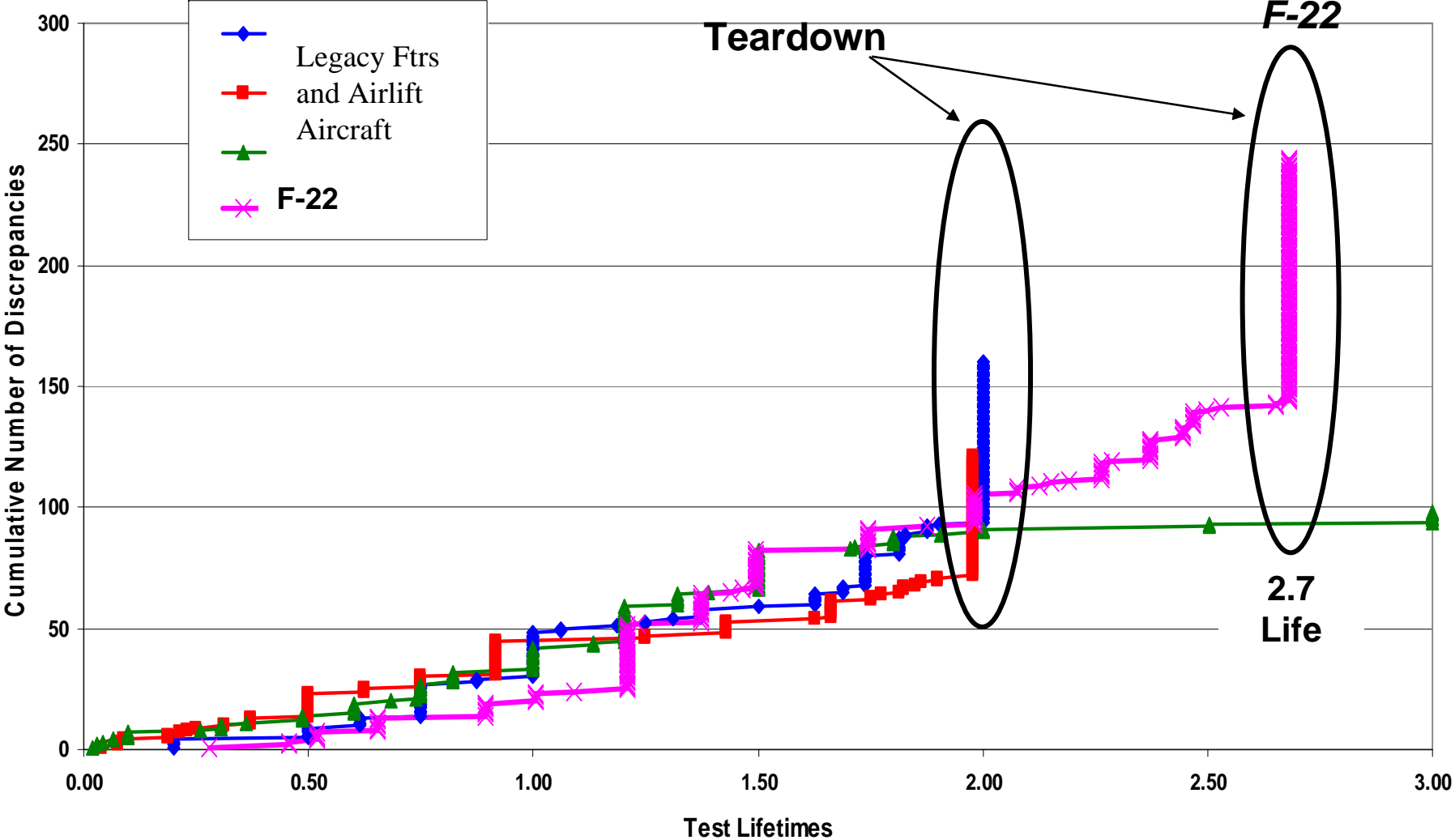


ASIP on the F-22 Fatigue Test Experience



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2.7 Life

F-22 Test Results Led to Proactive Structures Retrofit Program



ASIP on the F-22

F-22 Structures Management

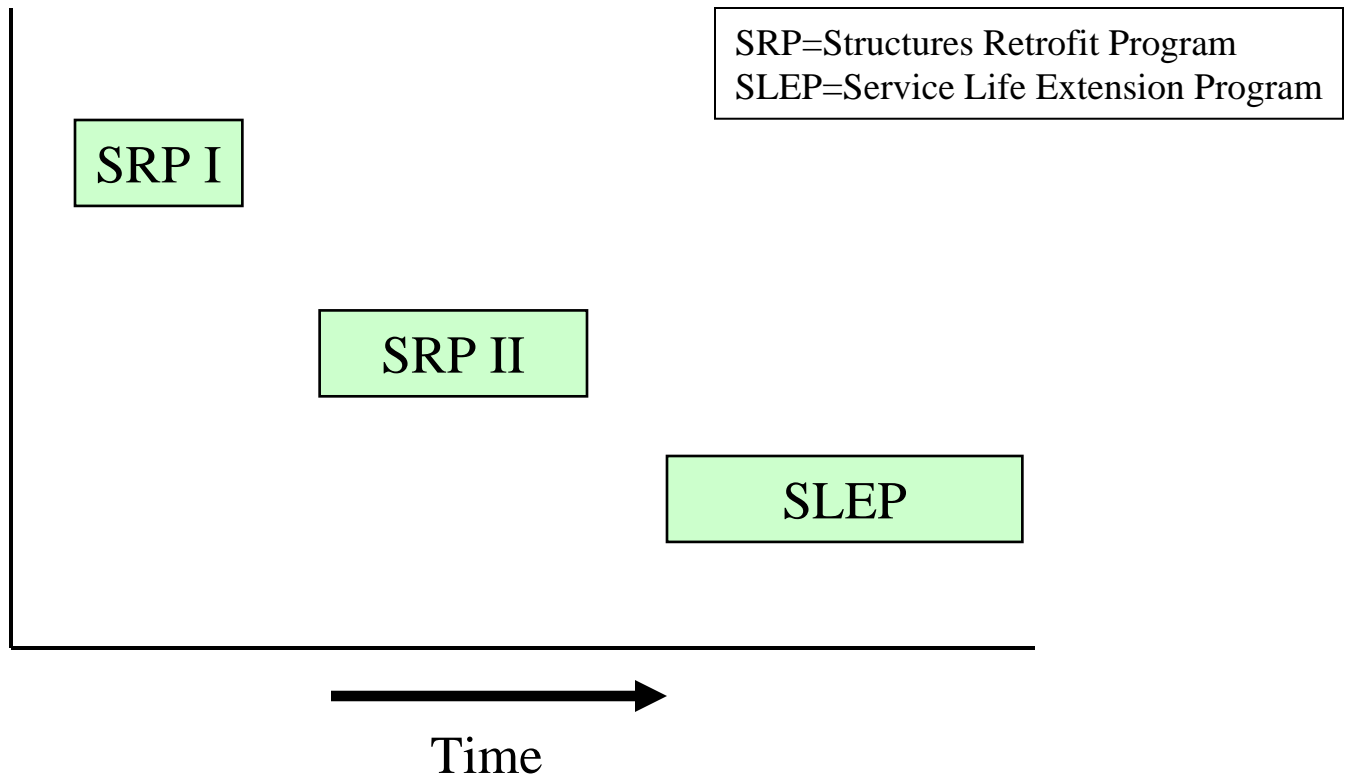


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Integrated
Life
Cycle
Management



Plan early and Educate Stakeholders on Requirements



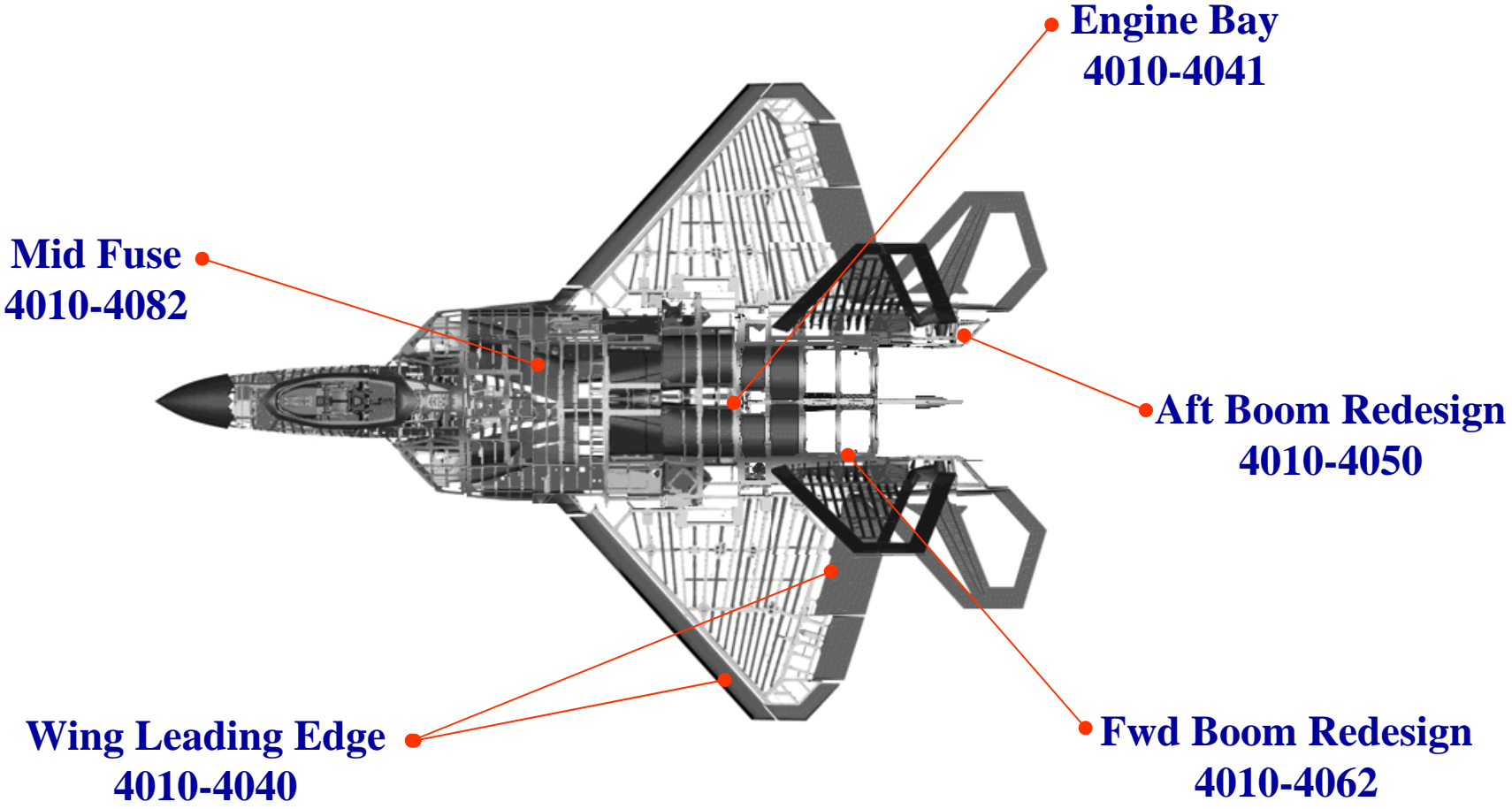
ASIP on the F-22

Production Changes From Fatigue Test & Analysis



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ASIP on the F-22 Aircraft Usage

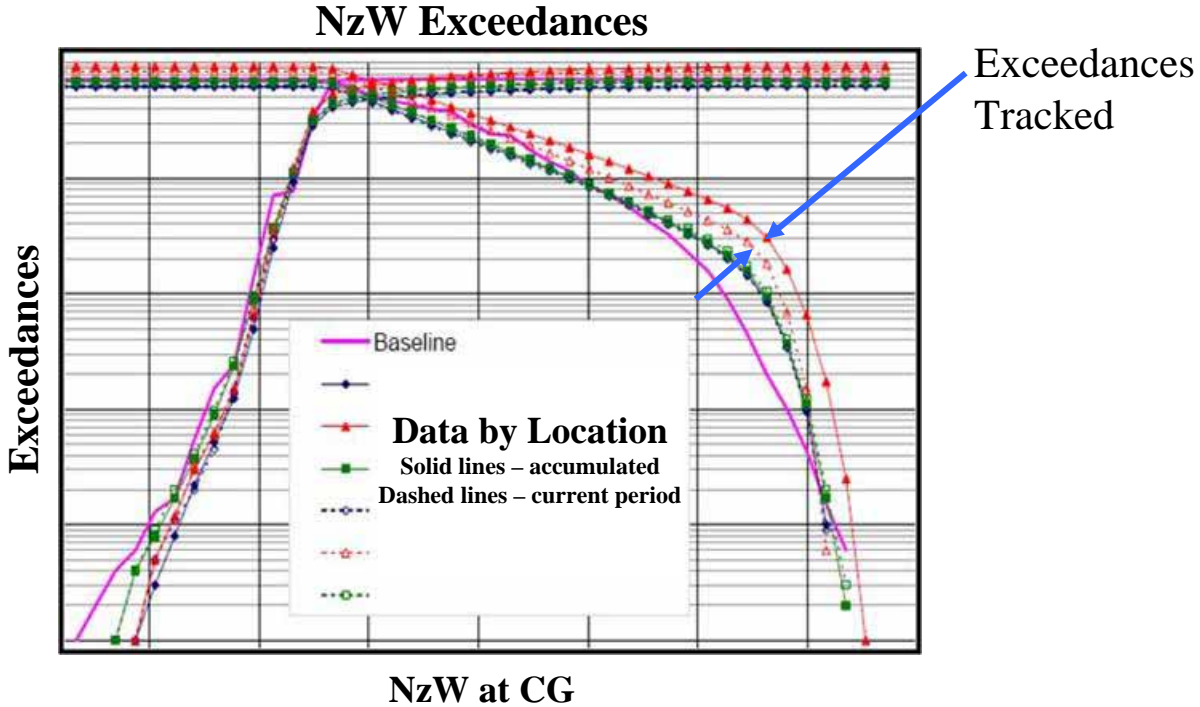


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- F-22's flown at high G's and heavy weight
 - $NzW = \text{Vertical Load Factor} \times \text{Aircraft Gross Weight}$: primary loads driver for many structural critical locations
- Risk: Reduced aircraft availability; more inspections, more mods



Fleet Usage Data Allows Proactive Management Actions



ASIP Progress on the F-22



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- **Task I – Design Information**

- Complete



- **Task II – Design Analyses and Development Tests**

- Open analyses: Final EMD spectrum, weight growth study, durability and damage tolerance updates, lug bore
- Open testing: Lug bore element tests, full scale frame tests, ground vibration test
- Open development: Non-destructive Inspection (NDI) technology

- **Task III – Full Scale Testing**

- Complete

- **Task IV – Force Management Data Package**

- Complete, will require periodic updates



- **Task V – Force Management**

- Ongoing until A/C retirement



(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo)



Lessons Learned

Development/Production Concurrency



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- **Program concurrency implemented to deliver F-22 operational capability early**
 - 60 aircraft delivered prior to completion of fatigue test
 - Delayed incorporation of “in-line” production improvements
 - Configuration changes required for early aircraft
- ***Lesson:* Programs need to plan for retrofit activities post EMD to cover concurrency shortfalls**

(U.S. Air Force photo by Kevin Robertson)



Lessons Learned

Building Block Component Testing



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- **Forward boom assembly component test was reduced to streamline program and reduce costs**
 - Lug bore and lug radii cracks found during full scale fatigue testing late in EMD
 - Structural analysis was correlated to sub-scale test specimens and did not adequately predict stress levels of the full scale structure
 - Originally planned component test would have identified problems in early EMD
- ***Lesson:* Building block test would have identified problem early and prevented higher maintenance/quality control costs**

(U.S. Air Force photo by Kevin Robertson)



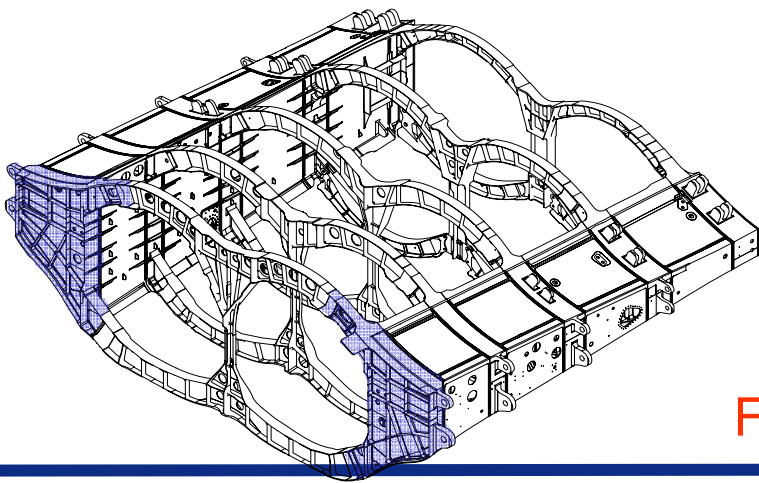
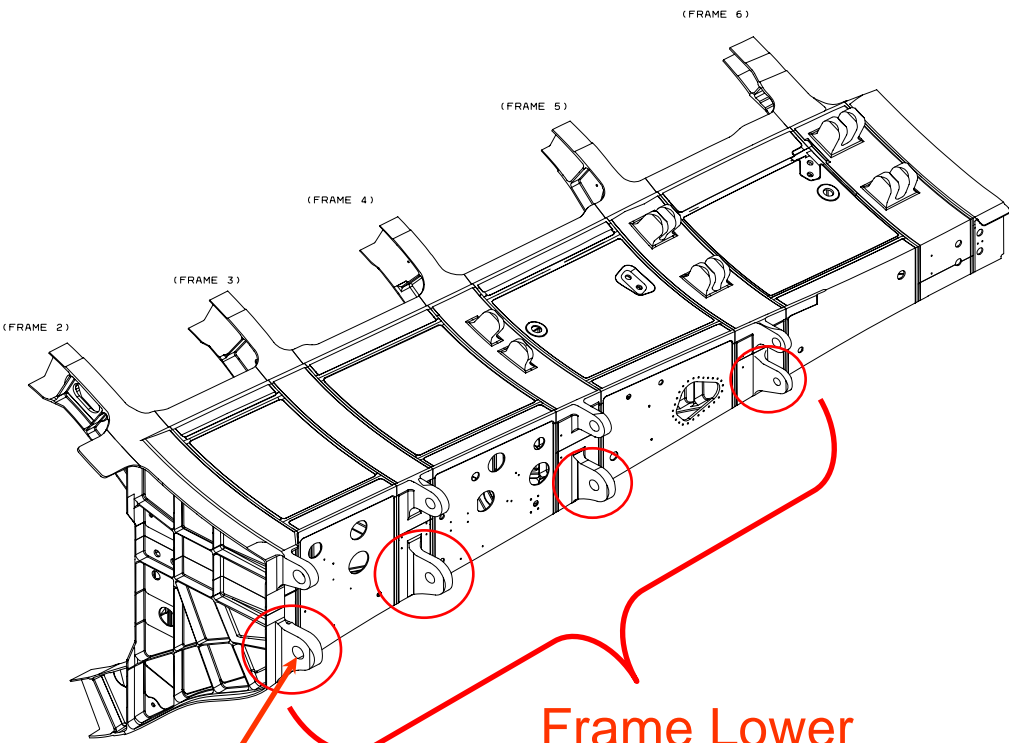
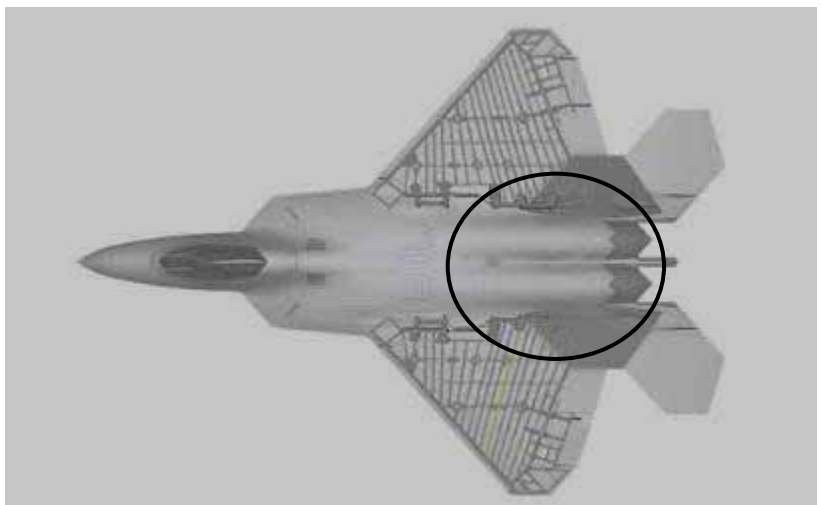
Lessons Learned

Building block approach



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Frame 2 Lug Bore

Frame Lower Radii Cracks



Lessons Learned

Scale-up of Structural Castings



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- Large titanium castings were not adequately developed prior to production transition
 - Manufacturing scale-up issues not found until production
 - Rigorous NDI implemented in production to assure quality
 - New damage tolerance analysis methodology developed
 - Wing side of body casting redesigned as a forging
- **Lesson:** Manufacturing scale-up of proven technologies not exempt from rigorous steps to successfully transition into production

(U.S. Air Force photo by Kevin Robertson)



Lessons Learned

Materials/Analysis Methodology



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- **Material selection challenged analysis methodology and NDI capability**
 - **Methodology**
 - New analytical approaches required for Beta titanium due to large grain size
 - Poor life predictions using existing crack modeling techniques
 - **NDI**
 - Response variation due to grain size and surface treatments
 - Geometries and access restrictions (systems and Low Observables Coatings) drove new technology development
- ***Lesson: New materials need to be fully characterized and methodology adapted to handle new materials and geometries. NDI capabilities need to be a consideration during design.***

(U.S. Air Force photo by Kevin Robertson)

Design for Inspectability



Lessons Learned



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- **Panel corrosion discovered on fielded aircraft after extended exposure to moist environment**
 - Galvanic re-action with gap filler and exterior aluminum panels
 - Corrosion confined to specific aluminum panel skin joint areas
 - Structural integrity implications if not corrected
 - Multi-faceted repair & prevention plan underway
- ***Lesson:* Full scale system exposure to relevant operational environments early in test program would have drove earlier design/retrofit mitigation procedures and reduced “clean-up” costs**

(U.S. Air Force photo by Kevin Robertson)



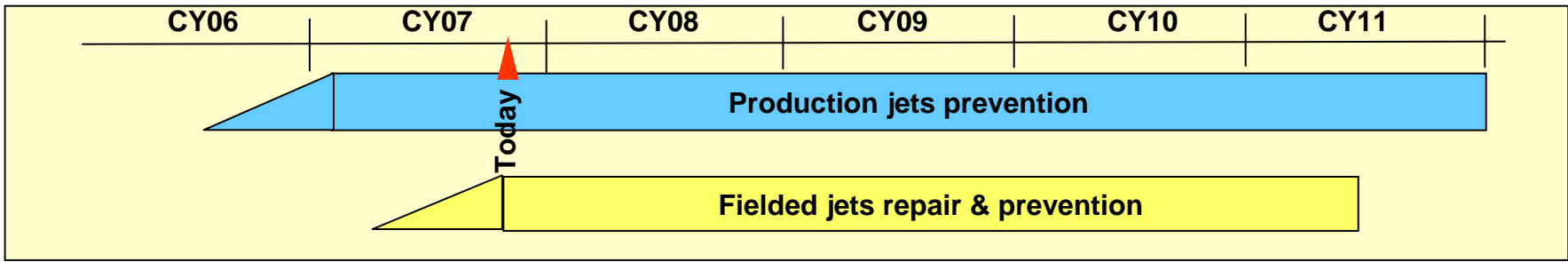
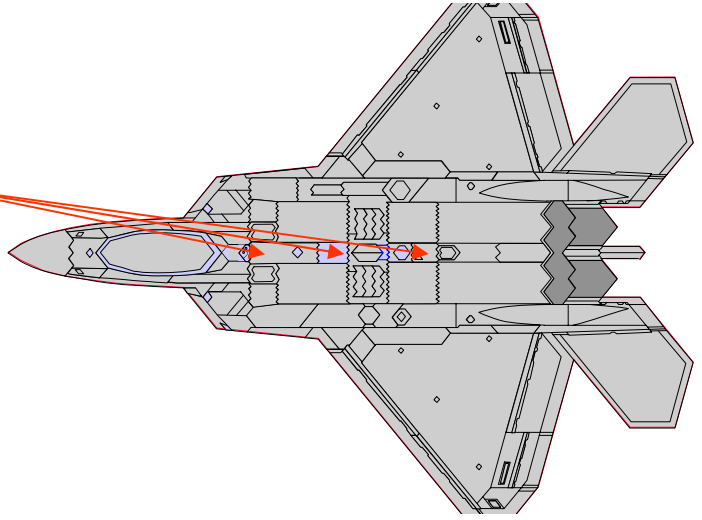
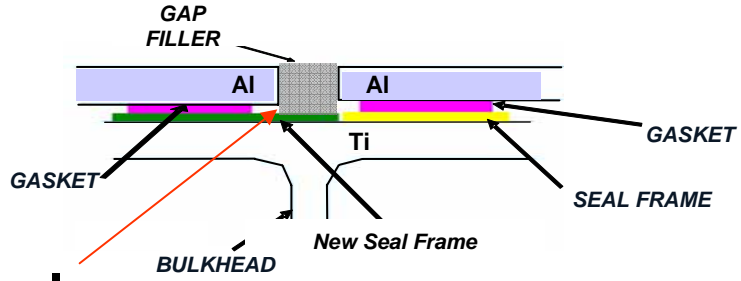
Lessons Learned Corrosion Prevention Plan



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- **Corrosion mechanism well understood & characterized**
 - Galvanic action with gap filler, exterior aluminum panels & panel attach areas
 - Corrosion confined to specific aluminum panel skin joint areas
- **Multi-faceted repair & prevention plan executing since CY06**
 - Low program risk





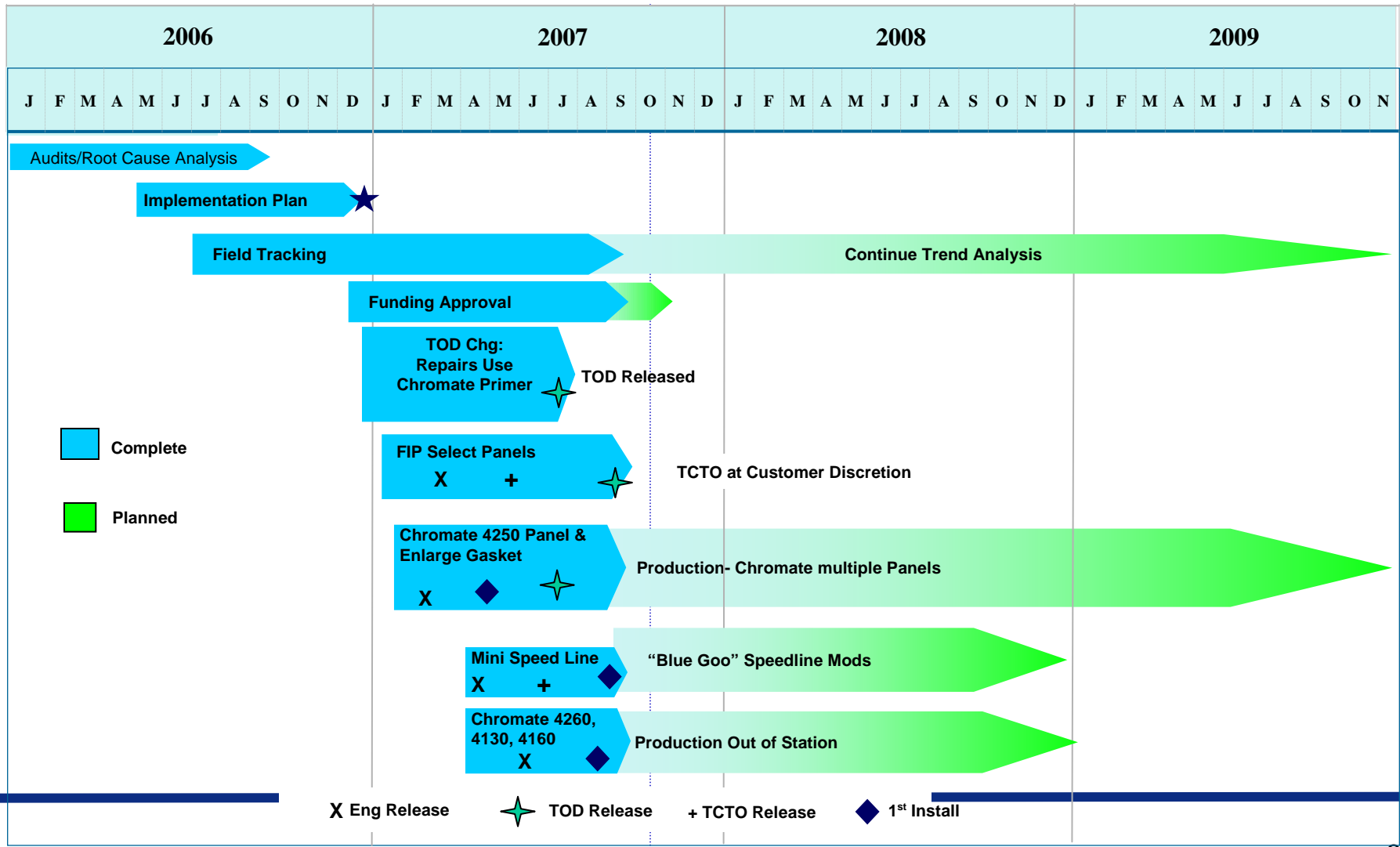
Lessons Learned

Corrosion Prevention Plan - Near Term



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Way Forward

Structural Retrofit Programs



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- **Structural Retrofit Programs (SRP) will bring early production aircraft up to full service life configurations**
 - **SRP 1**
 - In progress at depots
 - Addresses the most time critical locations
 - **SRP 2**
 - In development and planning – will address remaining critical locations
 - **Cost Benefit Analysis** approach to prioritize retrofit locations

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Way Forward SRP Development



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- **Continue F-22 test programs to support SRP**
 - **Lug bore element testing - completed**
 - **Successfully verified cold work expansion provided sufficient benefit to meet design service life requirement**
 - **Frame crack growth tests**
 - **Component frame tests to evaluate crack growth data on wing attach frames not obtained during full scale fatigue test**
 - **Frame peening evaluation**
 - **Additional component frame testing to verify and select best fatigue enhancement method to extend service life of wing attach frames**

(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker)



Way Forward

Specific ASIP II Tasks



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- **F-22 ASIP Projects to complete**
 - Continuation of coupon testing to further understand F-22 material properties
 - Development and verification of new analysis methodology
 - Crack growth through residual stress zones
 - Shallow gradient crack growth
 - Structural loads and analysis update
 - Supports modeling effectiveness
 - Weight Growth assessments
 - Loads, Flutter & dynamics
 - Supports new capability insertions
 - Organic NDI capability improvement

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F-22 Modernization Plan



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Capability Insertion Roadmap

Increment 2

SS JDAM Full
Other Candidates

Fielded in CY07

Increment 3.1

APG-77 SAR
JDAM Retarget
SDB Basic
Others

In Test

Increment 3.2

Adv Data-link
AIM-9X
SDB Full
Auto GCAS

Risk Mitigation

Increment 3.3

TBD

Planning Stage

Completion Dates:

Dev	FY07	FY10	FY13	FY16
Retro	FY10	FY14	FY18	TBD

ASIP Supports Changes to Weapon System



Way Forward

ASIP Task V Projects



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- **ASIP TASK V Activities**

- **High fidelity fleet usage tracking system**
 - **Capture impact to airframe due to modernization**
 - **Package inspections to maximize aircraft availability**
 - **Capture effects of base usage variation (Ex- training fleet)**
- **Structural certification of upgrades and new stores capability**
- **Assessing risk to structural baseline due to modernization changes**

(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker)



Summary



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- **ASIP is integral to delivering and sustaining 5th generation fighter capability to the USAF**
- **Multiple challenges remain in ASIP tasks II (development) and task V (sustainment) to ensure robust support of F-22**
- **Several valuable lessons learned can be gleaned for application to other programs**
- **F-22 program has a well defined way forward to assure safety and structural integrity for the service life of the weapon system**

ASIP provides risk reduction and cost avoidance while preserving safety of flight

(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker)