



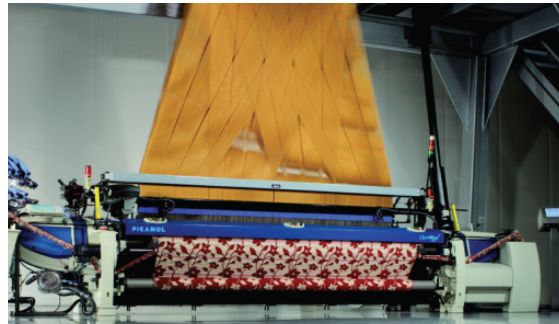
# MODEL-BASED SYSTEMS ENGINEERING – A WINDING ROAD

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# Mission Flanders Make

To strengthen the **long-term international competitiveness** of the Flemish manufacturing industry by carrying out **excellent, industry-driven, pre-competitive research** in the domains of

- ▲ **Mechatronics**
- ▲ **Product development methods**
- ▲ **Advanced manufacturing technologies**



Aiming at product & process innovation  
for the **vehicles, machines** and **factories of the future**

# Eight research programs within three technology domains

## **Mechatronics**

RP1 – Clean Energy-Efficient Motion Systems

RP2 – Smart Monitoring Systems

RP3 – High-Performance Autonomous Mechatronic Systems

## **Product Development Methods**

**RP4 – Intelligent Product Design Methods**

RP5 – Design & Manufacturing of Smart and Lightweight Structures

## **Advanced Manufacturing Technologies**

RP6 – Additive Manufacturing for Serial Production

RP7 – Manufacturing for High Precision Products

RP8 – Agile & Human-Centered Production and Robotic Systems

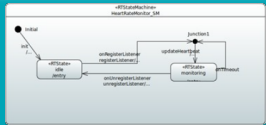


# Our partner network

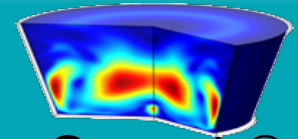


# Our model-based context

## Example: a CupCake production line



Papyrus-RT  
Coordination

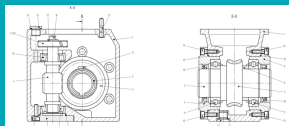


Comsol ®  
Thermal analysis

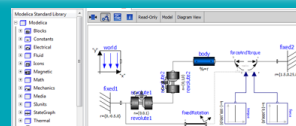
**Central System Engineering =**

- Guarantee consistency
- Streamline collaboration
- Make the right decisions

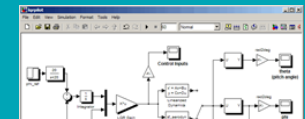
→ Language & tool required



AutoCAD ®  
Mechanical design



OpenModelica  
Physical modeling



Simulink ®  
post-proc. control

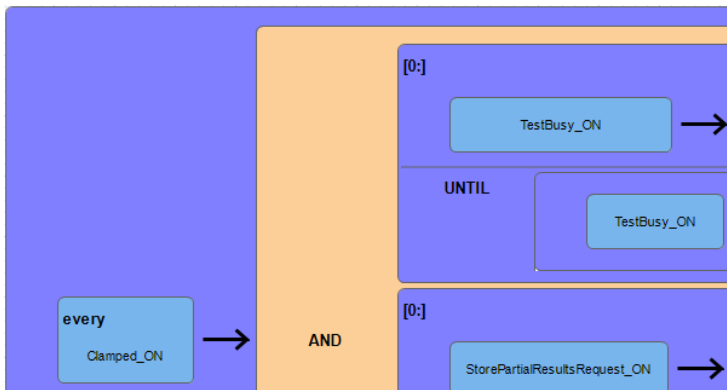
# What models to use?

## Very domain specific models

- ▲ Tools such as Ecore, Xtext, Graphiti



- ▲ E.g. a graphical language to produce stream processing expressions

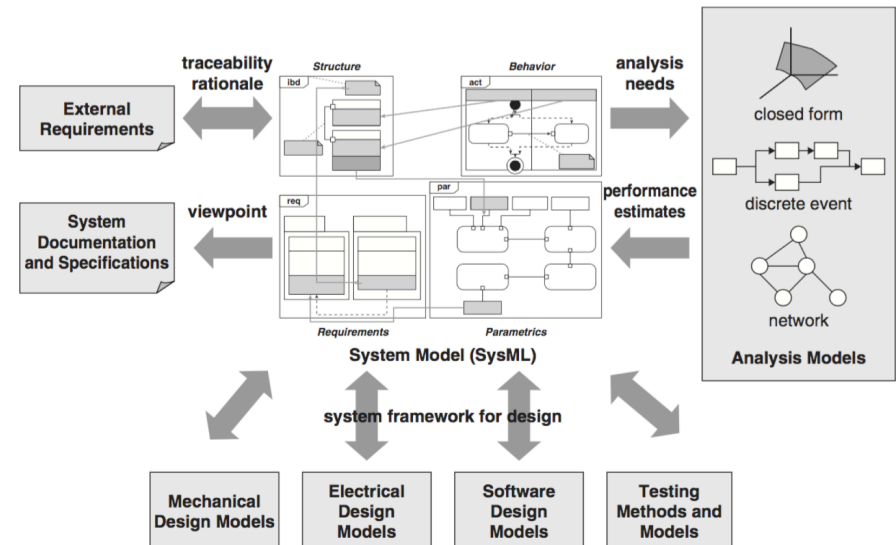


## Domain of Systems / Mechatronics / CPS

- ▲ Tools: Papyrus UML + SysML + Profiles



- ▲ E.g. SysML as a pivot model as shown in "A Practical guide to SysML", Friedenthal, e.a.

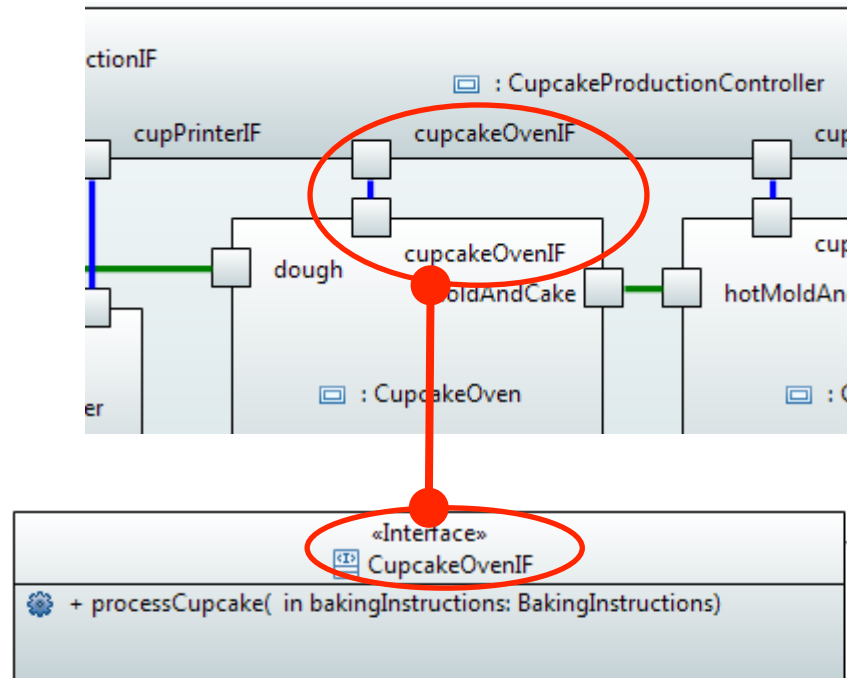


# Examples

## Describing system architecture

- ▲ Required features
  - ▲ Documenting interfaces
  - ▲ Describe behavior & structure
- ▲ How?
  - ▲ Standard SysML
    - Activity diagrams
    - Block diagrams
    - Internal block diagrams
  - ▲ Tooling such as Papyrus

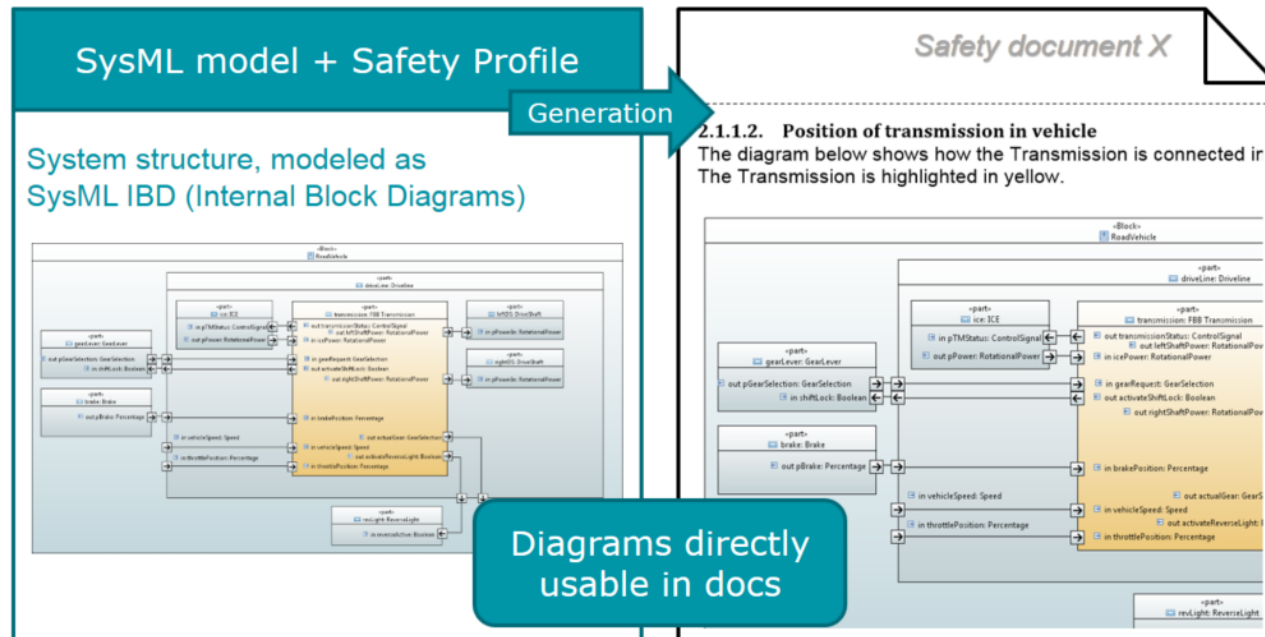
→ Useful & simple



# Examples Generating documentation

- ▲ Required features
  - ▲ Generate documents / websites based on modeled information
- ▲ How?
  - ▲ Not provided by SysML
  - ▲ Additional tooling: GenDoc (or similar)

→ Useful & relatively simple





# Model-based SE: one clear choice

System Engineering? Let's go for



**SysML**  
solves  
everything!





# Examples

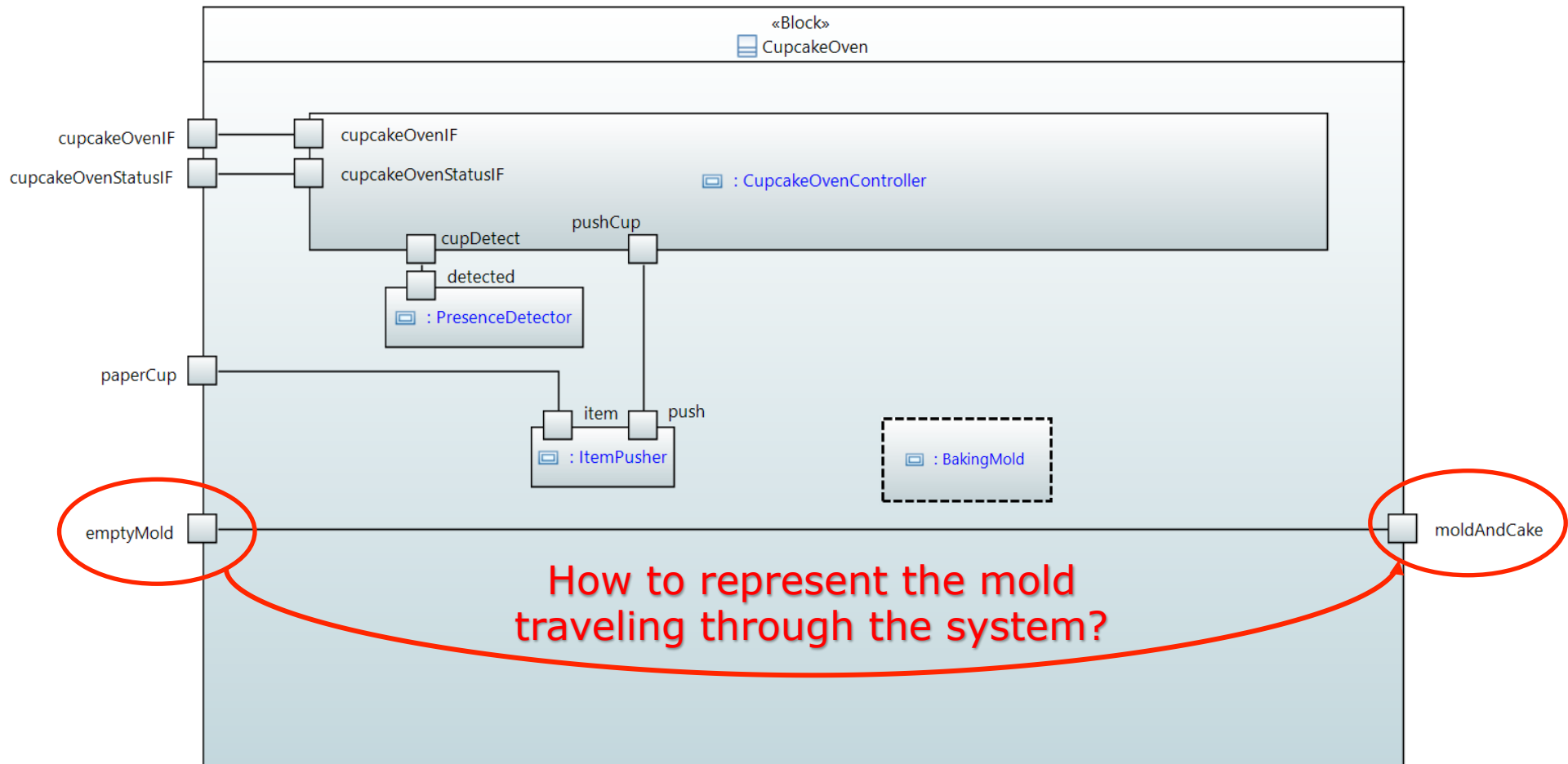
## Easy real-live representation

- ▲ Required features of the CupCake oven
  - ▲ PaperCup, baking mold & dough enter the oven
  - ▲ Cup is put in a baking mold
  - ▲ Dough is applied to the cup
  - ▲ Cup + baked cake leave the oven
- ▲ How?
  - ▲ Anybody knows how to represent the structure (not the process) in SysML?
  - ▲ Should be clear representation for all team members!



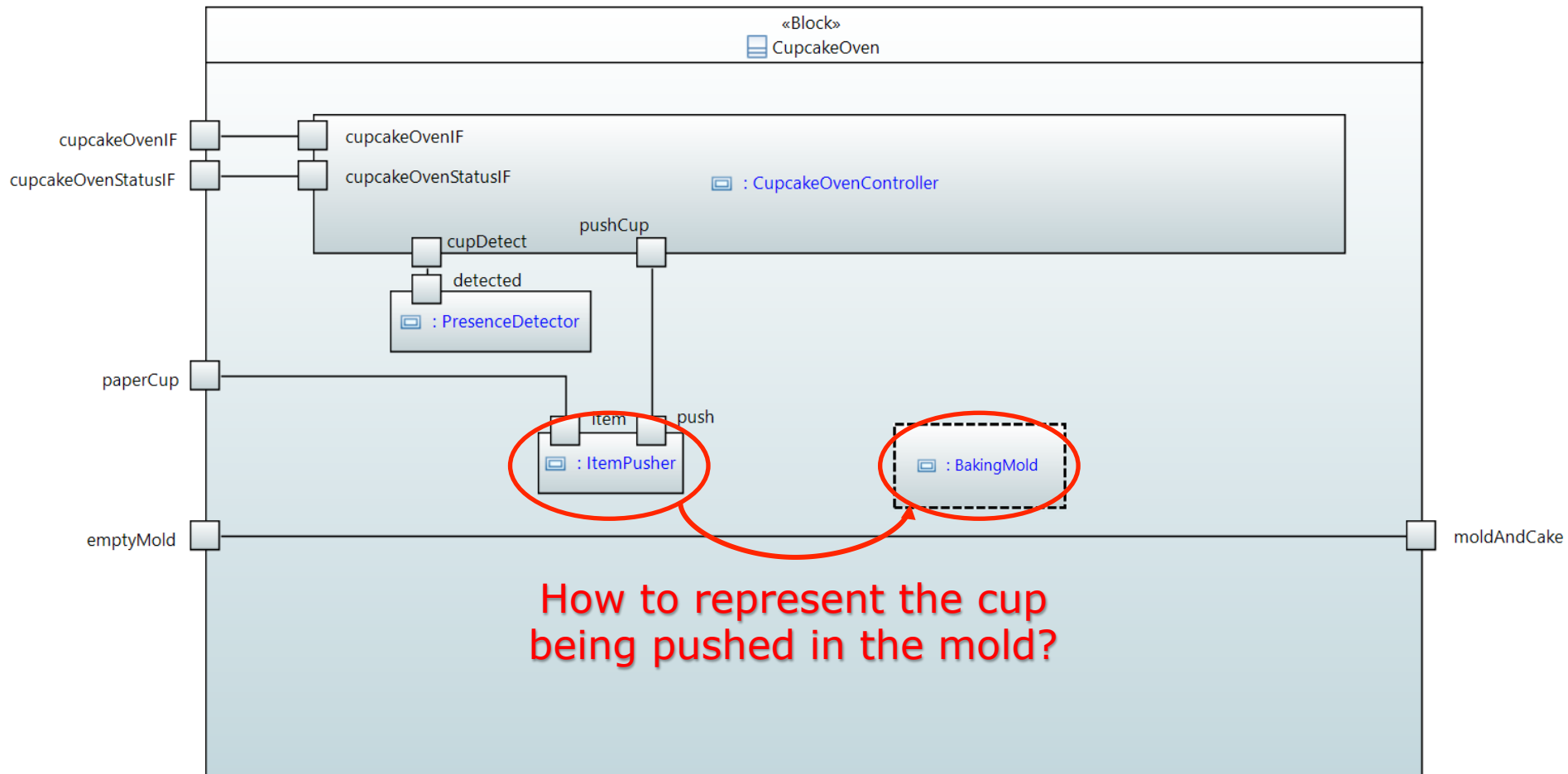
# Examples

## Easy real-live representation



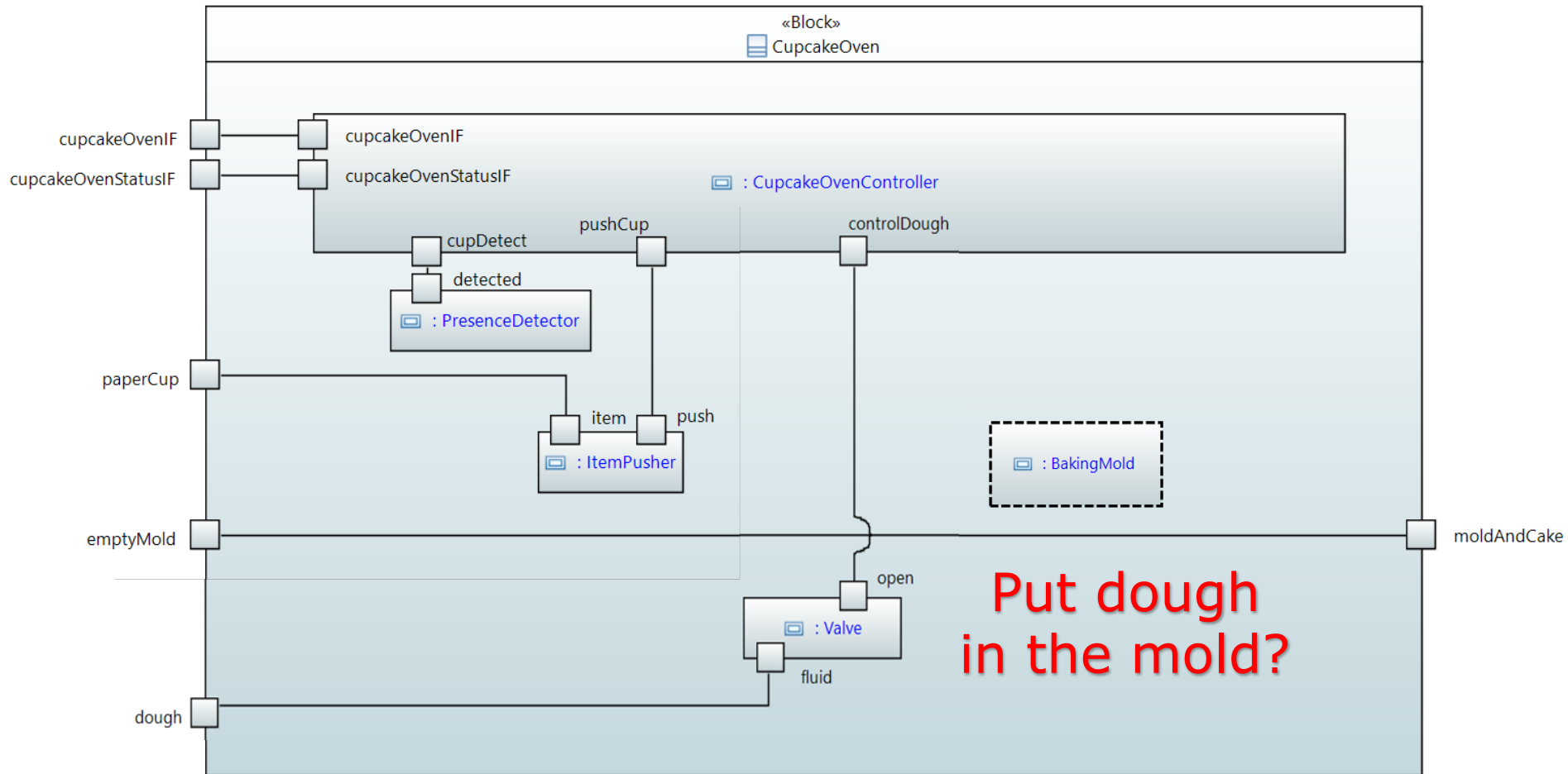
# Examples

## Easy real-live representation




# Examples

## Easy real-live representation



# Examples

## Easy real-live representation

- ▲ SysML approach:
  - ▲ Different views
  - ▲ Separation of behavior & structure
- ▲ Drawback:
  - ▲ Domain experts don't understand the "drawings" anymore
  - ▲ Me neither...
- ▲ This was exactly one of the required aspects! 



# Model-based SE: one clear choice

System Engineering? Let's go for



~~SysML  
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\*\*\*\*!  
SysML  
is useless!



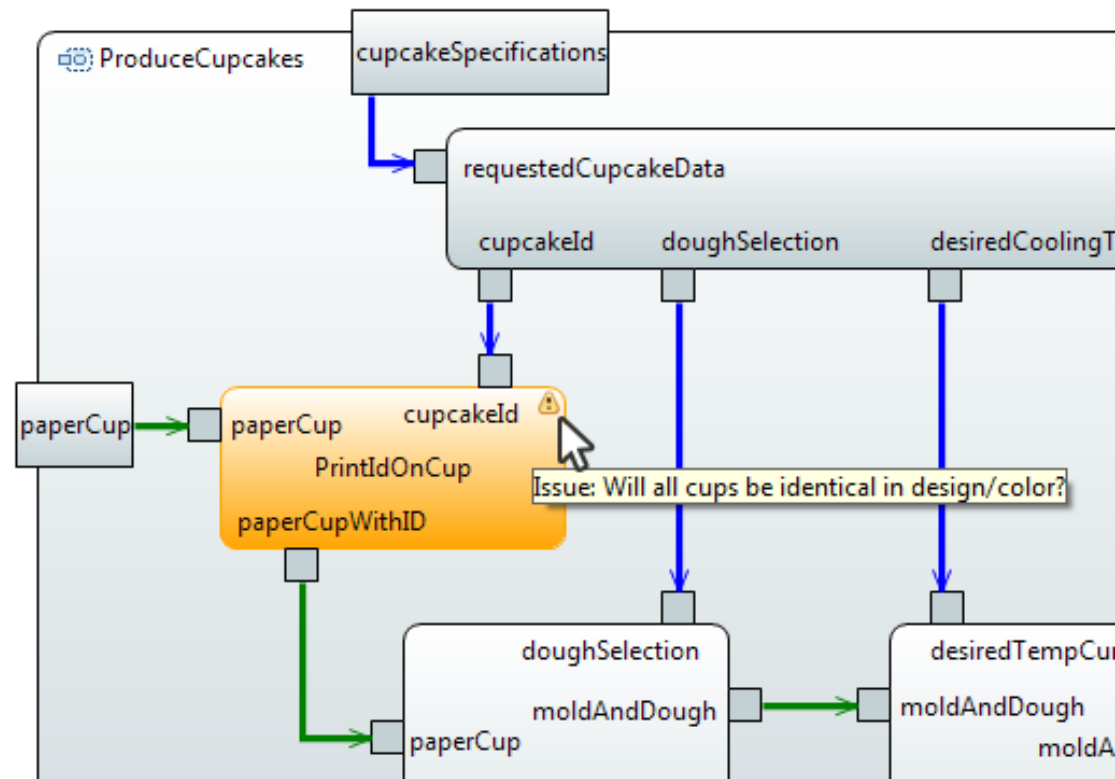
# Examples

## Storing issues & decisions

- ▲ Required features
  - ▲ Shows to-be-discussed elements in orange
  - ▲ Attached to each element are issues / decisions / rationales
  - ▲ Hover over ⚠️ shows attached issues

- ▲ How?
  - ▲ Not provided by SysML
  - ▲ Tool smith needs to:
    - Define Profile
    - Modify CSS
    - Implement validation

→ Feasible, but not trivial

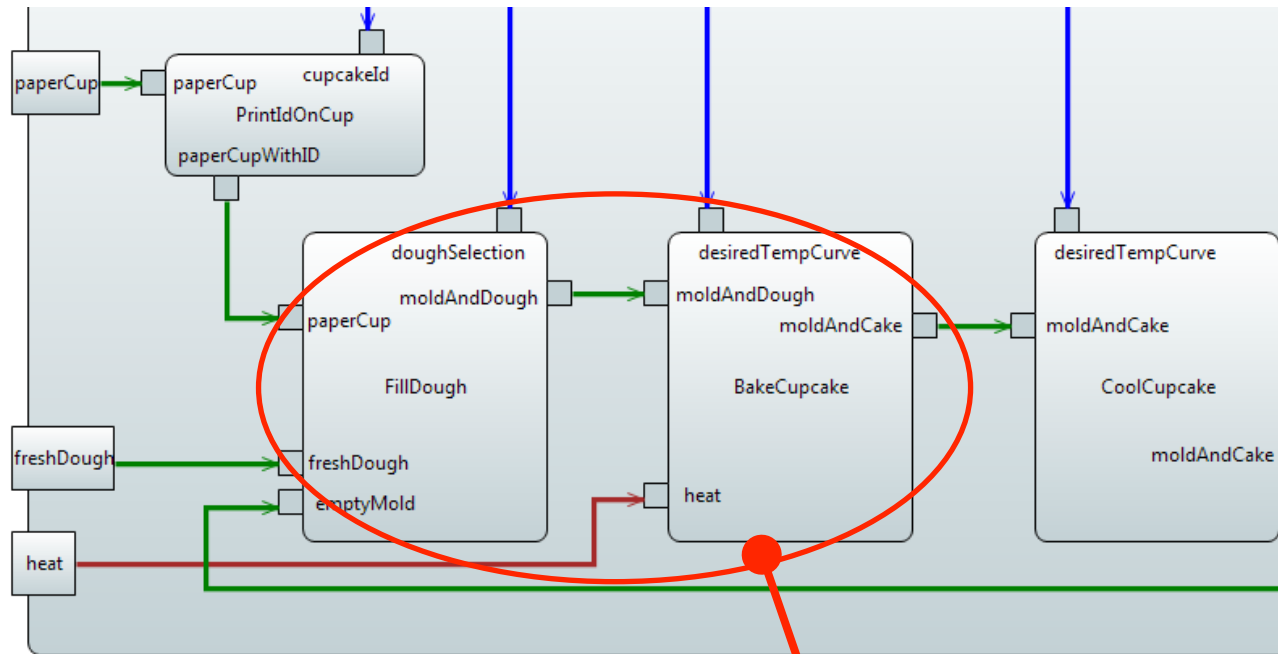




# Examples

## Allocation between abstraction levels

- ▲ Required features
  - ▲ Allocate relationship
  - ▲ Tables
  - ▲ Automatic sources
- ▲ How?
  - ▲ Base by SysML
  - ▲ Tables by Papyrus
  - ▲ Tool smith needs to
    - Define table type
    - Code table population



→ Feasible, but not trivial



	↳	Target
<Abstraction> ACT - CleanBakingMold		moldCleaner
<Abstraction> ACT - DecorateCupcake		cupcakeDecorator
<Abstraction> ACT - CoolCupcake		cupcakeCooler
<Abstraction> ACT - BakeCupcake		cupcakeOven
<Abstraction> ACT - FillDough		cupcakeOven
<Abstraction> ACT - ControlProduction		cupcakeProductionController
<Abstraction> ACT - PrintIdOnCup		cupPrinter



# Model-based SE: one clear choice

System Engineering? Let's go for



SysML  
is a solid  
base!

~~SysML  
solves  
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~~\*\*\*\*!  
SysML  
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# Examples

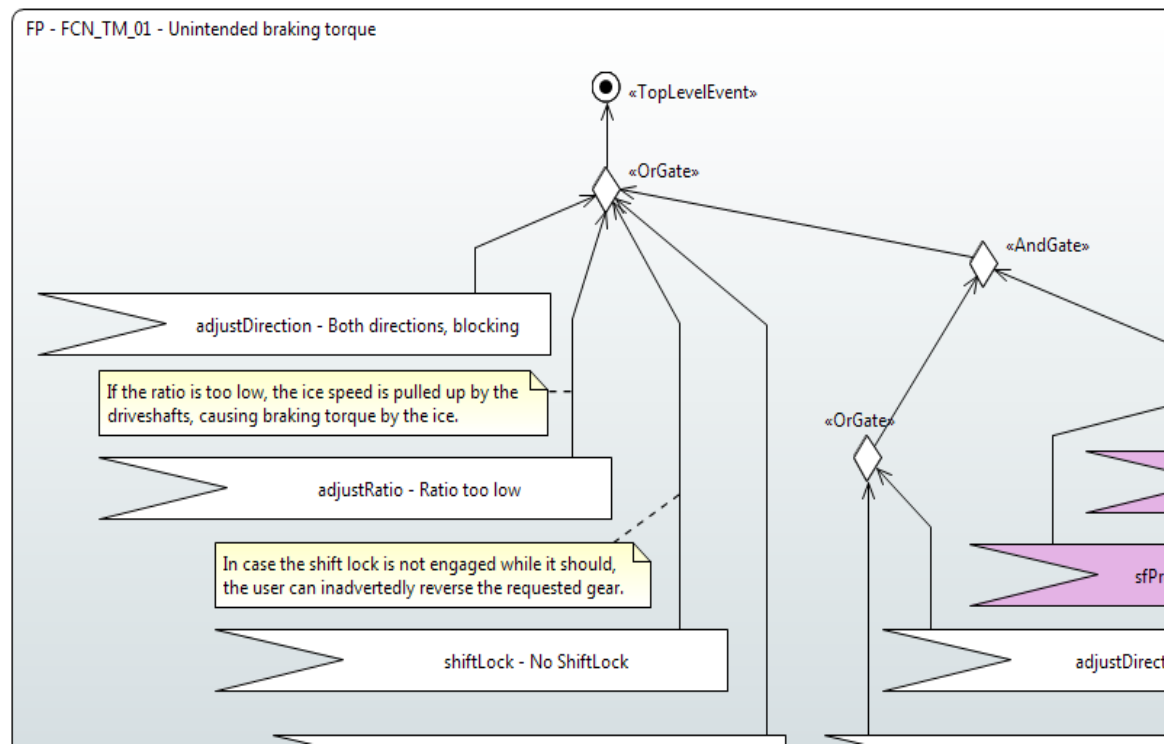
## Functional Safety Failures & Propagation

- ▲ Required features
  - ▲ Function definition
  - ▲ Failure definition
  - ▲ Failure propagation through system architecture

### ▲ How?

- ▲ Not available in SysML
- ▲ Tool smith needs to define
  - Profile
  - New or modified diagram type
  - New user interactions
  - Validations
  - Exploitation for FMEA analysis

→ Coding, maintenance...



# Model-based SE: one clear choice

System Engineering? Let's go for



SysML customizations heavy on creation & maintenance!

~~SysML is a solid base!~~

~~\*\*\*\*!  
SysML is useless!~~

~~SysML solves everything!~~

A winding road...



# General solution available?

- ▲ Similar observations for other topics
  - ▲ Validation of requirements
  - ▲ Design space exploration
  - ▲ Design Concept comparison / what-if
- ▲ In all cases
  - ▲ SysML offers a base
  - ▲ Additional steps → additional tooling
- ▲ Solution
  - ▲ Provide a tool that covers all Systems Engineering functionality
  - ▲ Everybody happy...



**This is a lie...**



# General solution available?

## ▲ Observation:

- ▲ SysML is a generic SE language
- ▲ Papyrus is a generic tool supporting that generic SE language
- ▲ Additional tooling adds value

- **Most valuable tools include a method**

- **Most valuable tools make assumptions about your model structure**

E.g.

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| - Papyrus-RT                     | = supposes UML-RT method                    |
| - Safety profile                 | = builds on a method for functional safety  |
| - Allocation completeness checks | = needs to know what you want to allocate   |
| - Concept comparison             | = depends on the concept generation process |

## ▲ But... processes/standards are like toothbrushes...

- ▲ No “generally accepted method” exists
- ▲ Each company lives in a different context
- ▲ Most companies struggle with the method (& tool)



1 common  
SE tooling



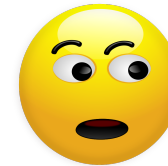
# Feasibility / adoptability for companies

Ability to create method  
and corresponding tooling

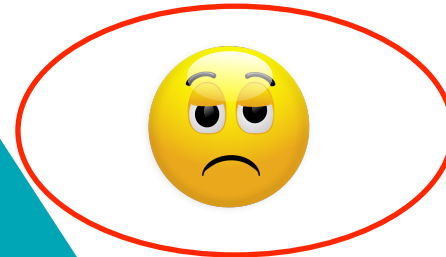
Big  
companies



People with enough  
time & money  
(~researchers?)



Most mechatronics teams  
(potentially big companies,  
but small dev/user teams)



**Challenge...**  
**drowning in complexity of**  
**tools / methods**



# How to straighten the “winding road”?

- ▲ SysML?
  - ▲ Yeah, good base
  - ▲ Lots of unclarity on method / best practices → far from a full solution
- ▲ Ease SysML
  - ▲ SysML is difficult → simplify it (reduce menus, reduce UML)
  - ▲ Ease / streamline typical usage scenarios (~ depends partially on method)
- ▲ Introduce reusable method fragments
  - ▲ Not a full / strict method
  - ▲ Fragments of method + corresponding tooling
    - “If you want to ..., then ... is a good way to do so”
- ▲ Allow company to pick an choose
  - ▲ Little development
  - ▲ Mainly configuration
  - ▲ Include guidance














# The solution...

## ▲ Your options:

- ▲ Wait for a big player to develop method & tool
- ▲ Develop method & tool yourself
- ▲ Collaborate in Papyrus IC on Papyrus for SE

- Swallow
- Drown
- Win



	Company 1	Company 2	Company 3
Feature A			
Feature B			
Feature C			
...			

→ Joint development

→ Slight adjustment

→ Custom dev



# QUESTIONS?

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