



# Simulation for Automation & Virtual Commissioning

## “...digital twins are slowly entering mainstream use”

“The results — especially when compared with past surveys — show that **digital twins are slowly entering mainstream use**,” said Benoit Lheureux, research vice president at Gartner.

Gartner, Survey on Digital Twins,  
2019

In context of digitalization the competitive advantage of OEMs will shift from „Competence in steel and iron to competence in software and data analysis.“ Digital twins – the virtual copy of the value chain on three level product, production and performance – will become more and more important or even a must-have in numerous areas of OEM industry.

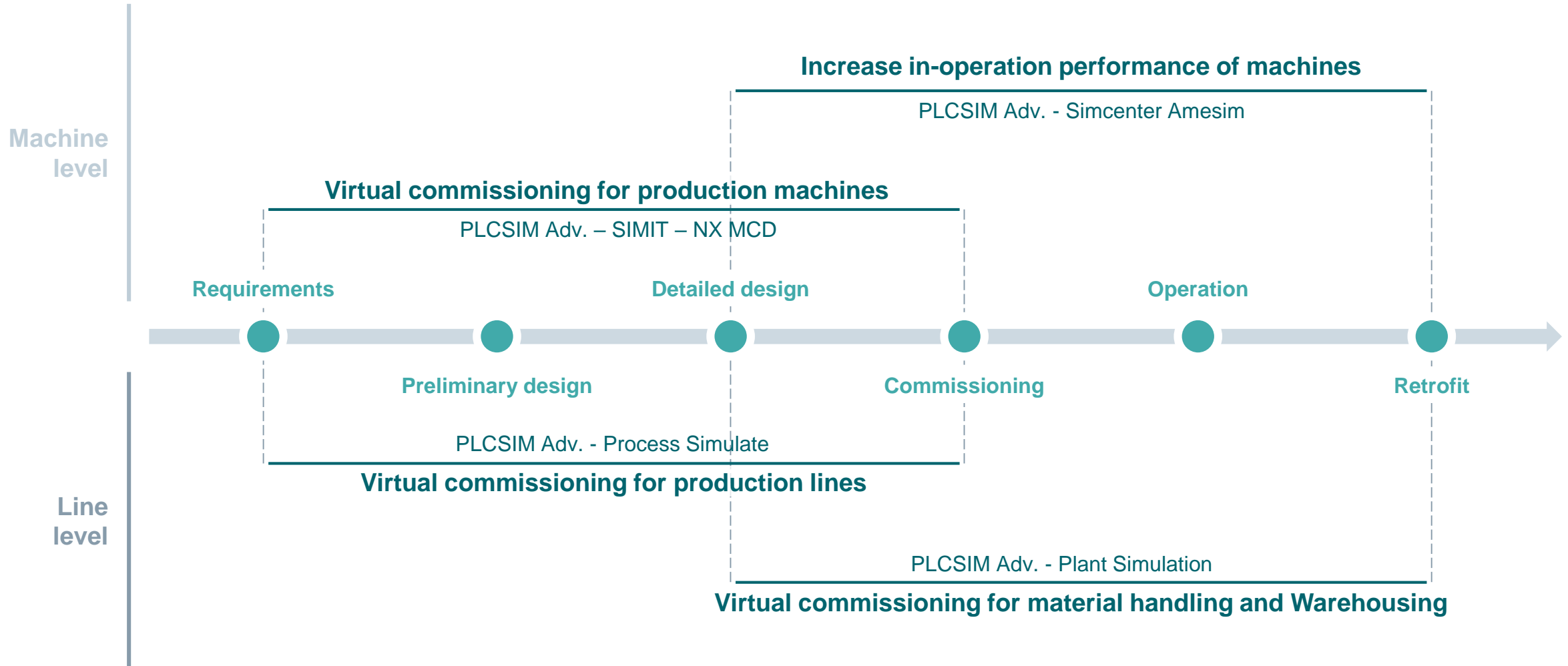
IG Metall, Digital Transformation in OEM industry, 2018

„13% of organizations implementing IoT projects already use digital twins, while 62% are either in the process of establishing digital twin use or plan to do so...”

Gartner, Survey on Digital Twins,  
2019

# Simulation & virtual commissioning









## Different challenges through the lifecycle



# Simulation & virtual commissioning leads to faster time-to-market, reduced error costs and risks

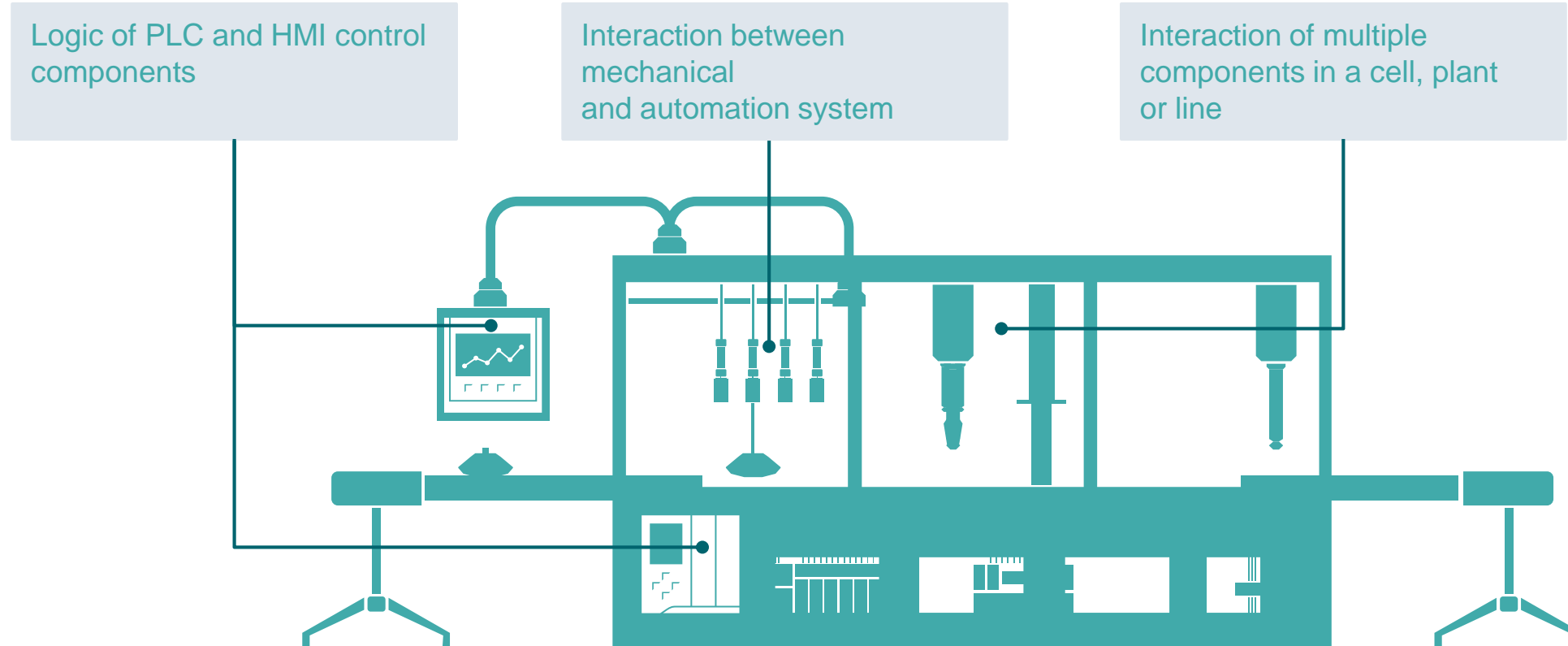
## Pain point of machine & line builder

## Advantages of simulation & virtual commissioning

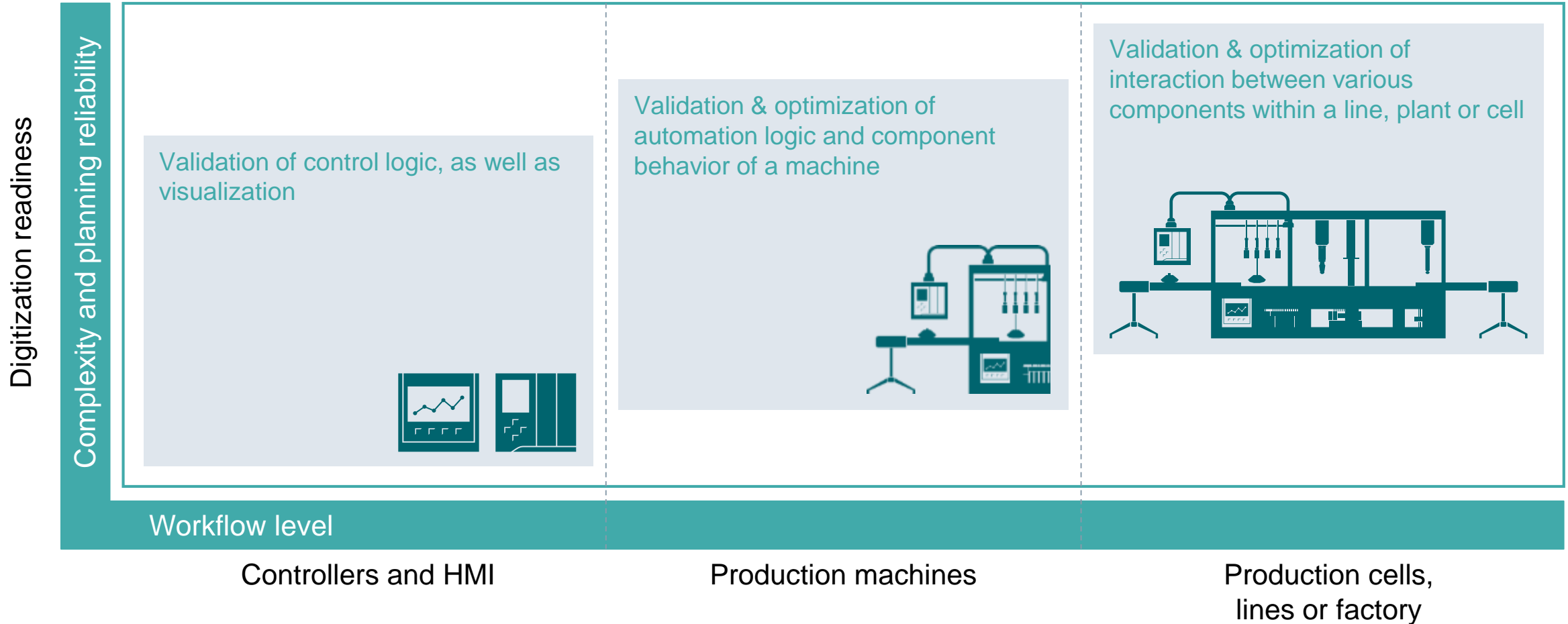
 Speed	Increasing complexity leads to longer time from the product idea to the industrial production.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduced time-to-market thanks to parallelization of mechanical and automation engineering</li></ul>
 Cost	Damages to the machine during commissioning are expensive, as well as improving the design after prototyping (time- and moneywise)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Test earlier and avoid mistakes during engineering phases</li></ul>
 Risk	Starting a new production machine or line includes uncertainties concerning the schedule and the performances.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Secure design, reduce risk and time from the concept to real commissioning</li></ul>
 Flexibility	Access to real machine for retrofit and optimization is limited as machine downtimes have to be avoided		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Validate changes on the production machine or line during operation</li></ul>



# The virtual environment is dependent upon the respective issue under investigation

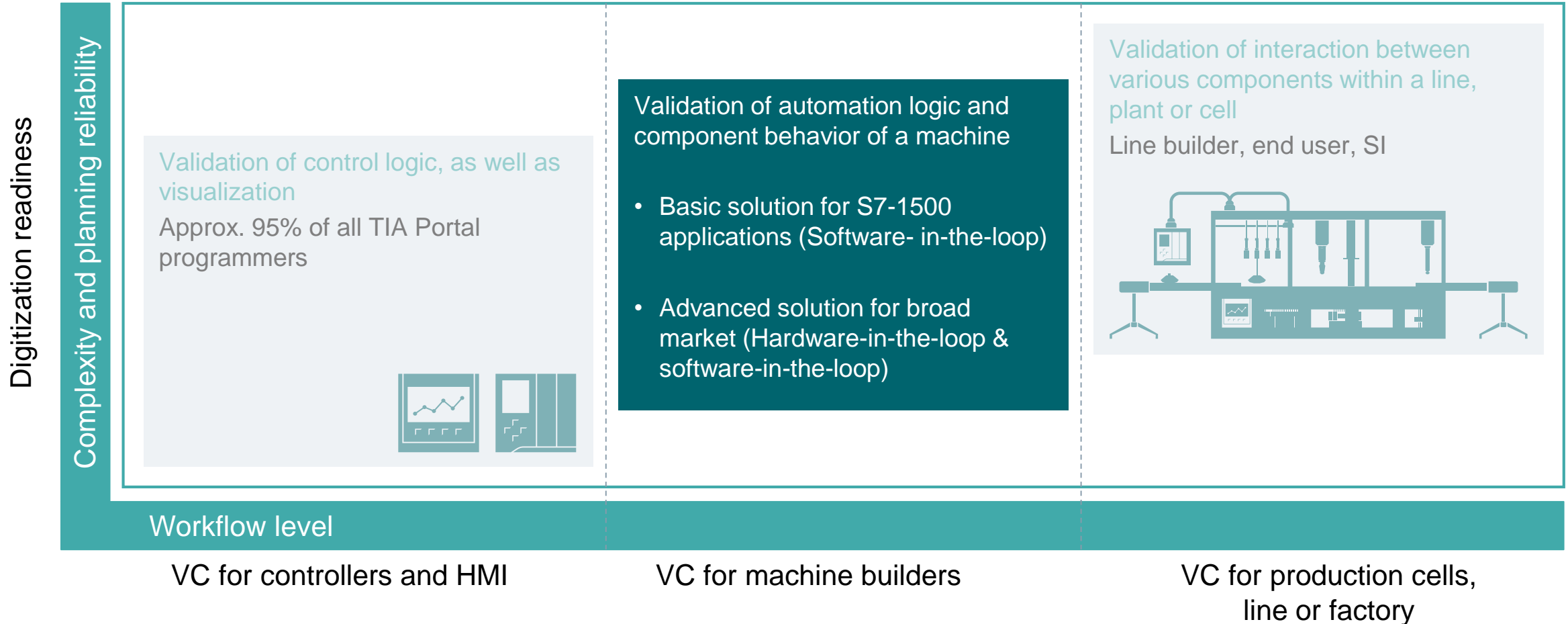


# The Siemens portfolio offers solution scenarios for virtual commissioning for all analysis stages

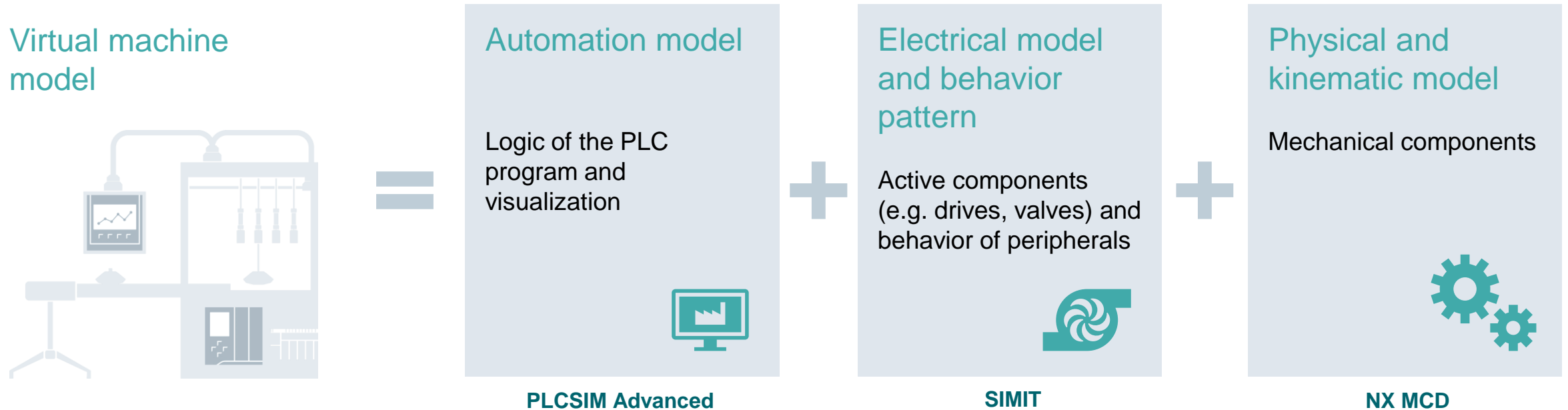




# The Siemens portfolio covers application scenarios for virtual commissioning for all analysis stages



# The virtual machine model is a combination of different simulation models



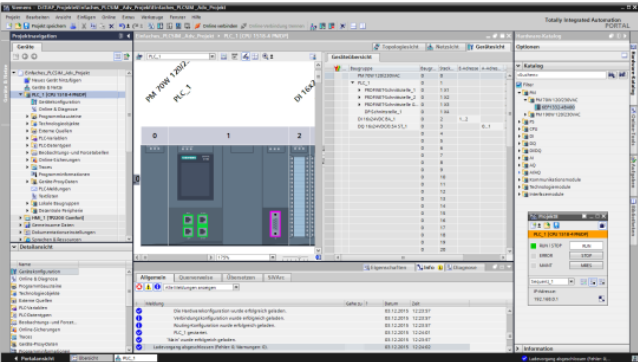
## Siemens offers

- Scalable VC solutions depending on the customers targets and skills
- One integrated software landscape
- Implemented interfaces to PLCSIM Advanced for simulation software for physical/kinematic model (in NX Mechatronics Concept Designer) and behavior model (in SIMIT)
- Pre-Sales and consulting support



# PLCSIM vs PLCSIM Advanced Functional Differences

## PLCSIM



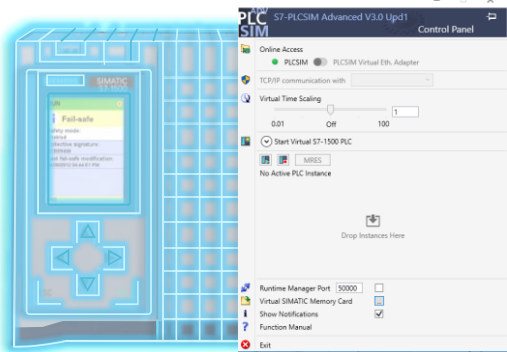
Controller simulation integrated in STEP 7 with TIA Portal

### Application use case:

- Function test and validation of the STEP 7 program



## PLCSIM Advanced



Virtual S7-1500 Controller

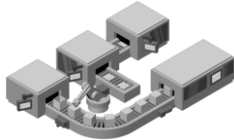





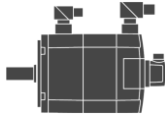
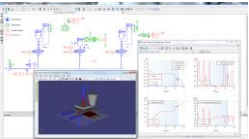



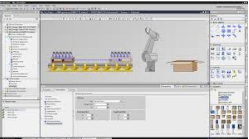
### Application case:

- Function test of the STEP 7 program - also in the context of a plant / machine
- Operator training
- Virtual Commissioning / Factory Acceptance Test (FAT)

✓ / ✓	S7-1200 (F)/ S7-1500 (F/T)	✗ / ✓
✗	API	✓
up to 2	Multiple instances	up to 16
✗	Distributed instances	✓
✗	OPC UA	✓
✗	Web server	✓
✓	Process diagnostics	✓
(✓)	Traces	✓
(✓)	Motion	✓
via softbus	S7 communication	✓
via softbus	Open User communication	✓
(✓)	know how protected blocks	✓
✗	Virtual time	✓
✗	Connection of real PLCs/HMIs	✓
✗	DNS use	✓
✗	Virtual memory card	✓

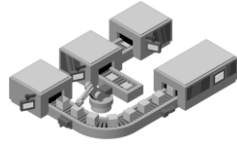





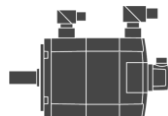





# Simulation at every level

**SIEMENS**  
*Ingenuity for life*

Production line		<i>Tecnomatix Plant Simulation</i>	
Robotic cell		<i>Tecnomatix Process Simulate</i>	
Production machine		<i>NX Mechatronic Concept Designer</i>	
Component physics		<i>Simcenter Amesim</i>	
Component communication		<i>SIMIT</i>	
Automation		<i>PLCSIM Advanced and WinCC</i>	

# Automation validation and basic virtual commissioning



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# Automation validation and simple virtual commissioning

## Validate the automation program

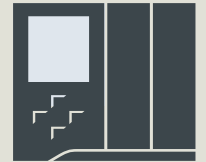
- How can I validate my automation program?
- What is the time response of the system?
- Did I configure my communication right?
- How does my automation code react in case of failure?
- Is my safety working?



### Replacement of hardware test setup

With **SIMATIC S7- PLCSIM Advanced & WinCC**

- using comprehensive simulation of controller functionality
- testing via TIA Portal tools. e.g. watchtables, simulated HMI / HMI runtime etc.



### Automatic program code validation

With **SIMATIC S7- PLCSIM Advanced, WinCC & test application**

- using data exchange over API for automatic testing of function blocks
- testing via customer specific test application
- General test application „S7UnitTest“ for basic automated tests is provided via SIOS:

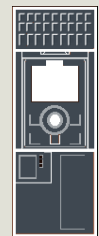
<https://support.industry.siemens.com/cs/ww/de/view/109746405>



### Simulation of electrical components

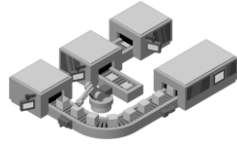





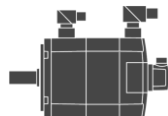





With **SIMIT**

- testing logical response of electrical components
- using predefined catalogs including drive communication



# Virtual commissioning for production machines



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# Virtual commissioning for production machines

## Validate Machine Design and Kinematic – Optimize Engineering

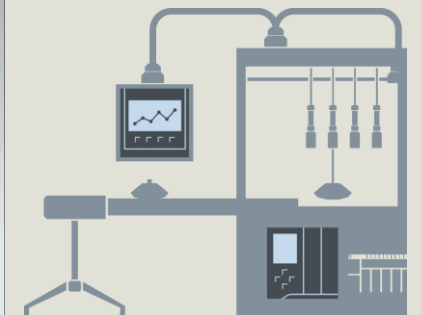
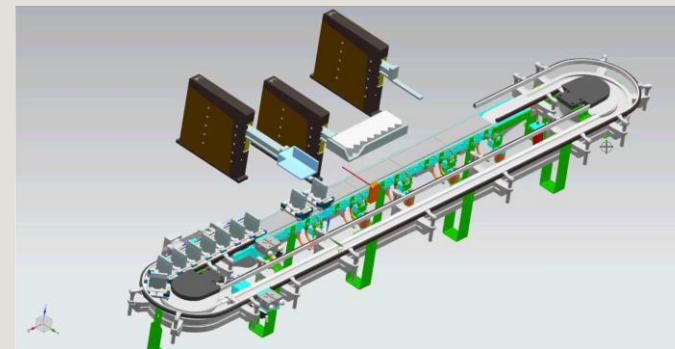
- How does the machine work ? What is the sequence of operations ?
- Is there a risk of collisions ?
- Where should I place a sensor ?
- How should my cam profile look ?
- What happens if I change the mechanical design of the machine ?



### Simulation of production machines

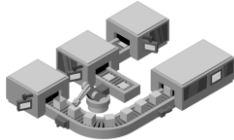





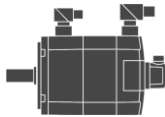
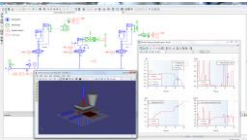



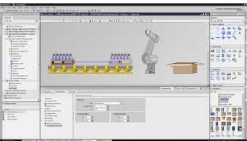
#### With **NX Mechatronic Concept Designer**

- Define and validate the mechatronic concept of the machine directly with the CAD model in the early phases of development
- Enable collaboration by sharing data between mechanical, electrical and automation departments
- Define mechatronic model including kinematic, sensors, actuators, logic and signals
- Reuse standardized mechatronic components for a faster machine design
- Optimize machine design before the first prototype (sequence, traveling path, speed of motors, position of sensors...)
- Connect directly with PLC Hardware or PLC Simulation (PLCSIM Adv.)



# Increase In Operation Performance for Production Machines and Machine Tools

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# Increase In Operation Performance for Production Machines and Machine Tools - Optimize the machine, cell or plant

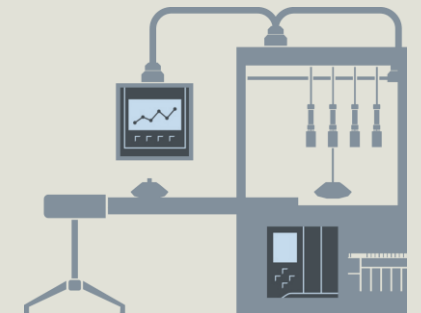
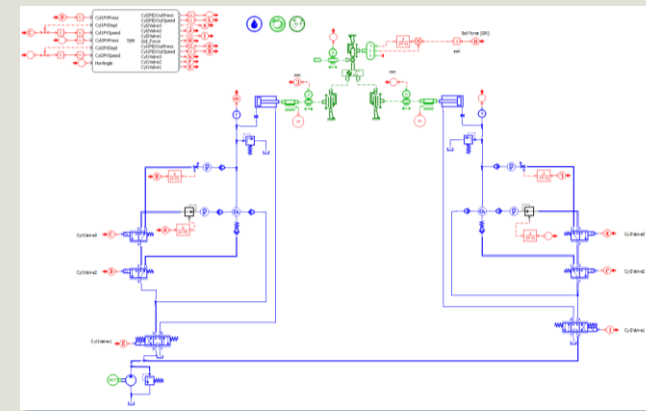
- Is the electric motor powerful enough?
- What is the time response of the system?
- What maximum pressure can be reached?
- Is there any risk of vibration?
- How can I optimize the control parameters of my automation?



## Simulation of components and machine physics

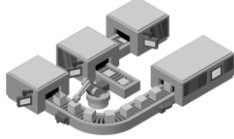





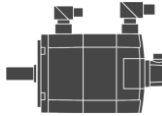




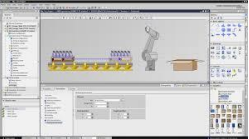
With **Simcenter Amesim**

- Optimization before machine building and during operation
- Size actuators according to performance and consumption targets
- Connect directly with PLC Hardware or PLC Simulation (PLCSIM Adv.)
- In operation simulation for additional information on the current state of the machine and additional safety loops (virtual sensors)
- In operation optimization using the simulation of future machine states
- Validate performances during retrofit phases



# Virtual commissioning for production lines

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# Virtual commissioning for production lines

## Validate Robotic - Optimize Engineering

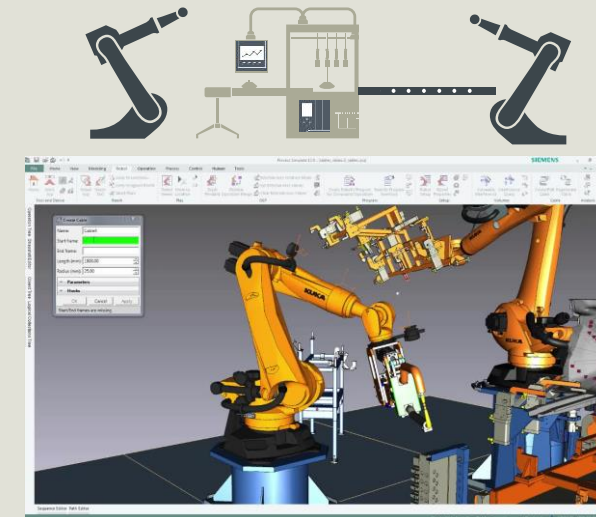
- Is the layout of my production cell valid ?
- Can my robot tool reach all the right positions without collisions ?
- What is the cycle time of my production cell ?
- What if a component is failing or a robot stopping ?
- How can I validate my robot code with my automation including safety ?



### Simulation of robotic cells

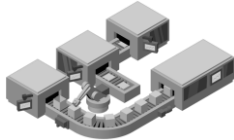





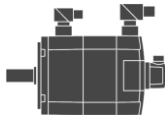




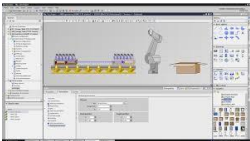
With **Tecnomatix Process Simulate**

- Design production cell layout and validate mechanical sequences
- Create robot trajectories, check collisions and reachability
- Develop and validate complete robot programs using robot controllers
- Verify PLC code together with robot programs and HMI
- Test Safety Interlocks
- Perform System Diagnostic testing
- Validate prior to cell construction



# Increase In Operation Performance for Production Lines

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# Increase In Operation Performance for Production Lines - Optimize Material Flow and Line Performances

- What is the throughput time of my production line ?
- How much stock do I need and my buffer size ?
- How to optimize the work in progress ?
- What are the best control parameters & strategies ?
- How can I plan the maintenance of different parts of my plant ?

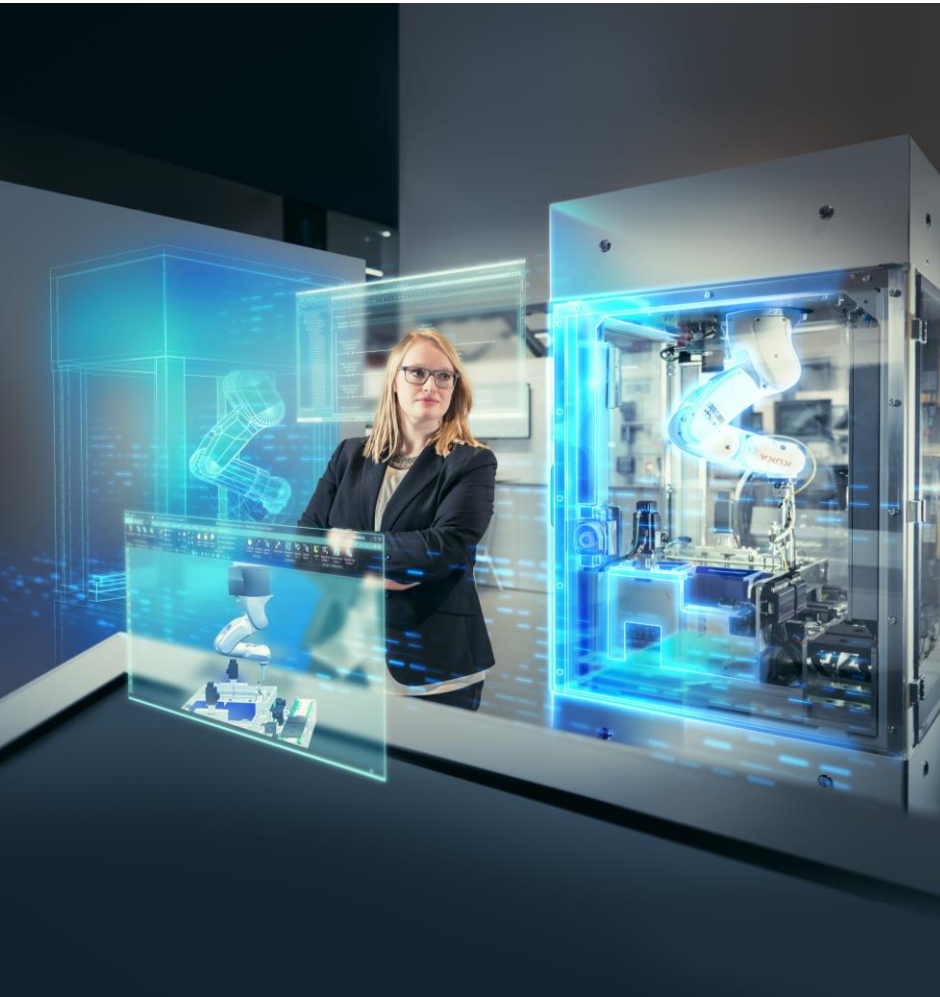


## Simulation of production lines

### With Tecnomatix Plant Simulation

- Validation prior to conveying or AGVs system construction
- Validate material flow and control logic
- Optimize PLC parameters, control strategy and HMI
- Verify conveying unit and head unit level
- Perform system diagnostic testing
- Perform “what-if” scenarios (Failure Modes or Maintenance Modes)
- Operator training





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