



# S2978: Point Cloud Conversion to Detail Design

## NSRP BT/SDMT 2025

Presenter: Ken Crowe

Bath Iron Works

August 2025

# Agenda

- Overview
- Objectives
- Project Team
- Technical Goals
- Benefits/Pay Off
- Technical Approach
- Project Schedule
- Technical Content and Status
- Transition/Implementation Plan
- Q & A



# Overview

- Platform: DDG51
- Issue Description:
  - The majority of DDG51 hulls in service do not have 3D models. In order provide superior interference detection in dense spaces these 3D designs are required. DDG51 Planning yard has a robust 3D (LiDAR) scanning process but requires highly technical and manual processes (labor hours). The goal is to automate the conversion of the 3D scan data to CAD-agnostic detailed design 3D model arrangement. This would improve sustainment activity performance and associated reduce labor costs.



# Objectives



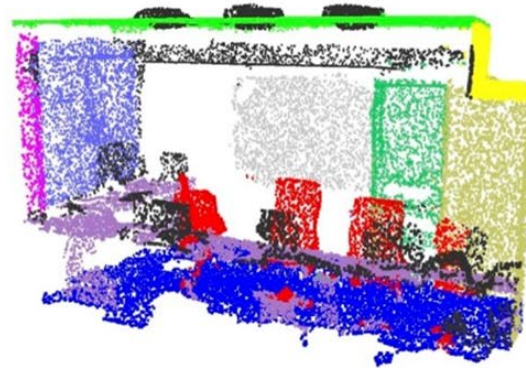
- Develop software tools to automate the creation of 3D CAD model arrangements from point cloud data which can then be manipulated, attributed, used for interference checking, and subsequent development of 2D technical drawings.



Classification



Part Segmentation



Semantic Segmentation



# Project Organizational Structure



**Paul Huang** – Program Officer



**Robert Mashburn** – Deputy Director  
**Scott Truitt** – Project Manager  
**Jeff Walters** – Project Technical Representative



**Lee Fuglestad** – PMS 400D



**David Clark** – CACI



**PennState**  
Applied Research Laboratory

**Dan Finke** – Project Manager  
**Simon Miller** – Tech Lead

**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
Bath Iron Works

**Scott Record** – Program Manager  
**Ken Crowe** – Project Manager  
**Casey Norris** – Business Lead

# Benefits / Payoff / Business Case Update



- Major Benefit: Reduced cost and schedule of creating 3D models, arrangements of models, and responding to Liaison Action Requests (LARs)
- Life-cycle savings over five years, after accounting for software purchases, the ManTech Investment and Implementation costs, reduced the ROI.
- Savings could not be achieved given the current level of automation available to users.
- 5yr ROI = 0.27
- BIW ROI = 2.24



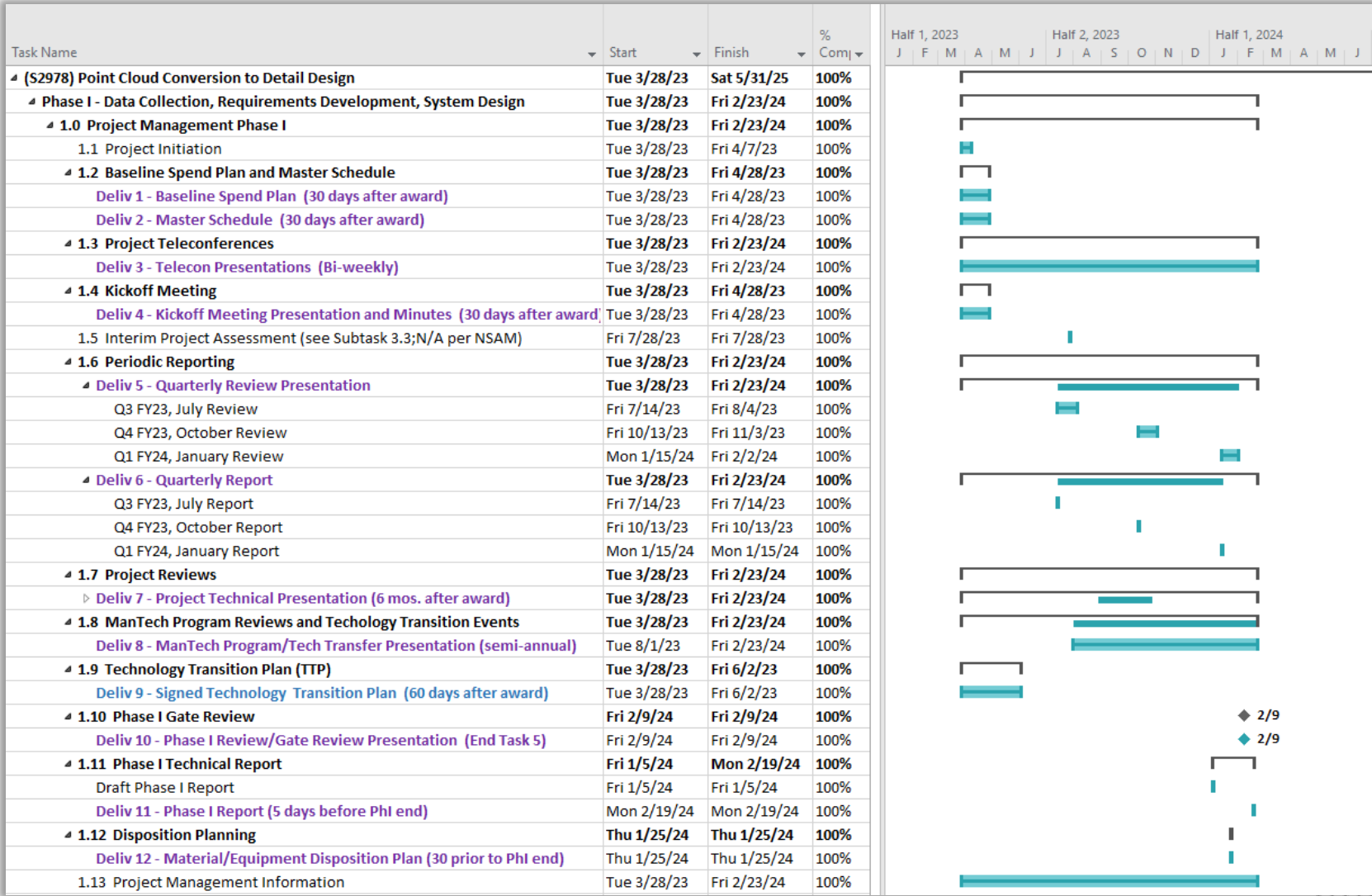
# Technical Approach

- Phase I
  - Task 1 – Project Management [BIW/PSU]
  - Task 2 – Investigate Current and Future State [BIW/PSU]
  - Task 3 – Requirements and Concept Design [BIW/PSU]
  - Task 4 – Design Architecture & Development Plan [BIW/PSU]
  - Task 5 – Develop Point Cloud Prototype [BIW/PSU]
- Phase II
  - Task 6 – Project Management
  - Task 7 – Phase 'A' System Development to 60%
  - Task 8 – Phase 'A' Integration
  - Task 9 – Phase 'A' Functional Testing
  - Task 10 – Phase 'B' Software Development to 90%
  - Task 11 – Phase 'C' User Testing and finalization of Software to 100%
  - Task 12 – Final Documentation
- Required Capability:
  - A tool that decomposes a point cloud into parts in an automated fashion, matches 3D models against that segmented point cloud, and then fits/places found models into a 3D coordinate space assembly while retaining original CAD metadata/origin.



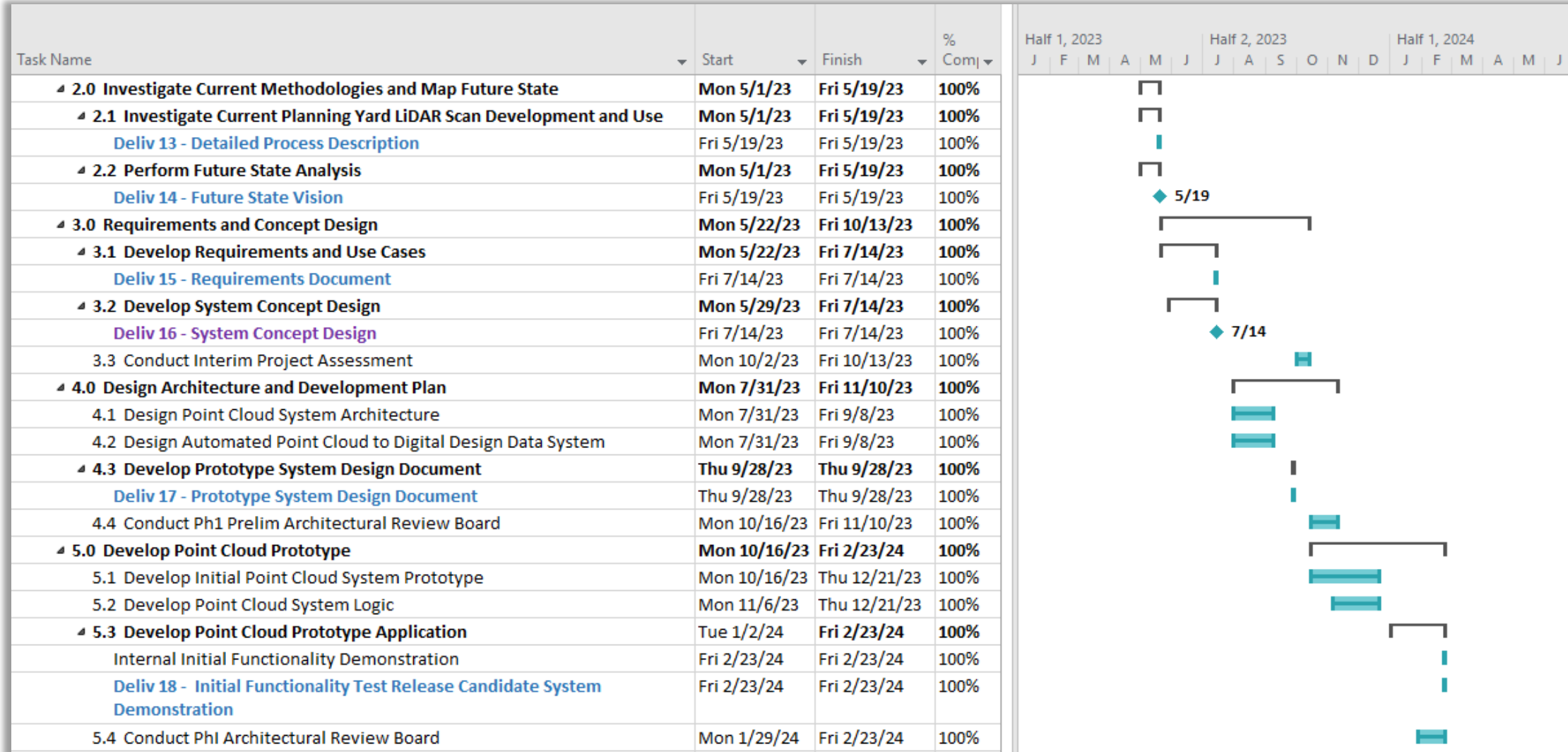
# Project Schedule: Phase I Project Management

- ONR Period of Performance: 02-24-2023 through 05-31-2025

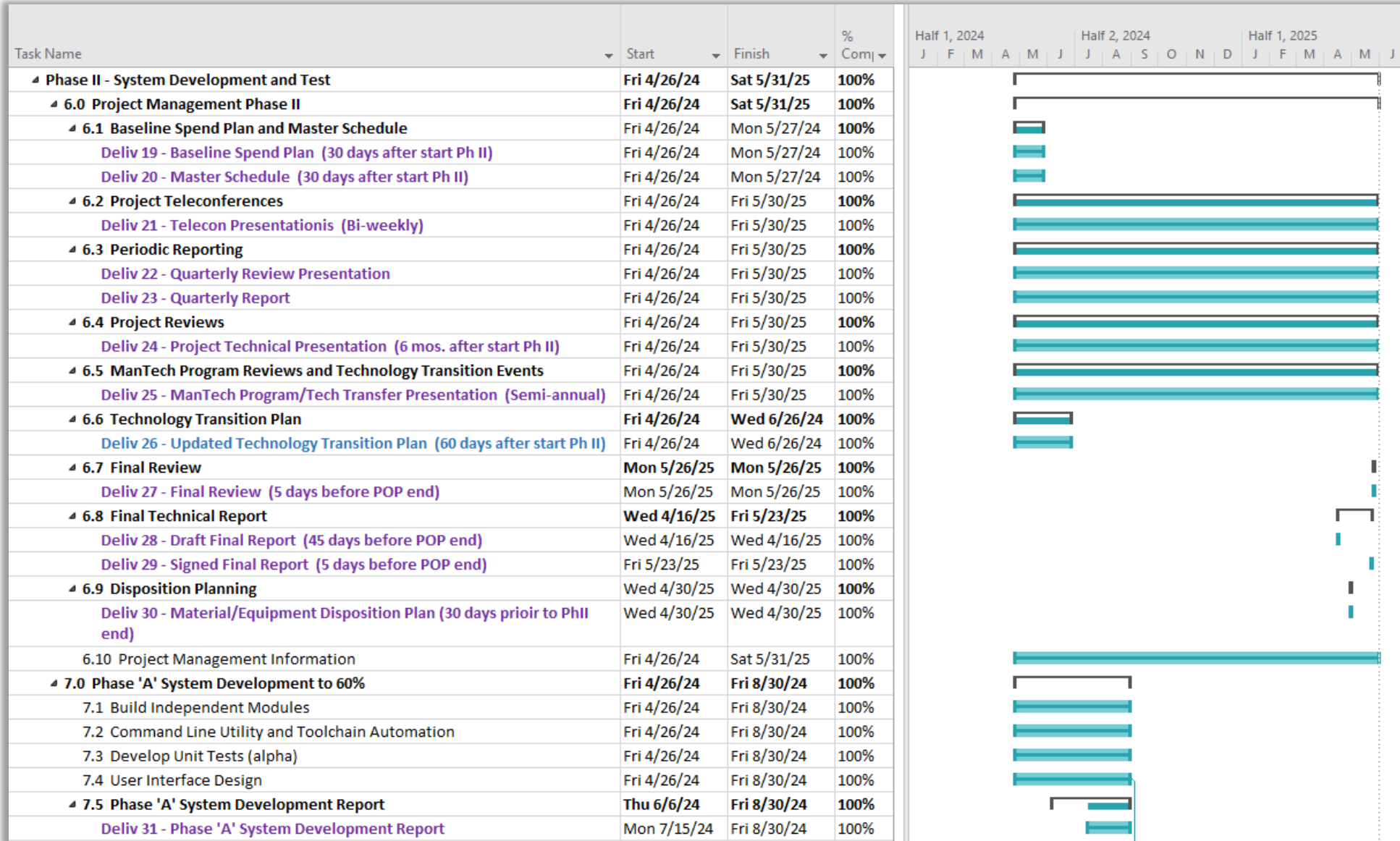




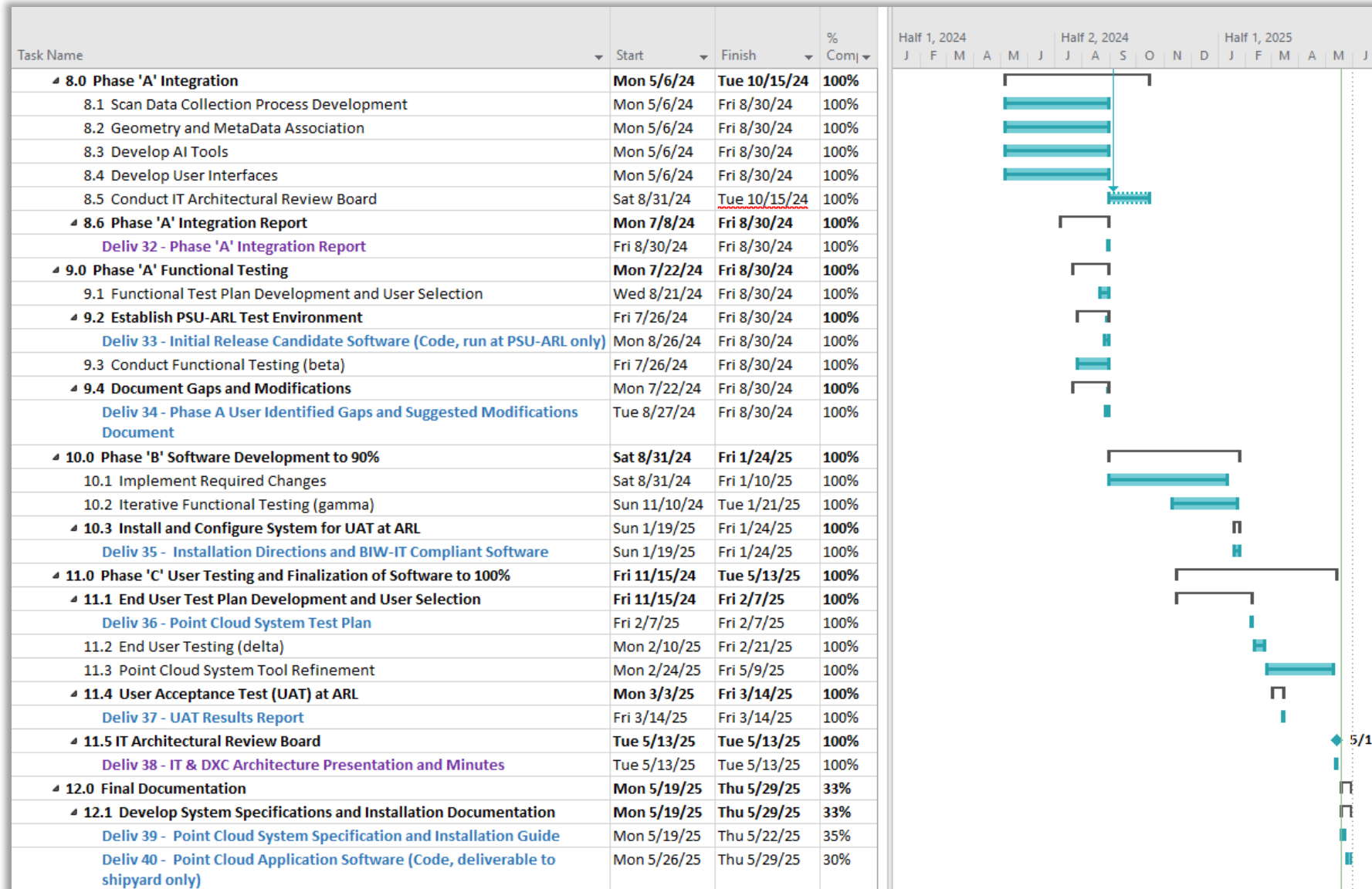
# Project Schedule: Phase I Technical Tasks



# Project Schedule: Phase II Technical Tasks



# Project Schedule: Phase II Technical Tasks



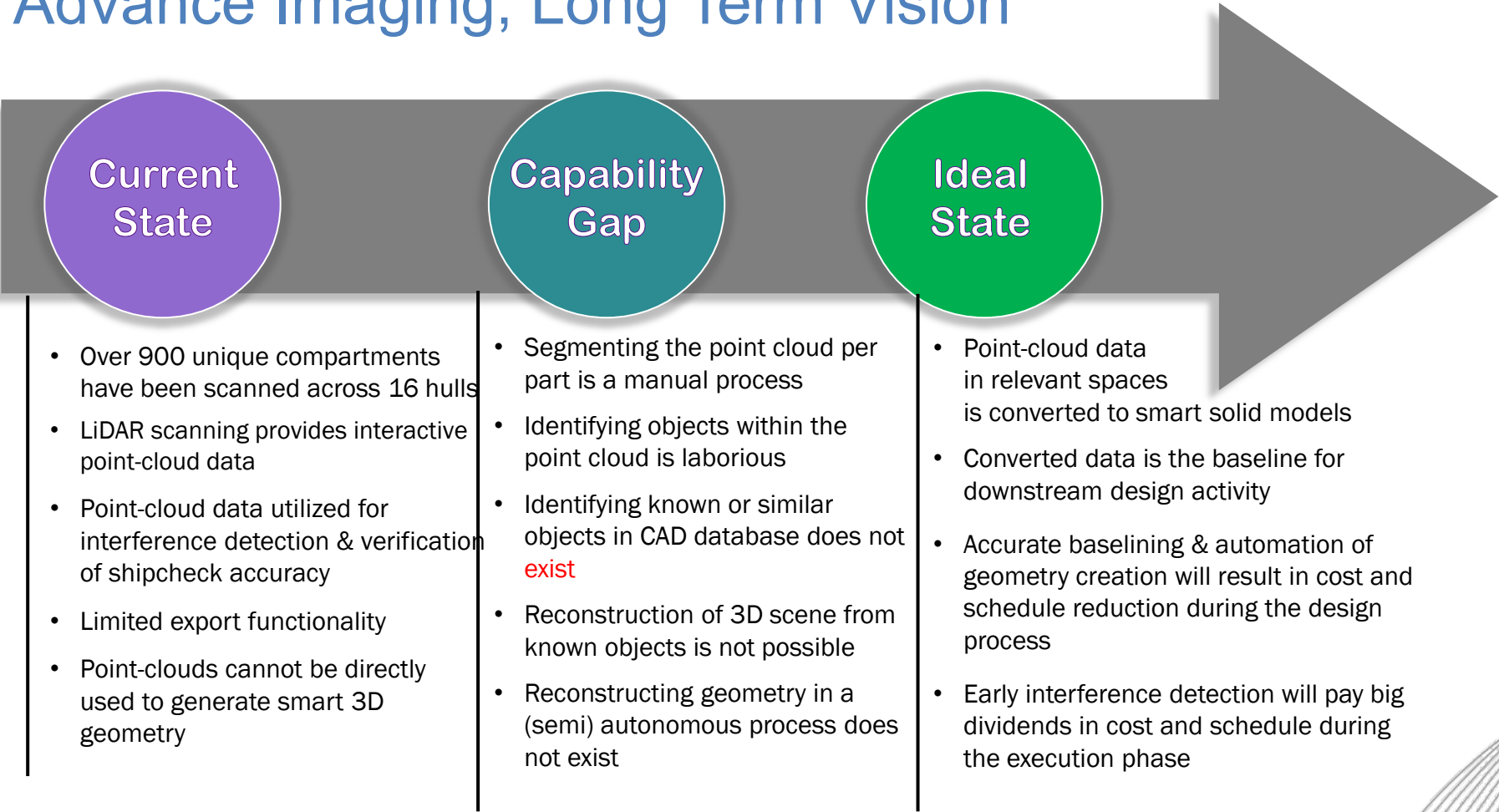
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# Task 2 Investigate Current and Future State

## Advance Imaging, Long Term Vision







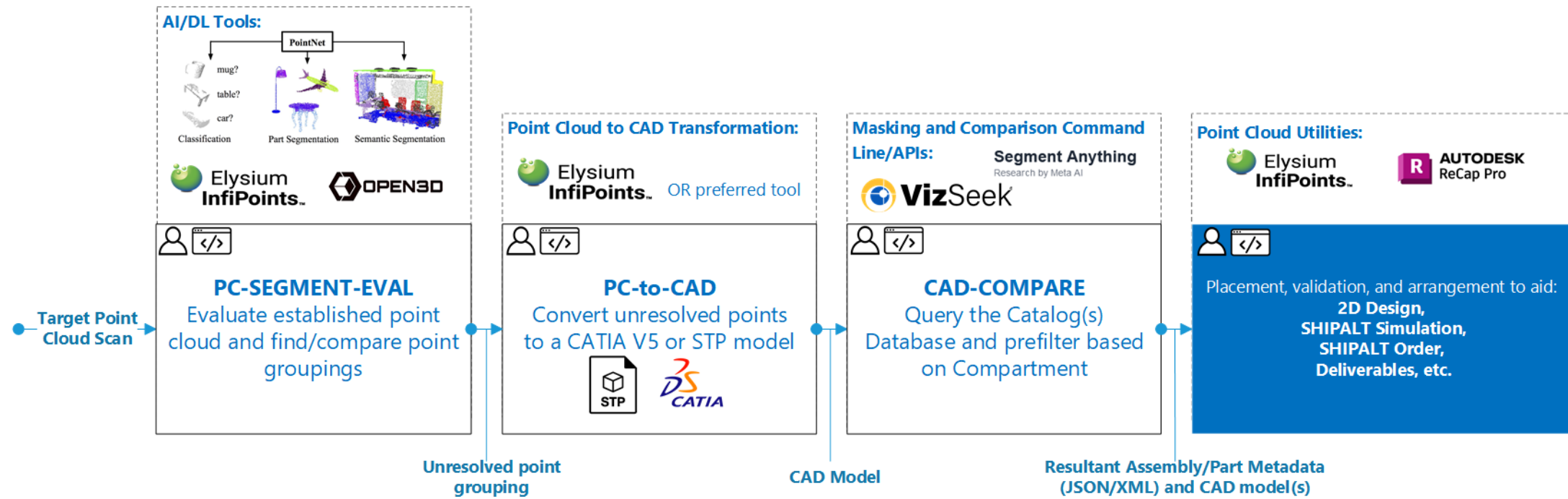
# Task 3 Requirements and Concept Design

- Requirements across four categories:
  - End Users – requirements are functional requirements, i.e. what does the system need to do
  - IT/Cyber Security – must follow security standards and be compliant with BIW IT standards and practices
  - Performance – Establishing performance requirements in terms of processing time, number of users, etc.
  - User Experience – drawing from the categories above, these requirements seek to establish how the end users interact with the system

1.0	STORY: As a Planning Yard Designer I need a software tool that will reduce labor associated with converting point cloud data to 3D geometry.
1.1	System shall accept current point cloud data as inputs.
1.2	System shall analyze entire point cloud file for parts/assembly comparisons.
1.3	System shall create un-attributed, individual CAD-compatible parts/assemblies models from the point cloud data.
1.3.1	System generated parts/assemblies shall be CAD-neutral (i.e. STEP files) to be used or converted for specific CAD software (i.e. CATIA)
1.3.2	System shall identify 50% CAD library objects for individual ship equipment/components for equivalent volumetric objects deduced from logical point clouds cluster.
1.3.3	System shall produce solid model geometry for 50% of structure and distributive systems present in point cloud.
1.4	System shall scan match models with library components based on library schema.
1.5	System shall match results back into engineering design space.

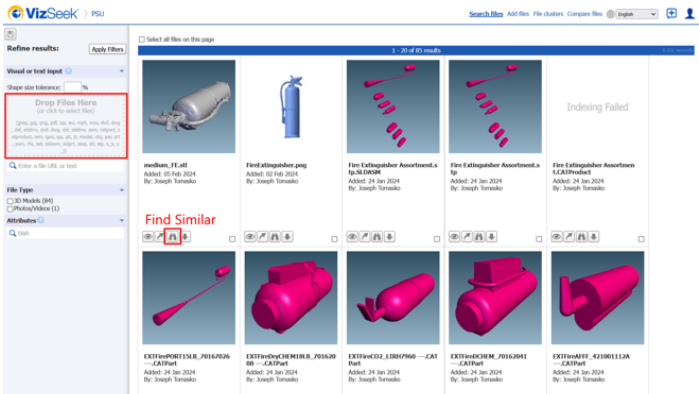
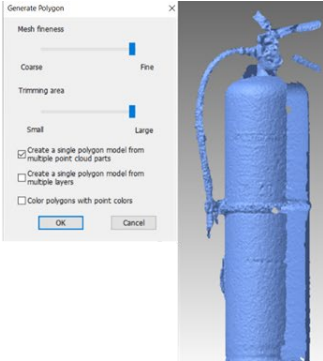
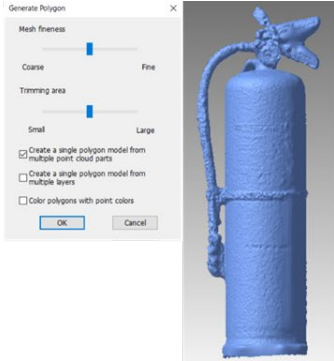
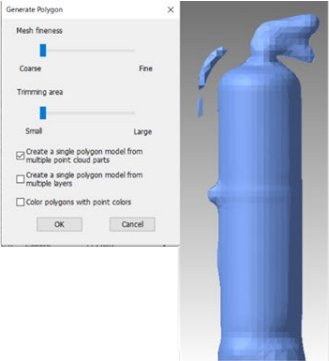
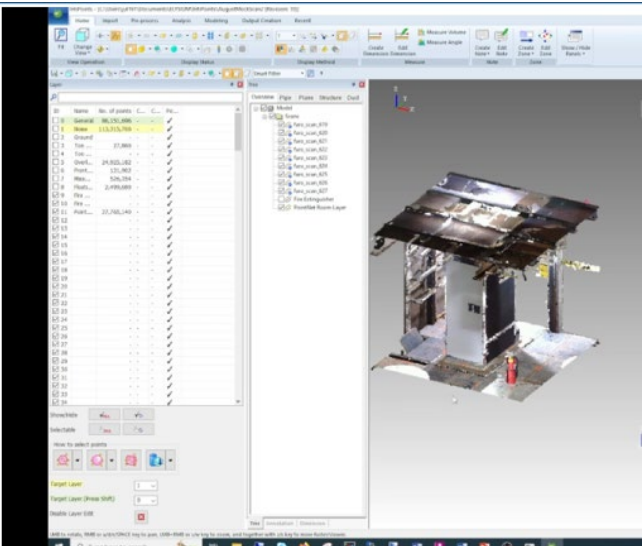
# Task 4 Design Architecture & Development Plan


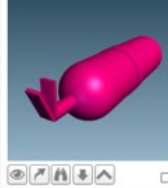
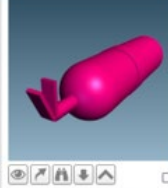
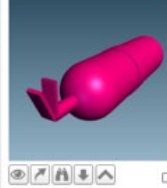
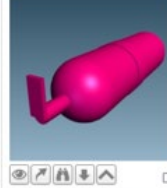
- System is comprised of software modules that reside on desktop workstation and VM CAD server.
- All software and data reside on premise within firewalled environment, no external connectivity required or desired.



# Task 5 Develop Prototype

- Phase I concluded with a proof-of-concept



1 - 20 of 20 results				
				
medium_FE.stl	EXTFireCO2_11RH7960-Shape	EXTFireCO2_11RH7960---CA	EXTFireCO2_11RH7960.stp.SI	EXTFireCO2_11RH7960-Shape
Score: 0 (Rank: 1)	Score: 5.78 (Rank: 2)	Score: 5.79 (Rank: 3)	Score: 5.79 (Rank: 4)	Score: 5.87 (Rank: 5)
Added: 05 Feb 2024	Added: 24 Jan 2024	Added: 24 Jan 2024	Added: 24 Jan 2024	Added: 24 Jan 2024
Volume: -0.0044 mm^3 (-0%)	Volume: 13,862,295.4638 mm^3 (-312565850468.14%)	Volume: 13,864,624.0403 mm^3 (-312618351221.51%)	Volume: 13,864,624.0403 mm^3 (-312618355010.39%)	Volume: 13,832,360.5448 mm^3 (-311890880479.1%)
Surface area: 0.2373 mm^2 (0%)	Surface area: 378,877.6706 mm^2 (+159681979.75%)	Surface area: 378,916.1647 mm^2 (+159698203.48%)	Surface area: 378,916.1654 mm^2 (+159698203.29%)	Surface area: 369,722.6313 mm^2 (+153823489.71%)
0	5.78	5.79	5.79	5.87

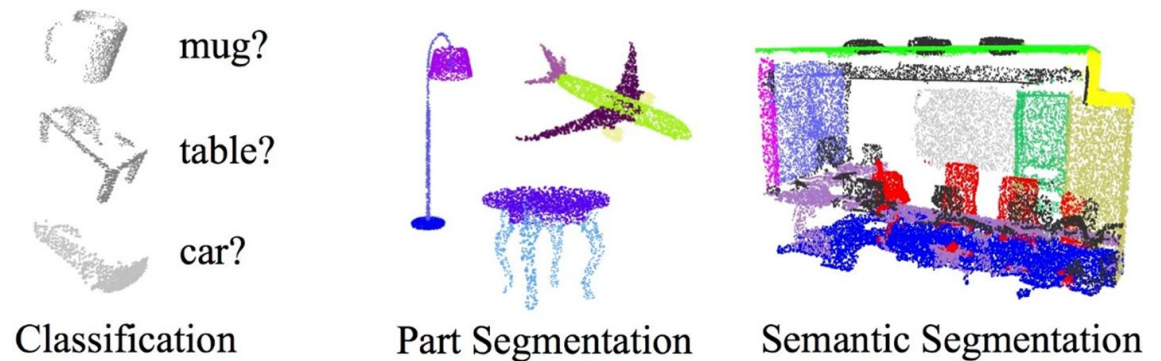
Decreasing Quality of Match (inverse to score)

VizSeek is a visual search tool that can be hosted on-prem. It loads a database of known CAD objects and the user can upload a new image/object and find similar entities in the database. Here we have a number of objects and the point cloud reconstructed fire extinguisher (top left) for comparison.



# Task 7-11 Development

- Classifying point clouds into homogeneous regions
- Deep learning can be applied to segmentation, aid in overall identification, and define raw point cloud data

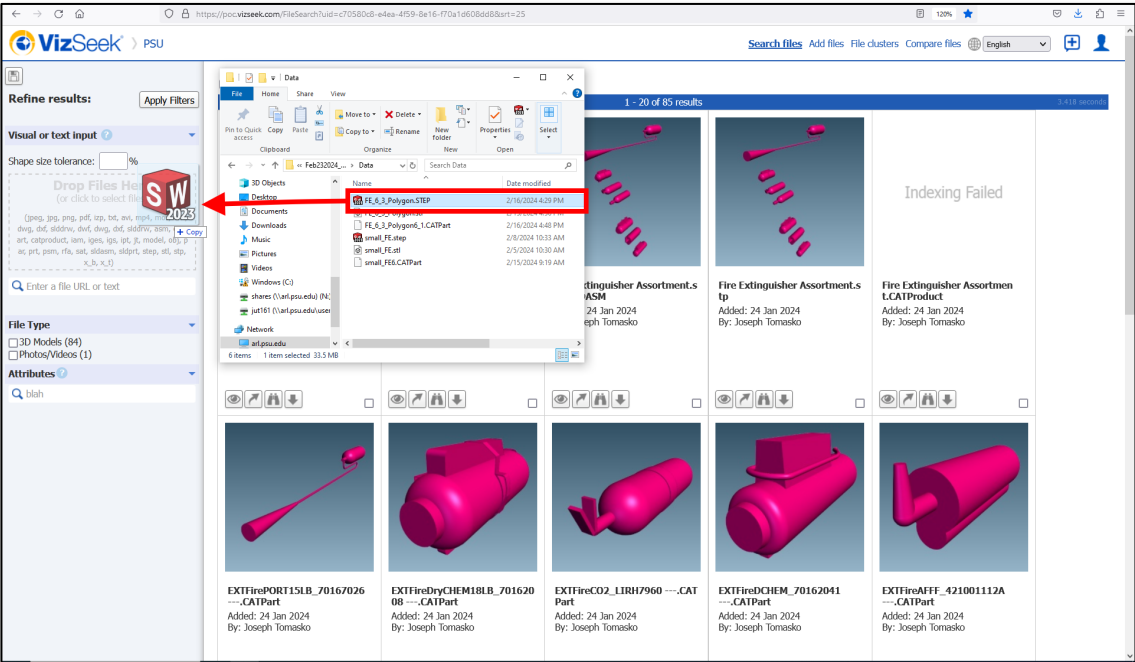
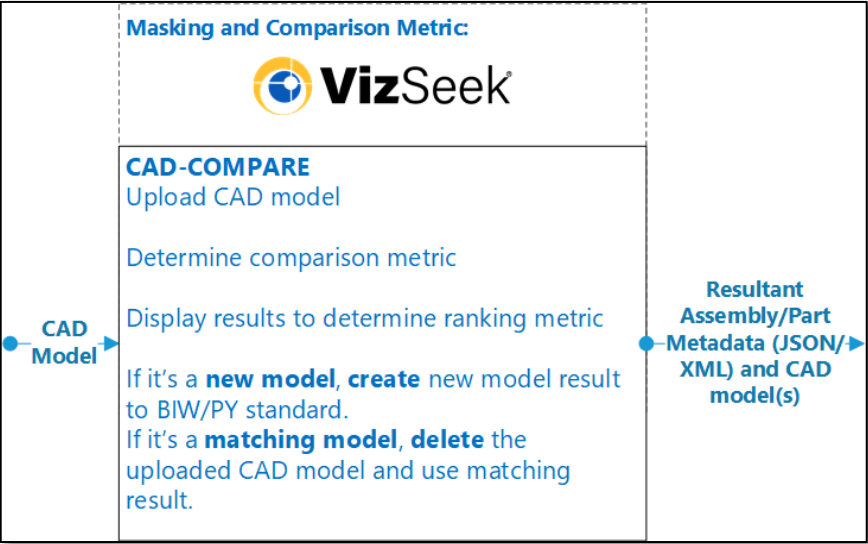


- Shape Classification
  - Based on trained shapes and their scores, find the best match
- Part Segmentation
  - Fine-grained object parts instead of generic object labels
- Semantic Segmentation
  - Each point is associated with a label or category



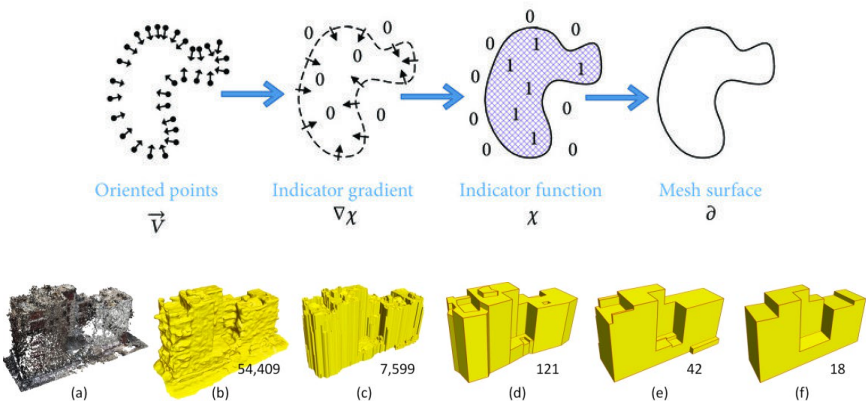
# Task 7-11 Development

- Visual search is a technique of comparing 2D and 3D objects and identifying the “best” match against a database of objects.
- Using a known CAD database, users can upload an object (i.e. image, mesh) and find entities in the database.
- Metrics and scoring criteria are based on visual cues, meta-data, and user-defined functions.
- Matured system architecture, meeting BIW IT requirements.

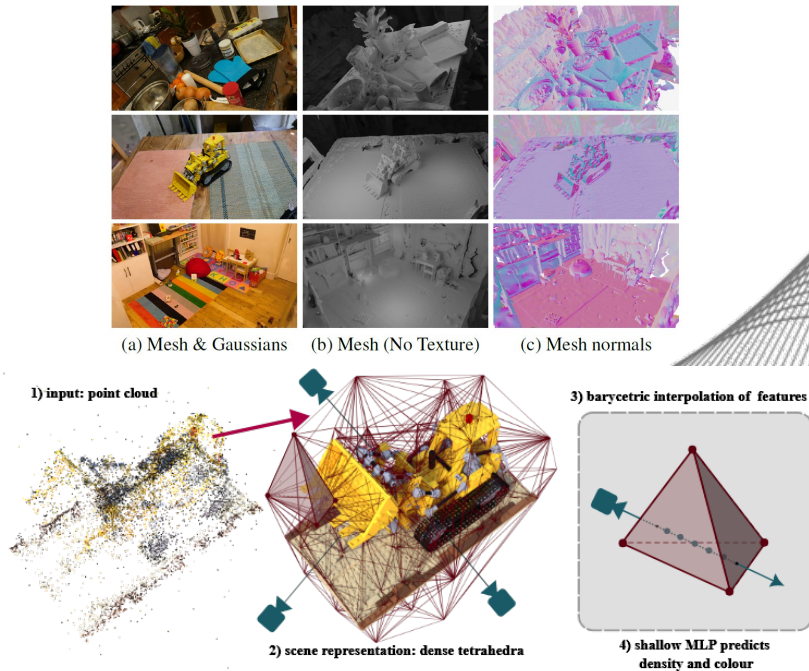


# Task 7-11 Development

- Classic methods generate shapes for comparison and new CAD object generation
- Surface Reconstruction techniques, RANSAC, Primitive Fitting, etc., produce data that can be compared for the visual search engine routines

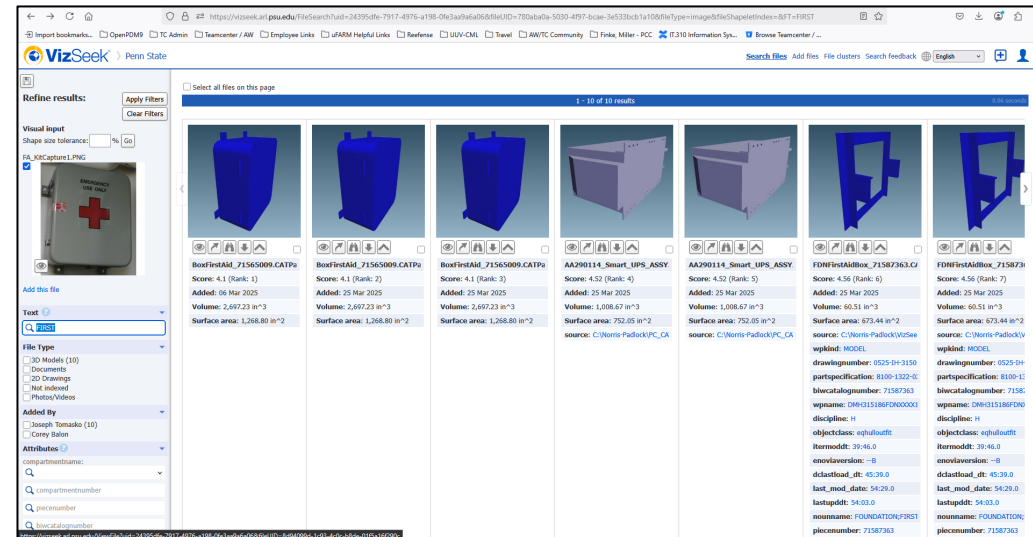
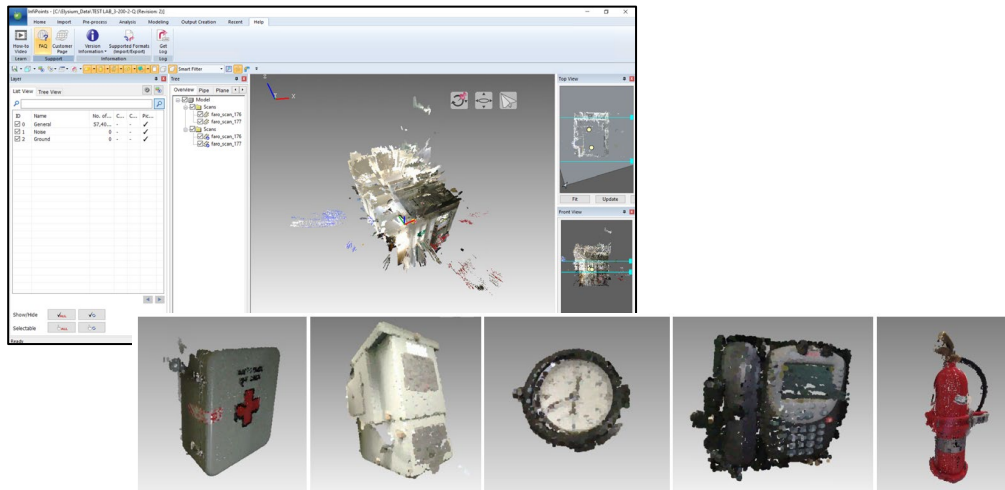


- Modern tools such as NeRF and Gaussian Splatting explored to create image and mesh objects
- Images used for visual search
- Meshes used for visual search and new/updated CAD design



# Task 7-11 Development

- Functionality improvements with InfiPoints in Alpha Release
  - Improved segmentation structure in User Interface
  - Used STP, STEP or STL files or image captures to input to VizSeek
- Functionality improvements with VizSeek
  - Filter on attributes selectable by User
- Development used actual ship data (point clouds and library parts)
- Multiple User Acceptance events at Penn State ARL facility
- Distributive Systems highlighted unique challenges







# Transition/Implementation

- Transition Event:
  - ManTech Deliverable: Point Cloud System Specification & Installation Guide and Point Cloud Application Software (May 2025)
- Implementation / Implementation Funding:
  - Target: GDBIW PY / IT
  - Time Period: Q3 2025
  - Implementation Funding Estimate, Source(s), and Status:
    - Dependent on future capability development
- Currently Planning Yard does not see sufficient automation to reach objective ROI. BIW is submitting a follow-on project to further develop automation, with focus on distributive systems.



