



**Safety** PENN STATE



Pennsylvania Transportation  
Institute

# Vehicle Systems & Safety Program

Next Steps in Quality Control  
and Harmonization of  
Friction Measurements on  
Highways and Runways

# FUNCTIONAL AND PRACTICAL FRICTION MEASUREMENTS BUT HOW

## The ultimate question is:

- Is there a way in which we can get a reliable friction reading for functional characteristic measurements ??

# ROADMAP

We will discuss  
Highlighted part

Scientific and operational consolidations of harmonization

Review present FMD taking into account elements effecting friction readings

Assess the anticipated results of current R&D activities and identify still existing knowledge gaps

Assess the feasibility for harmonization based on the investigation of above points

Develop proposals for harmonization table / methods

Investigation for alternative methods to evaluate surface friction characteristics and proposal of the most feasible methods standards

Conduct a survey of current technologies in use for friction characteristics measurement

Make a review on a global scale of other methods for texture measurements e.g. use of laser, stereo photography, digital image processing

Define a stepwise procedure and guidelines for harmonization of measurement device

Establish conditions for friction characteristics measuring device qualification testing complying with ASTM, ISO, CEN FAA FHWA ICAO standards taking into account all parameters: surfaces, speeds, depth of water film, temperature/weather conditions and required practical test implementation conditions, e.g. number of measurement, accuracy, consistence of results

Review technical criteria for measuring device compliance

Review acceptable methods, accuracy and consistency of implementing harmonization procedures in relation with ASTM, ISO, FHWA, FAA, CEN and ICAO standards

Propose the establishment of a reference equipment database taking into account factors like type of equipment, type and location of surface, type of tire, inflation pressure, test speeds, and weather conditions during tests,

Assess the need to issue specific AGENCY specifications (i.e. FHWA, AASHTO, FAA) in this field

Develop proposals for harmonization methods



# Basic Problem #1

Why is harmonization  
of FMDs so difficult?

# FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS

**Devices are very different**

Harmonization trials tried to compensate for all the differences by two constants and did not set any requirements for acceptance



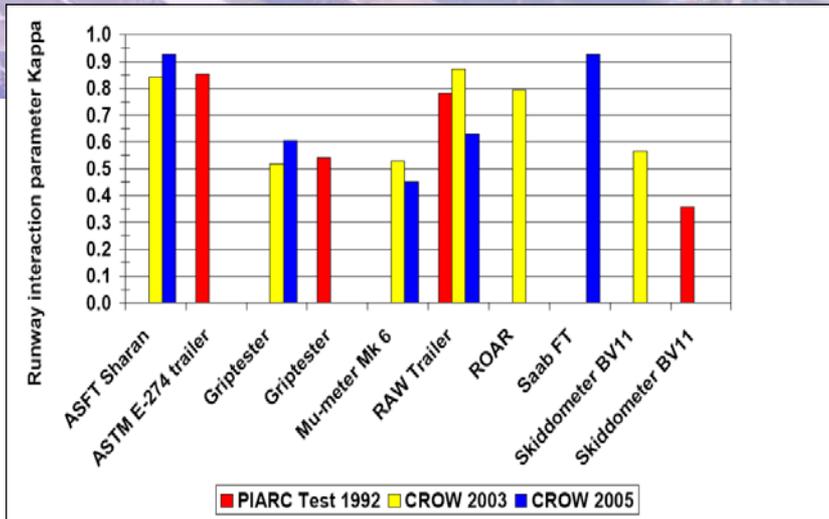


# FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS

**Poor device repeatability and device family reproducibility prohibits adequate harmonization**

Harmonization trials tried to compensate for all the variation in one device and they used one device from a device family to represent the whole device family

# FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS

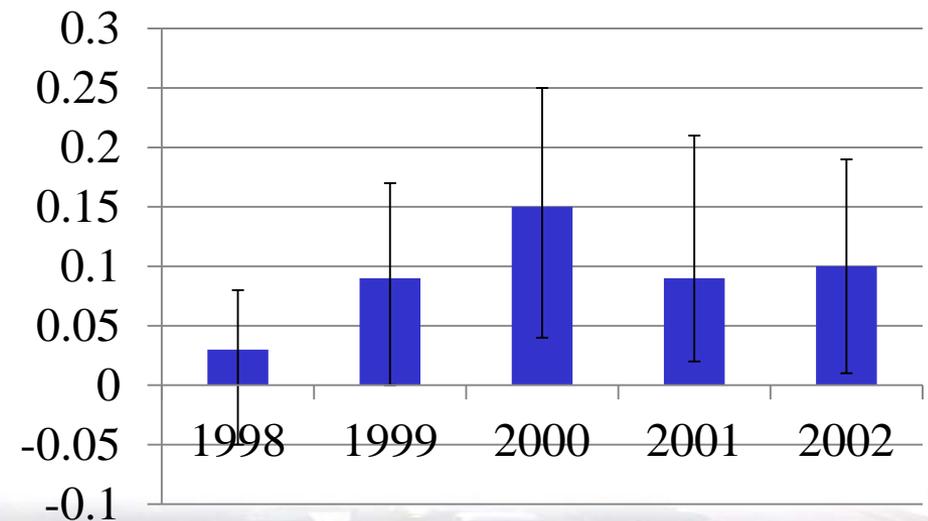


Consistency of the Kappa Runway Interaction Parameter in ESDU Model, CROW, 2006

Harmonization trials came up with different constants each year

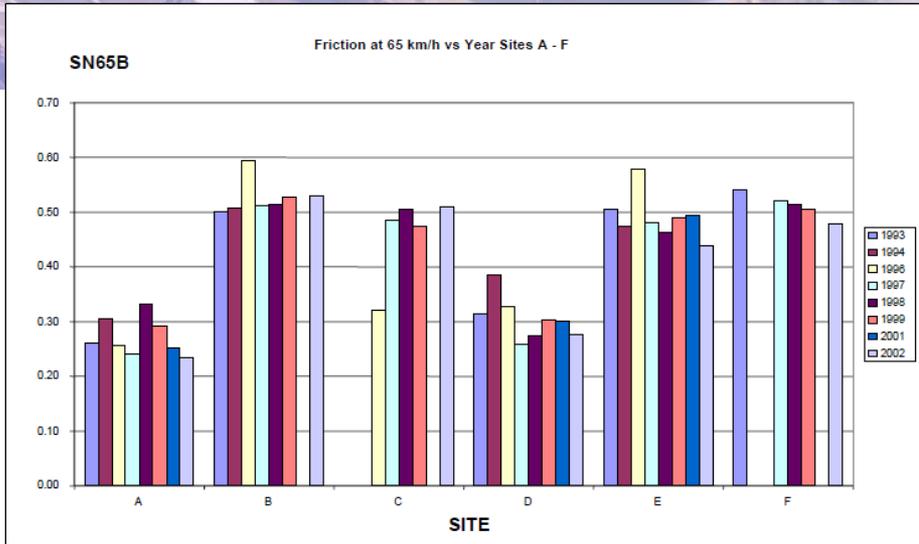
**Devices are changing by time**

**a Ave.**



Variation over Time for the "a" Constants in the IFI Model

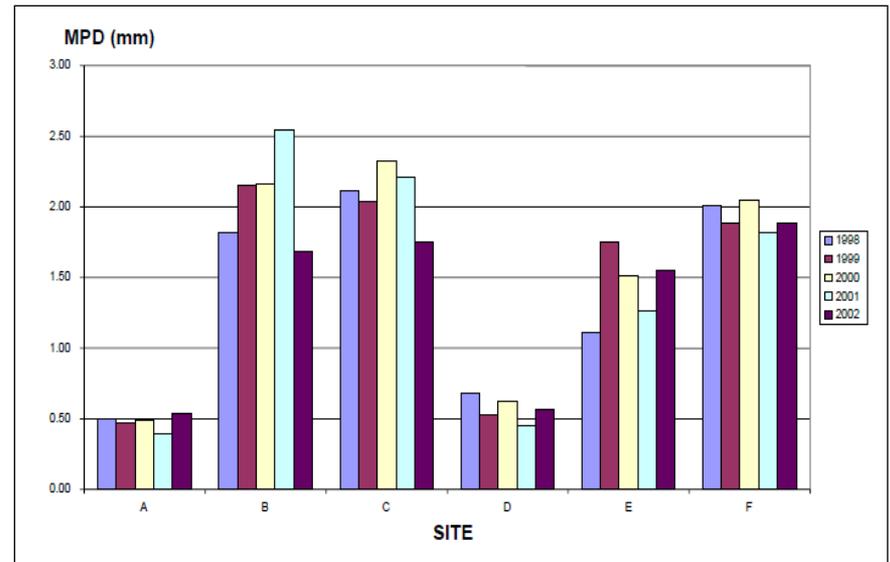
# FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS



Wallop NASA Site Surface Friction Changes over 8 Years as Measured by the VADOT E0274 Trailer

Harmonization trials could not distinguish between the changes in the surface and the device

**Surfaces are changing by time**



Wallop NASA Site Surface Texture Changes over 8 Years as Measured by the CT Meter

# ARE THERE OTHER FACTORS ?

- Difference in measuring principles  
(locked wheel, side force, continuous fixed slip etc.)
- Differences within device family  
(slip ratio, wheel angle, lock rate, **tire type** etc.)
- Watering systems
- Others?

# Attempts

	Scenario =>	#0	#1	#2	#3a	#3b	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8a	#8b	#9	#10	#11	#12	#13
F-model	$F = F_0 \cdot e^{-S/S_0}$	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
	$F = F_0 \cdot e^{-(S/S_0)^a}$												X	X	X		
S <sub>0</sub> -model	$S_0 = 57 + 56 \cdot MPD$	X	X														
	$S_0 = a \cdot MPD^b$ (1)			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
	Actual S <sub>0</sub> -value from F(S)															X	
EFI-model	$EFI = A + B \cdot F_{30}$	X	X	X	X	X	X										
	$EFI = B \cdot F_{30}$							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Calibration method	$\langle\langle EFI \rangle\rangle = \alpha + \beta \cdot EFI$	X	X	X	X	X											
	$EFI = \alpha' + \beta' \cdot \langle\langle EFI \rangle\rangle$						X										
	$\langle\langle EFI \rangle\rangle = \beta \cdot EFI$							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	$\langle\langle EFI \rangle\rangle = \beta \cdot \langle EFI \rangle$																X
Statistical tests	$F > 0.01$	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	$S_0 > 0$	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	$\sigma_r(F) < 0.04$	X	X														
	$\sigma_{EFI} > 0.07$	X															
	$R_F^2 > 0.5$			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	$R_{EFI}^2 > 0.5$			X	X	X	X										
	$CV_{EFI} >$				10%	5%	10%										
	"k-test" (0,5%)			X													
	"h-test" (0,5%)			X													
Discarded devices								F05	F05 F15	F05 F15 SFC	BFC (2)	F05	F05 F15	F05 F15	F05 F15	F05 F15	

(1) With weighting . (2) F05 and F15 were also discarded here since they are of BFC-type

# ARE THERE OTHER PROBLEMS?

- **Conformance of design** of the device family  
(according to claimed standards)
- **Quality of individual devices**  
({lack of} maintenance, usage, repairs etc.)
- **Quality of calibration**  
(static vs. dynamic calibration)
- **Certified, knowledgeable operators**  
({lack of} operator training, certification)

# IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY ?

## Alternative solutions

1. Theoretical approach – macro-, micro-texture, and viscoelastic properties  
**No efficient way to measure micro-texture**
  2. Criteria-based approach on the pavement texture and its geometrical properties – **Early Stages**
  3. Cross Pollination from other industries – **Presently not Probable**
- 

**TWO POSSIBLE APPROCHES**

**#2 #3, need further observation and validation  
LONG TERM: HIGH RISK, 15-20 YEARS**



**WHAT ARE OUR OPTIONS??**

**FORGET ABOUT FRICTION  
MEASUREMENT**

**OR**

**MAKE IT WORK**

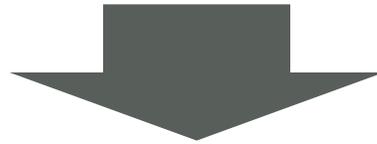


# OUR OBJECTIVES

- Is it possible with the given state-of-the-art to harmonize FMDs?
- How can it be done?

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 1. Devices are very different



1. Use models that adequately describe the device differences in harmonization process
2. Improve models that are not adequate or scrap them
3. If no model exists, develop and enforce strict standardized technical specifications

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 2. Poor device repeatability and device family reproducibility prohibit adequate harmonization



- Develop strict standards and enforce conformity
- Develop and enforce UNIFORM calibration of device components
- Develop and enforce strict requirement for BOTH static and dynamic calibration regularly

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 3. Devices are changing by time



- Find a reference device that is time stable, economic, repeatable and reproducible
- Check all reference devices regularly to check time stability
- Develop and enforce strict requirement for time stability

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 4. Surfaces are changing by time, including reference surfaces too



- Design small, laboratory-kept reference surface panels that are time stable, economical, repeatable and reproducible (use with small portable high quality reference device)

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 5. Issues with calibration/harmonization process



- Develop or choose a harmonization procedure that accounts for the device differences using adequate models
- Develop and enforce strict quality requirements for the harmonization testing
- Develop and enforce strict plan for the frequency of the execution of this harmonization testing

# PROBLEM DEFINITION & POSSIBLE SOLUTION

## 6. Procedural and operational problems (field calibration, and operations)



- Develop uniform requirements for operator training and regularly train and certify operators (at the same time dynamic calibration takes place)

# Trials at PSU begin to counter all problems defined

## 1. Determine Conformity to applicable standard

### 19th Annual Friction Workshop June 19-22, 2012

#### Friction Measuring Equipment Description

Device# 12 Technician(s): Billy Robin

Equipment Make: NAC Dynamic  
 Equipment Model: DFT DFME  
 Serial Number: NAC 073

Test Tire(s)	Tire 1-Arrived		Tire 2-Arrived		Tire 1-Final		Tire 2-Final	
Tire Type:	<u>E-1551</u>							
Tire Manufacturer:	<u>Specialty</u>							
Tire Pressure (psi):	<u>30</u>							
Tire Wear Level:	<u>5/32</u>							
Durometer Reading:	<u>57</u>							

Water Nozzle(s)	Nozzle 1-Arrived		Nozzle 2-Arrived		Nozzle 1-Final		Nozzle 2-Final	
Height from Ground:	<u>2"</u>	<u>43.5"</u>						
Horizontal Angle:	<u>55°</u>	<u>61.4°</u>						
Lateral Position (relative to tire centerline):	<u>10" 6"</u>						<u>6</u>	
Nozzle Width:	<u>3"</u>						<u>3.5</u>	
Nozzle Height:	<u>3/8"</u>						<u>3/8</u>	
Distance from end of nozzle to trailer axle center:	<u>10"</u>							

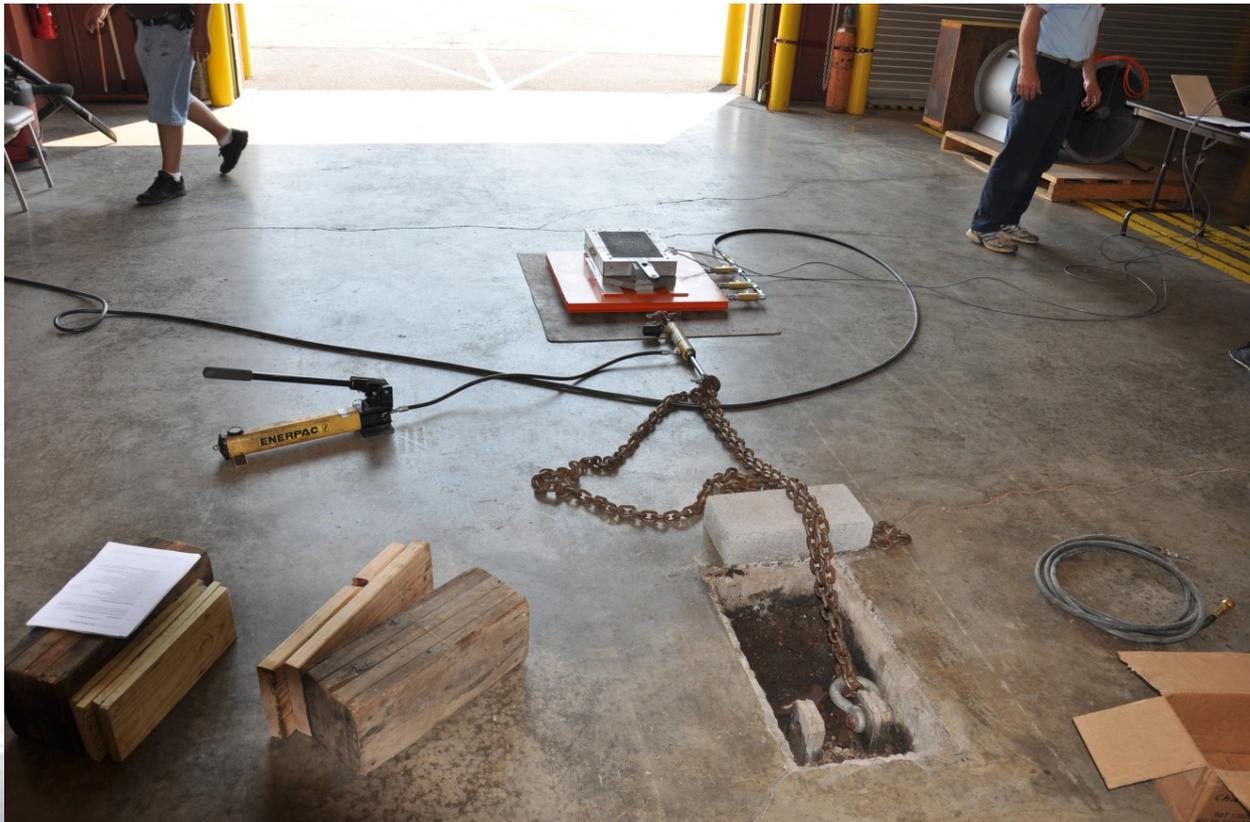
18° Angle  
3.5"

Trailer Measurements	test axle As-Arrived		Final	
Distance from trailer axle center to ground:	<u>77.8"</u>			
Distance from center of trailer hitch ball to center of the trailer axle:	<u>43.5"</u>			
Distance from center of hitch ball to floor (no water):	<u>116 1/4"</u>			
Angle and direction of trailer tongue (no water):	<u>+ 13.6°</u>			
Distance from center of hitch ball to floor (1/2 load water):				
Angle and direction of trailer tongue (1/2 load water):				
Distance from center of hitch ball to floor (full load water):	<u>116 1/4</u>			
Angle and direction of trailer tongue (full load water):	<u>+ 13.3</u>			

over please

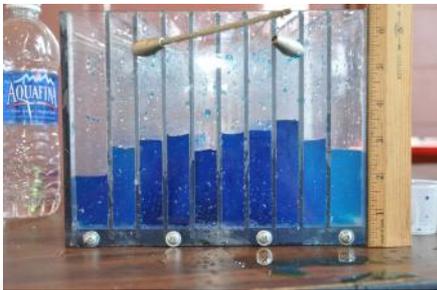
# Trials at PSU begin to counter all problems defined

## 2. Used UNIFORM calibration procedure

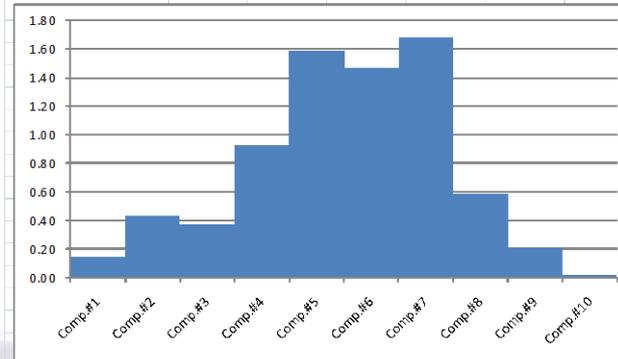


# Trials at PSU begin to counter all problems defined

## 3. Calibration of Individual Components



	Set W Depth:	0.5 mm				
	Speed=	704 in/s	Time=	2.4		
	cal=	99.535 Pixels/in				
		Water Height [pixels]	Water Height [in]	Volume [in^3]	Film Thickness [in]	Film Thickness [mm]
MuMeter 1.2.JPG						
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#1	70.33	0.71	9.15	0.0058	0.15
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#2	117.82	1.18	7.15	0.0169	0.43
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#3	102.19	1.03	6.20	0.0147	0.37
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#4	253.07	2.54	15.36	0.0364	0.92
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#5	435.21	4.37	26.42	0.0626	1.59
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#6	403.35	4.05	24.49	0.0580	1.47
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#7	460.46	4.63	27.96	0.0662	1.68
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#8	161.10	1.62	9.78	0.0232	0.59
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#9	57.11	0.57	3.47	0.0082	0.21
MuMeter 1.2.JPG	Comp.#10	8.42	0.08	1.10	0.0007	0.02
				Actual:	131.08 in^3	
				Theoretical:	128.88 in^4	



# Trials at PSU begin to counter all problems defined

## 4. Calibration of ACTUAL SLIP %, SLIP ANGLE

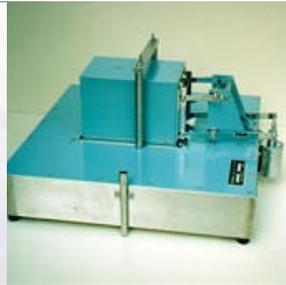


# Trials at PSU begin to counter all problems defined

## 5. Used Reference Devices

CTMeter

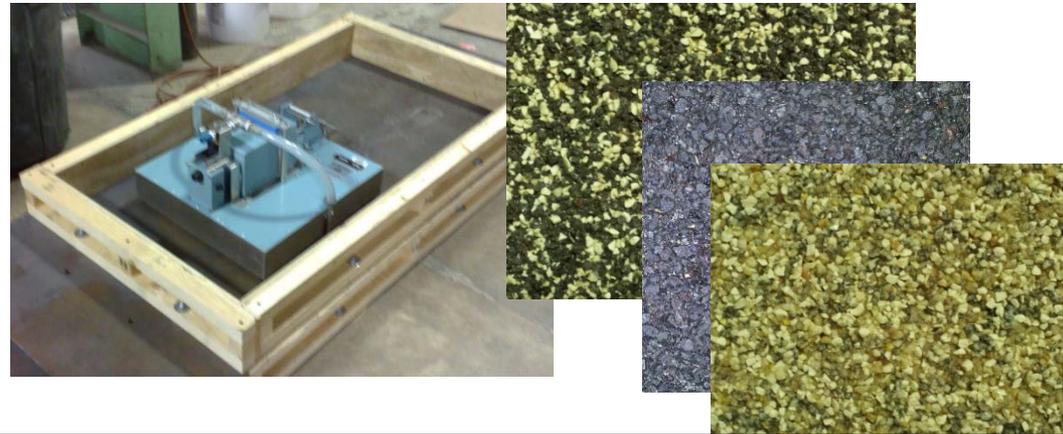
DFTester



**Time Stable  
VERY HIGH  
Reputability and  
Reproducibility**

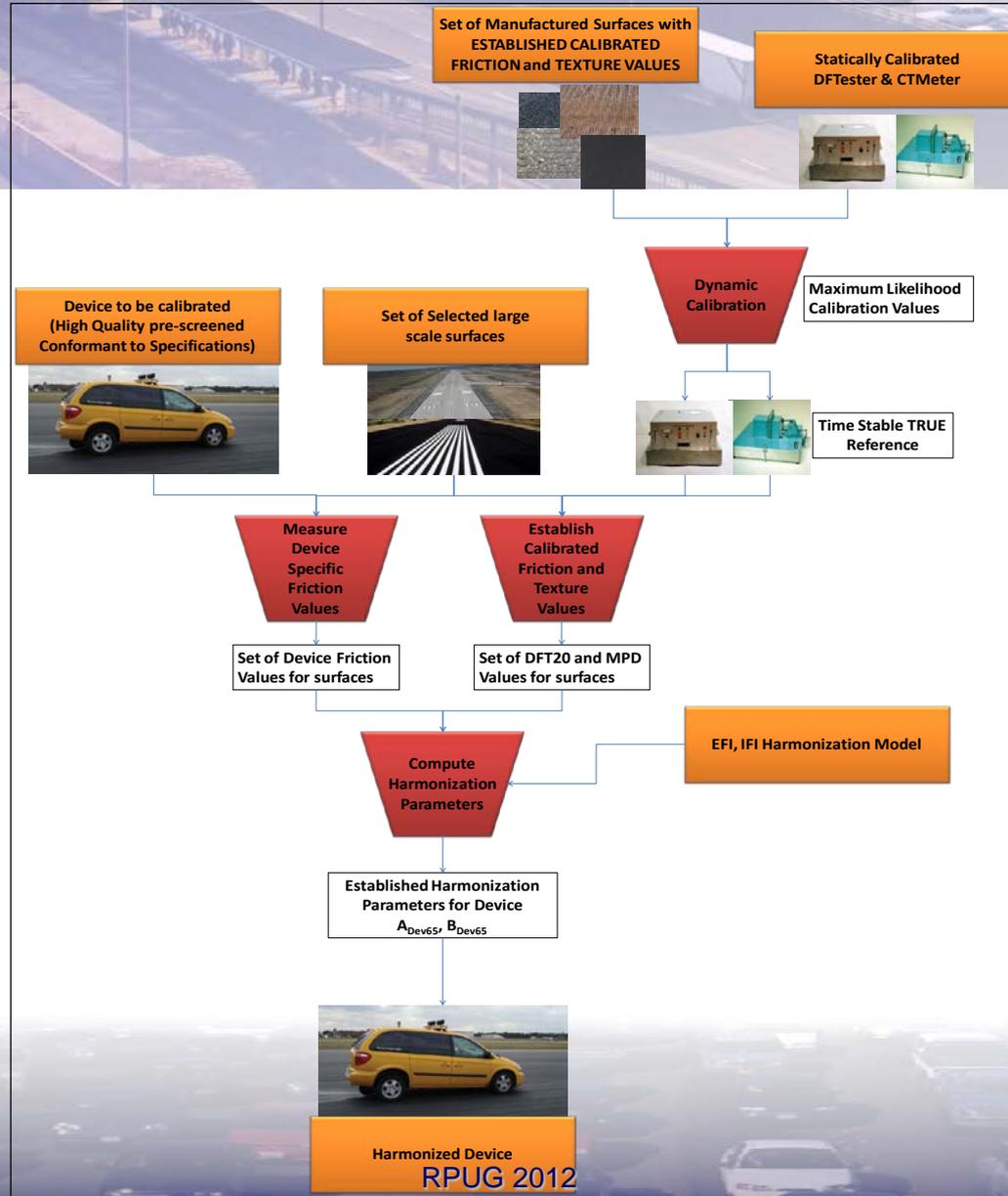
(studies in New Zealand, Florida, PSU)

## 6. Used small, laboratory-kept reference surface panels

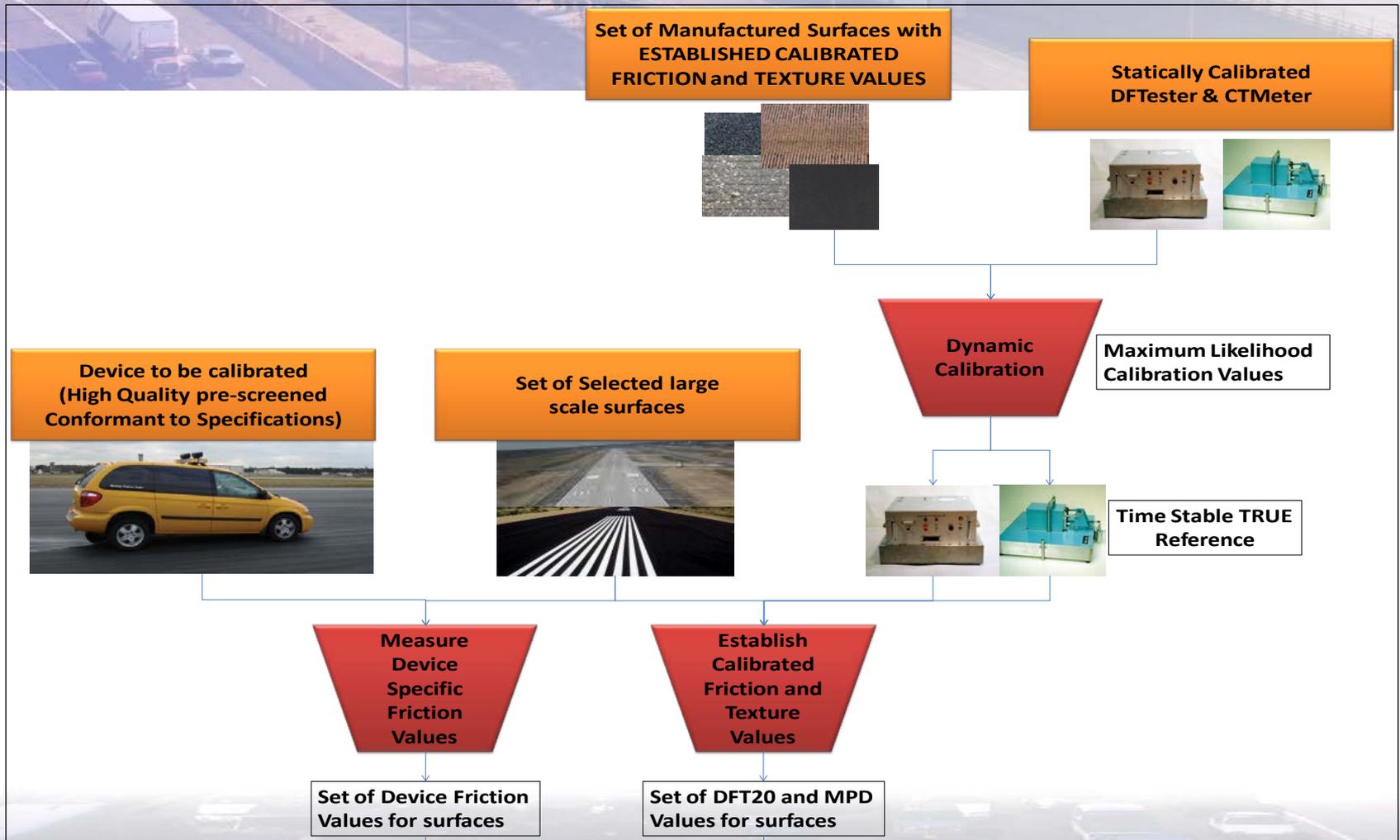


Statically and dynamically calibrated the DF tester and CT meter

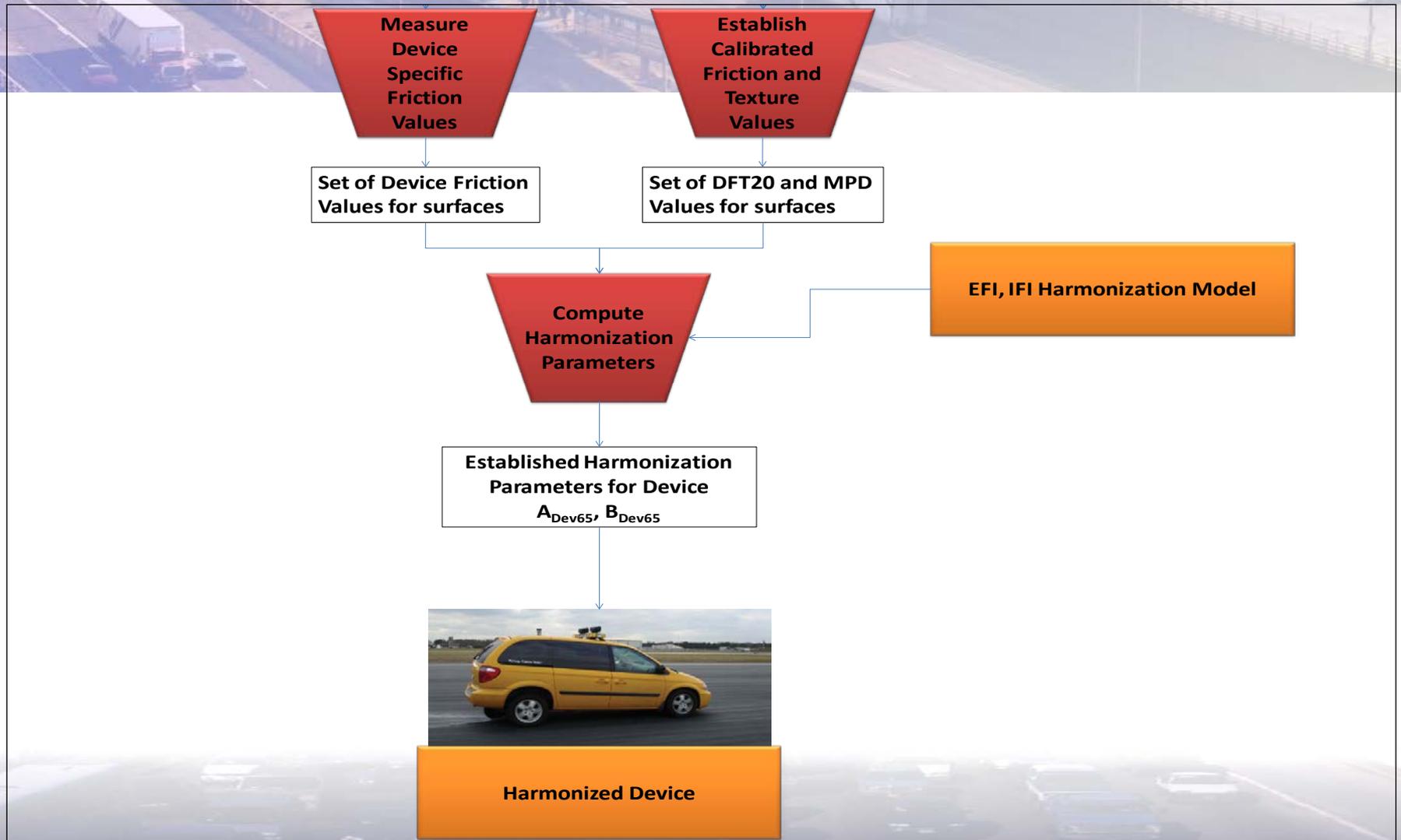
# THE HARMONIZATION PROCEDURE



# THE HARMONIZATION PROCEDURE



# THE HARMONIZATION PROCEDURE



# Operator Training and Certification

## Operator Training



## Quality Trainers



**Certified  
Operators**



# Technical advantages

- Eliminates problems stemming from time instability
- Ensures that harmonized FMDs will deliver low variability and precise measurements
  - ✓ Helps FMD manufacturers maintain high-quality equipment
- Ensures higher standardization among the different friction measurement principles and devices
  - ✓ Delivers a higher quality and fidelity harmonization process



# Practical advantages

- Proposed small and portable measurement devices are
  - ✓ Maintained in ideal laboratory environment
  - ✓ Calibrated in ideal laboratory environment
    - Using high-quality, small-scale surfaces
  - ✓ Transported easily
  - ✓ Operated at the selected large-scale field test sites easily and efficiently



# Economic advantages

- Proposed small and portable devices are
  - ✓ relatively inexpensive compared to full size FMDs
  - ✓ inexpensive to ship from location to location
- Proposed calibration surfaces are very inexpensive to produce compared to large scale surfaces

# 360 Degree Approach

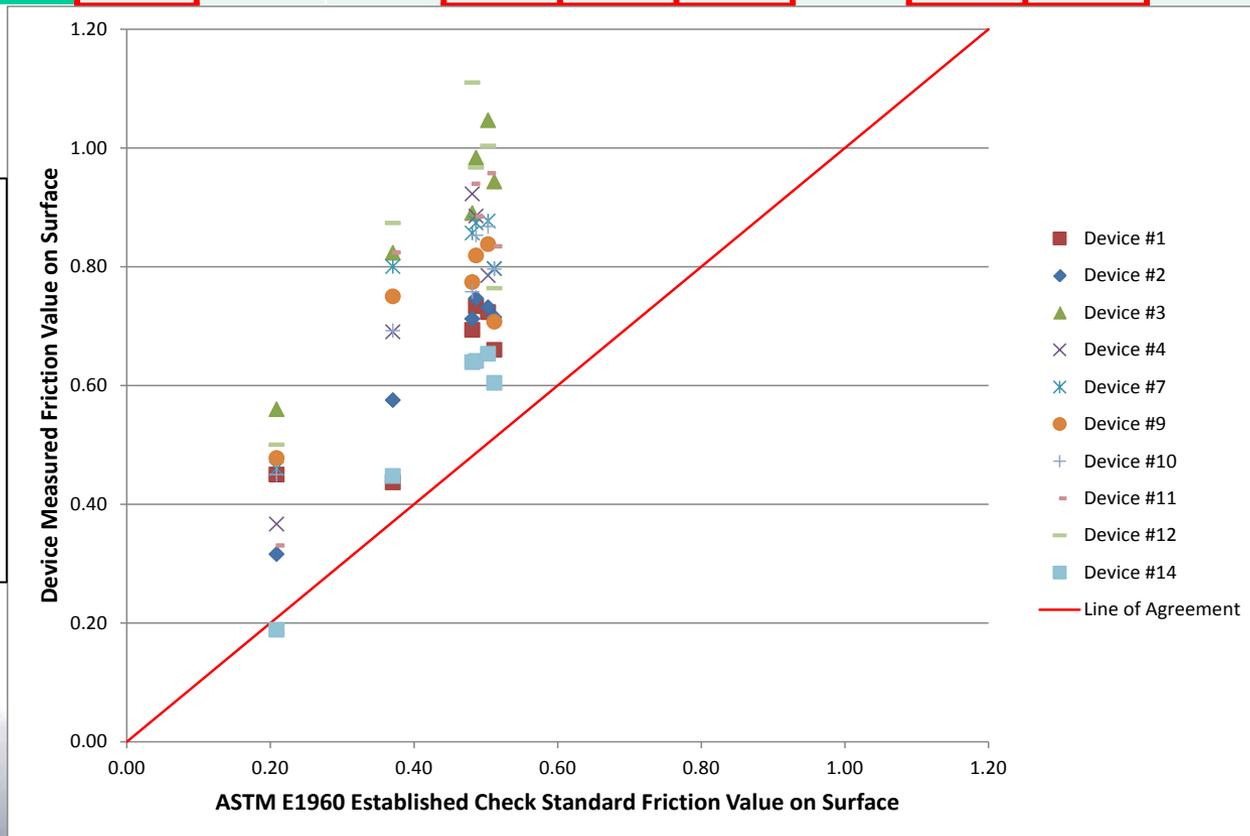


# Preliminary Results

## 2012 PSU Friction Workshop

	Dev#1	Dev#2	Dev#3	Dev#4	Dev#5	Dev#6	Dev#7	Dev#8	Dev#9	Dev#10
Device:	#1	#2	#3	#4	#7	#9	#10	#11	#12	#14
Gain (a)	0.75	0.70	0.66	0.55	0.69	0.79	0.74	0.47	0.43	0.64
Offset (b)	-0.03	-0.02	-0.15	0.02	-0.11	-0.15	-0.12	0.05	0.05	0.09
R <sup>2</sup>	0.74	0.98	0.92	0.87	0.85	0.76	0.93	0.86	0.62	0.97

**BEFORE** quality control, training, and static and dynamic calibration

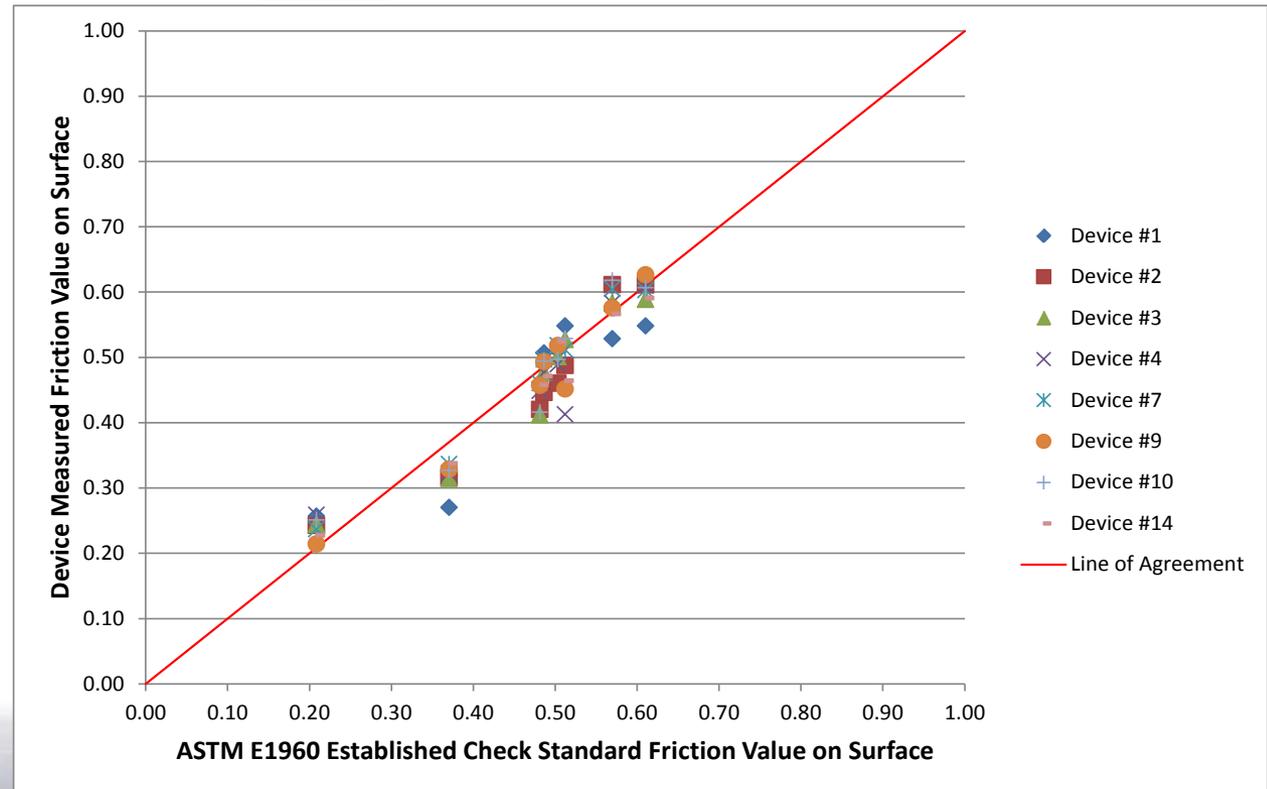


# Preliminary Results

## 2012 PSU Friction Workshop

	Dev#1	Dev#2	Dev#3	Dev#4	Dev#5	Dev#6	Dev#7	Dev#8
Device:	#1	#2	#3	#4	#7	#9	#10	#14
Gain (a)	0.95	0.93	0.97	0.99	0.97	0.93	0.93	1.03
Offset (b)	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.00
R <sup>2</sup>	0.83	0.91	0.92	0.90	0.97	0.95	0.91	0.96

**AFTER** quality control, training, and static and dynamic calibration



# FINAL CONCLUSION

The ultimate question was:

- **Is there a way we can get a reliable friction reading for functional characteristic measurements ??**

The answer is:

- **YES, a set of procedures, standards, specifications and methodology were identified that could deliver harmonization with high probability.**