

Open APIs  
for Open  
Minds

# Connecting to Robots

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# Agenda

- FIWARE Advanced Middleware: When to use it
  - Fast RTPS
  - KIARA
- ROS2 (Robot Operating System)
- DDS/RTPS Quick Introduction
  - The Standard
  - Architecture
  - Shapes Demo
- Fast RTPS Hello World Example
- Connecting to ROS2 from FIWARE
  - Fast RTPS
  - FIROS2

# FIWARE Advanced Middleware: When to use it?

# FIWARE Advanced Middleware: When to use it

- Real Time Requirements
  - Latency measured in  $\mu\text{Sec}$
- High Throughput Requirements
  - Take advantage of Pub/Sub Architecture
- Low bandwidth, intermittent and unreliable datalinks
  - Radio networks
  - Wifi
- Many to Many communications
- Decoupled architectures
- Different QoS over different datalinks and performance requirements.
- Efficient Data Models

# FIWARE Advanced Middleware: When to use it

## ■ eProsima Fast RTPS

- C++
- Full RTPS (Real Time Publish Subscribe) implementation
- RPC layer available through eProsima RPC over DDS
- Robotics Adoption (ROS2)
- Apache 2.0 License

## ■ KIARA

- Java
- Complete RTPS implementation
  - No Support for large data (>64kb) yet
- RPC included
- LGPL License (Plans to migrate to Apache 2.0)
- Interoperable with Fast RTPS

# ROS (Robot Operating System)

# ROS2: Robotics de facto Standard

- The Robot Operating System (ROS) is a set of software libraries and tools that help you build robot applications. From drivers to state-of-the-art algorithms, and with powerful developer tools, ROS has what you need for your next robotics project. And it's all open source. ROS has become a de facto standard for Robotic applications.
- OSRF Sponsors: **Bosh, DARPA, google, MathWorks, Nasa, Nissan, Qualcomm, rethink robotics, ROS-Industrial Consortium, Sandia National Laboratories, SICK, Willow Garage, Yujin Robot**



# DDS/RTPS Quick Introduction



# Introduction: Everything is distributed

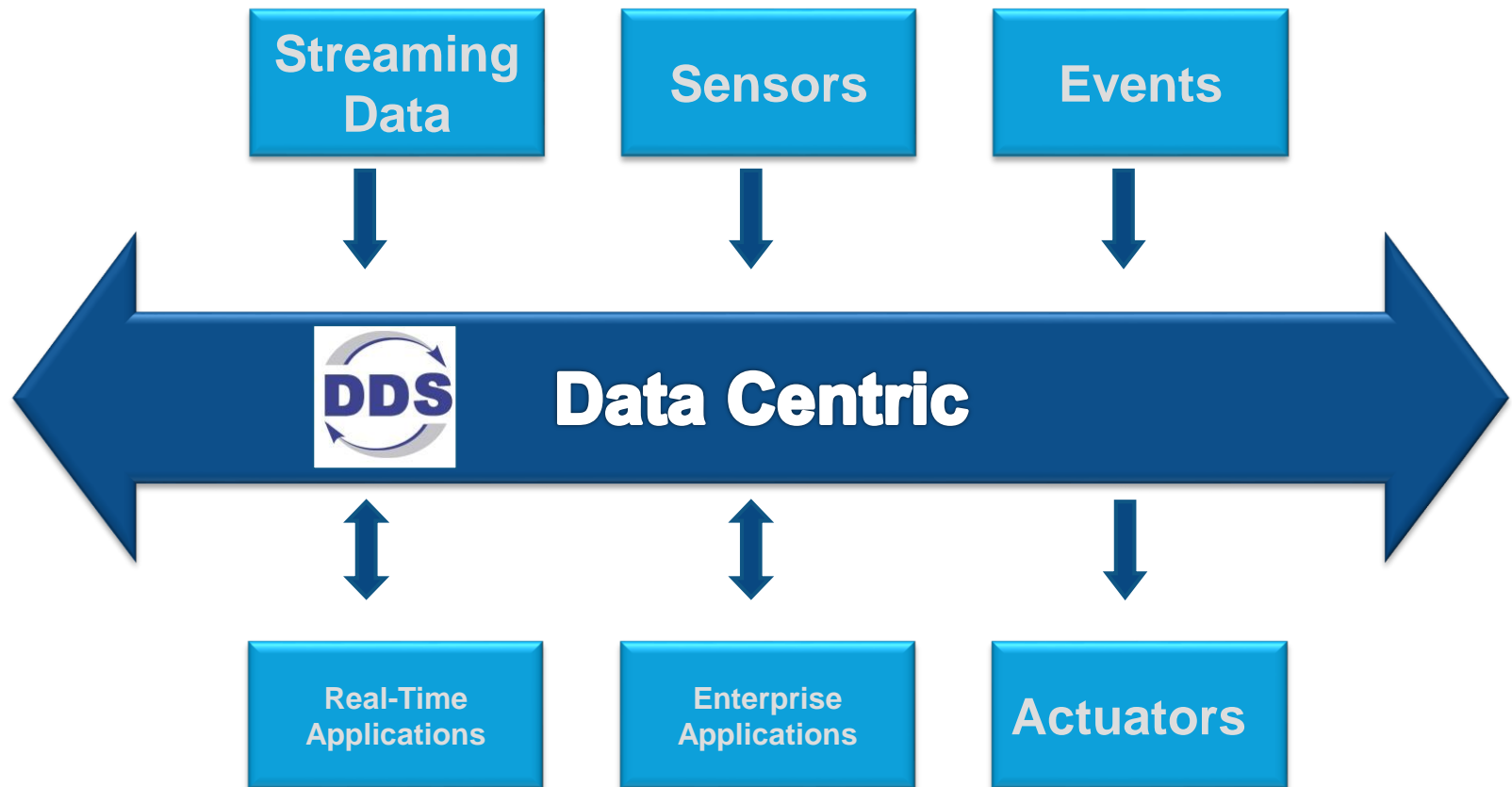
- Enterprise Internet
  - Internet of Things
  - Cloud Computing
  - Industry 4.0
  - ...
- 
- Next-generation systems needs:
    - Scalability
    - Integration & Evolution
    - Robustness & Availability
    - Performance
    - Security



# Challenge

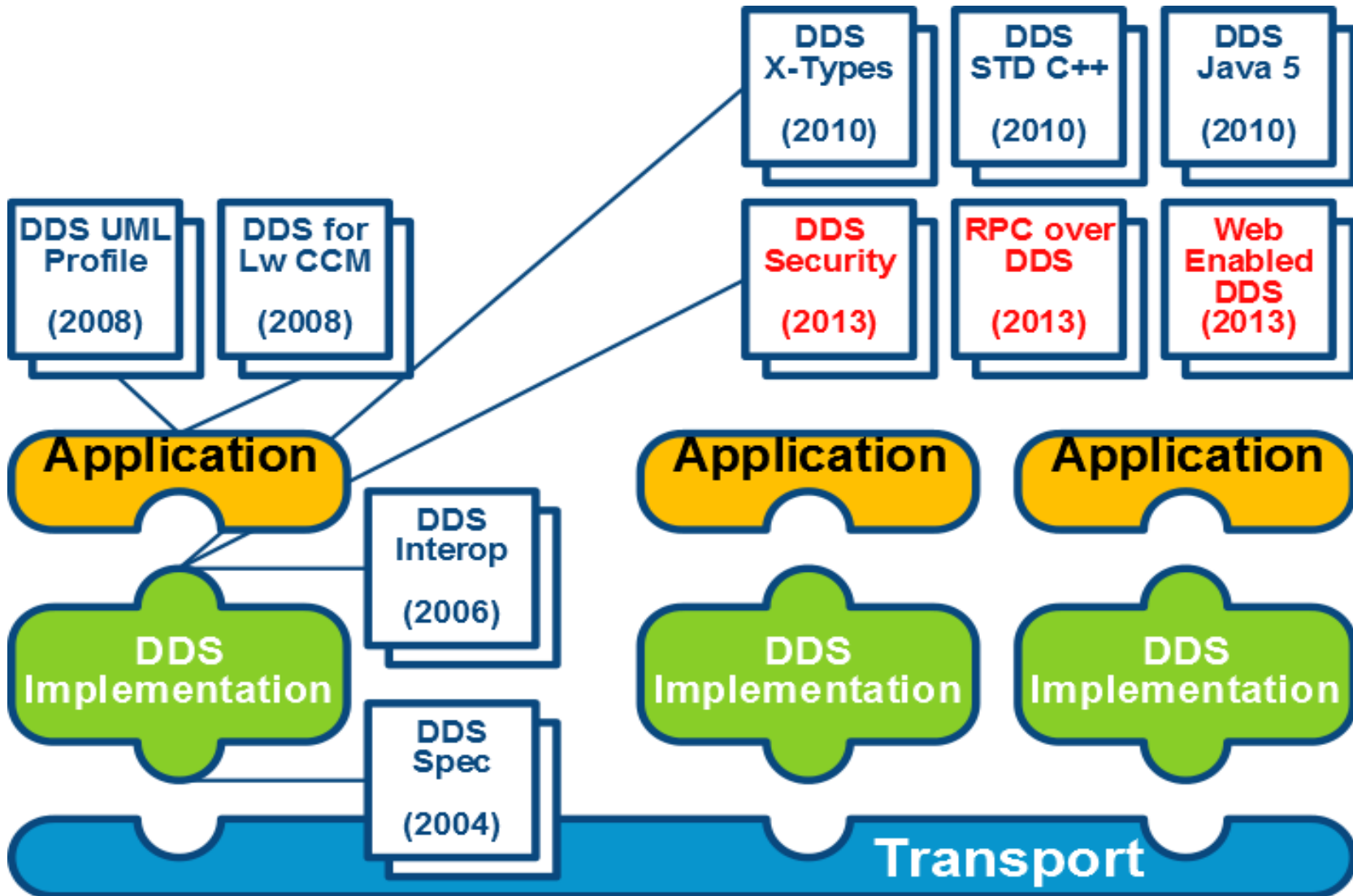
- Everything is connected, and we should enable communication between the different nodes.
- And this means:
  - Common protocols
  - Common Data Types
  - Known interfaces
  - Different QoS over different datalinks and performance requirements.
  - Different communications patterns.
  - Broad platform and programming language support.
  - Good Data Models!

# DDS/RTPS: Standards-based Integration Infrastructure for Critical Applications



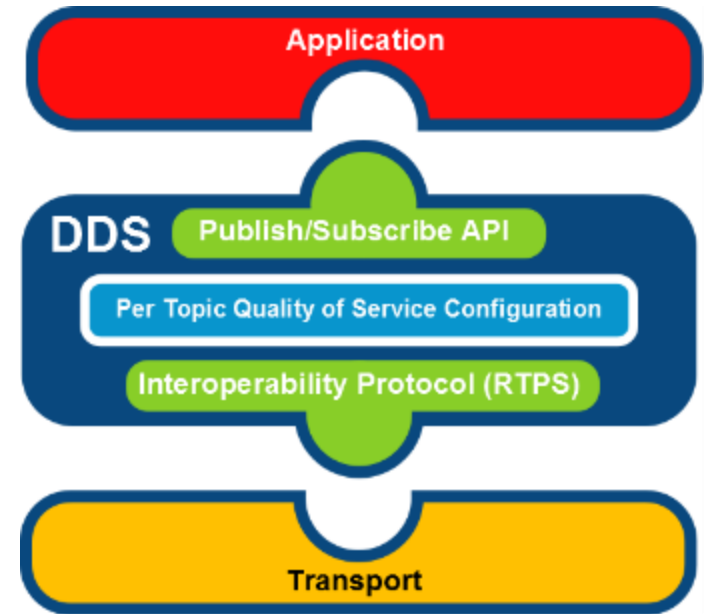


# Family of Specifications



# Broad Adoption

- Vendor independent
  - API for **portability**
  - Wire protocol for **interoperability**
- Multiple implementations
  - 10 of API
  - 8 support RTPS
- Heterogeneous
  - C, C++, Java, .NET (C#, C++/CLI)
  - Linux, Windows, VxWorks, other embedded & real-time
- Loosely coupled



# DDS adopted by key programs in Europe

- *European Air Traffic Control*
  - *DDS proposed for interoperate ATC centers*
- *Spanish Army*
  - *DDS is mandated for C2 Interoperability (ethernet, radio & satellite)*
- *UK Generic Vehicle Architecture*
  - *Mandates DDS for vehicle comm.*
  - *Mandates DDS-RTPS for interop.*



# US-DoD mandates DDS for data-distribution

- DISR (formerly JTA)
  - DoD Information Technology Standards Registry
- US Navy Open Architecture
- Army, OSD
  - UCS, Unmanned Vehicle Control
- SPAWAR NESI
  - *Net-centric Enterprise Solutions for Interoperability*
  - *Mandates DDS for Pub-Sub SOA*



# RTPS Adoption

- ROS (Robotic Operating System)
- FIWARE
  - EU R&D Software Platform
- Many Drone Companies
  - 3D Robotics
  - Magma UAVs
  - ...





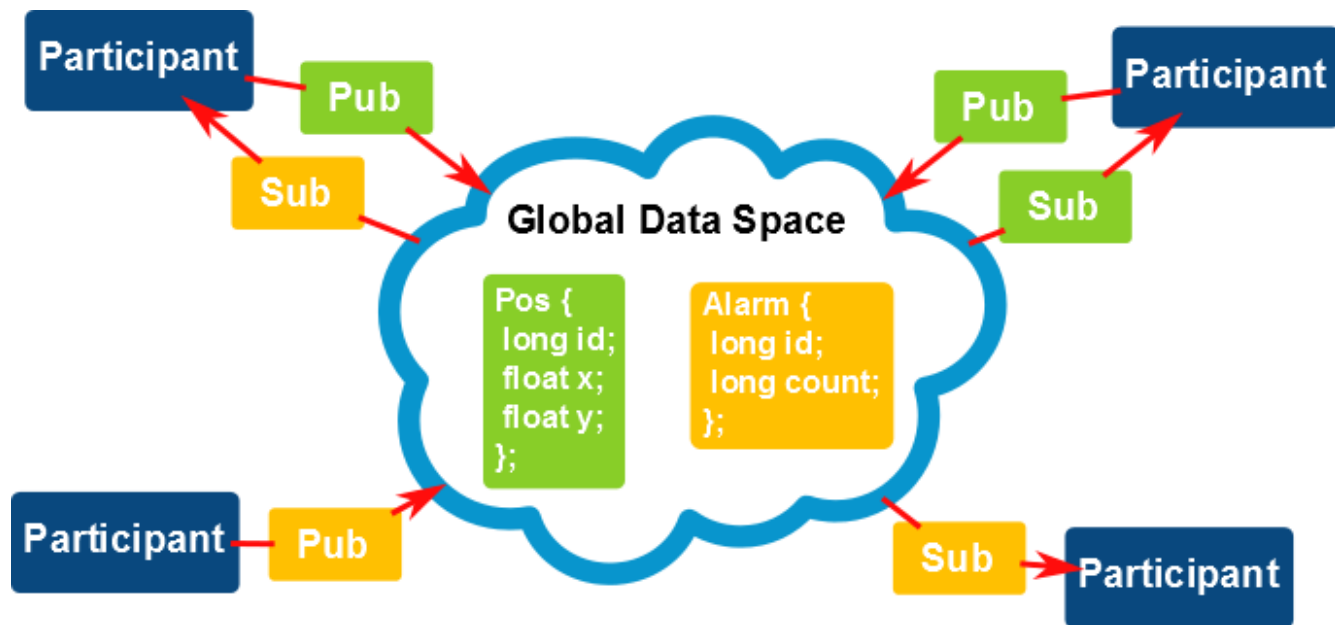
# DDS Architecture

# DDS

- DDS (Data Distribution Service for Real-Time Systems) is a OMG specification for a pub/sub data centric model (DCPS, Data Centric Publish/Subscribe) for Real-Time data comms in distributed systems.
- DDS is a networking middleware that:
  - Simplifies and Standardizes data flows in distributed real-time systems.
  - Provides robust comms (no single point of failure) and efficient (minimum latency)
  - Provides all kind of QoS to shape the data flows and deliver predictable results.

# DDS

DDS uses the concept of **Global Data Space**. In this Space we define **topics** of data, and the **publishers** publish samples of these topics. DDS distributes these samples to all the **subscribers** of those topics. Any node can be a publisher or a subscriber.



# Why DDS? Decoupled model

- **Space (location)**
  - Automatic Discovery ensures network topology independence
- **Redundancy:**
  - It is possible to configure redundant publishers and subscribers, primary/secondary and takeover schemas supported
- **Time:**
  - The reception of data does not need to be synchronous with the writing. A subscriber may, if so configured, receive data that was written even before the subscriber joined the network.
- **Platform:**
  - Applications do not have to worry about data representation, processor architecture, Operating System, or even programming language on the other side
- **Implementation:**
  - DDS Protocol is also an standard. Different implementations interoperate.

# Why DDS? Fully configurable

Volatility

QoS Policy

**DURABILITY**

**HISTORY**

READER DATA LIFECYCLE

WRITER DATA LIFECYCLE

**LIFESPAN**

Infrastructure

ENTITY FACTORY

**RESOURCE LIMITS**

Delivery

**RELIABILITY**

**TIME BASED FILTER**

**DEADLINE**

**CONTENT FILTERS**

User QoS

QoS Policy

**USER DATA**

TOPIC DATA

GROUP DATA

Presentation

**PARTITION**

PRESENTATION

DESTINATION ORDER

Redundancy

**OWNERSHIP**

**OWNERSHIP STRENGTH**

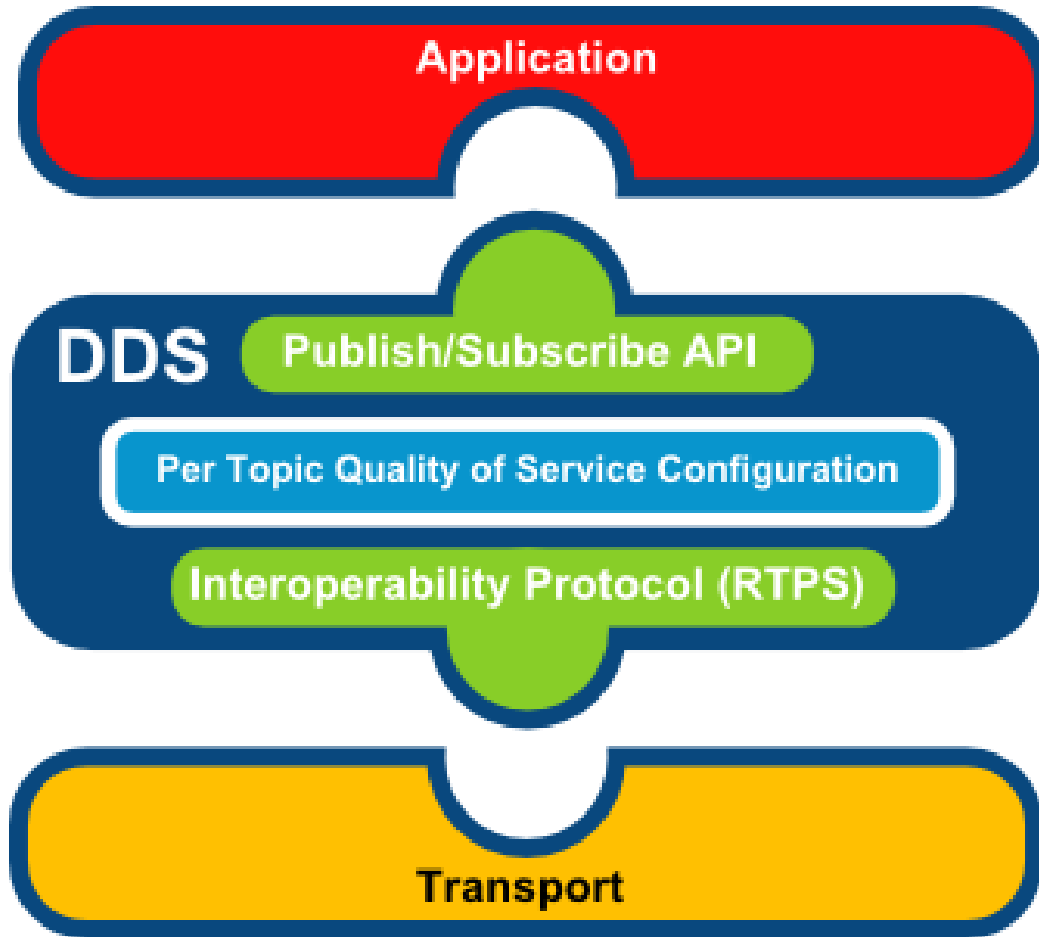
**LIVELINESS**

Transport

LATENCY BUDGET

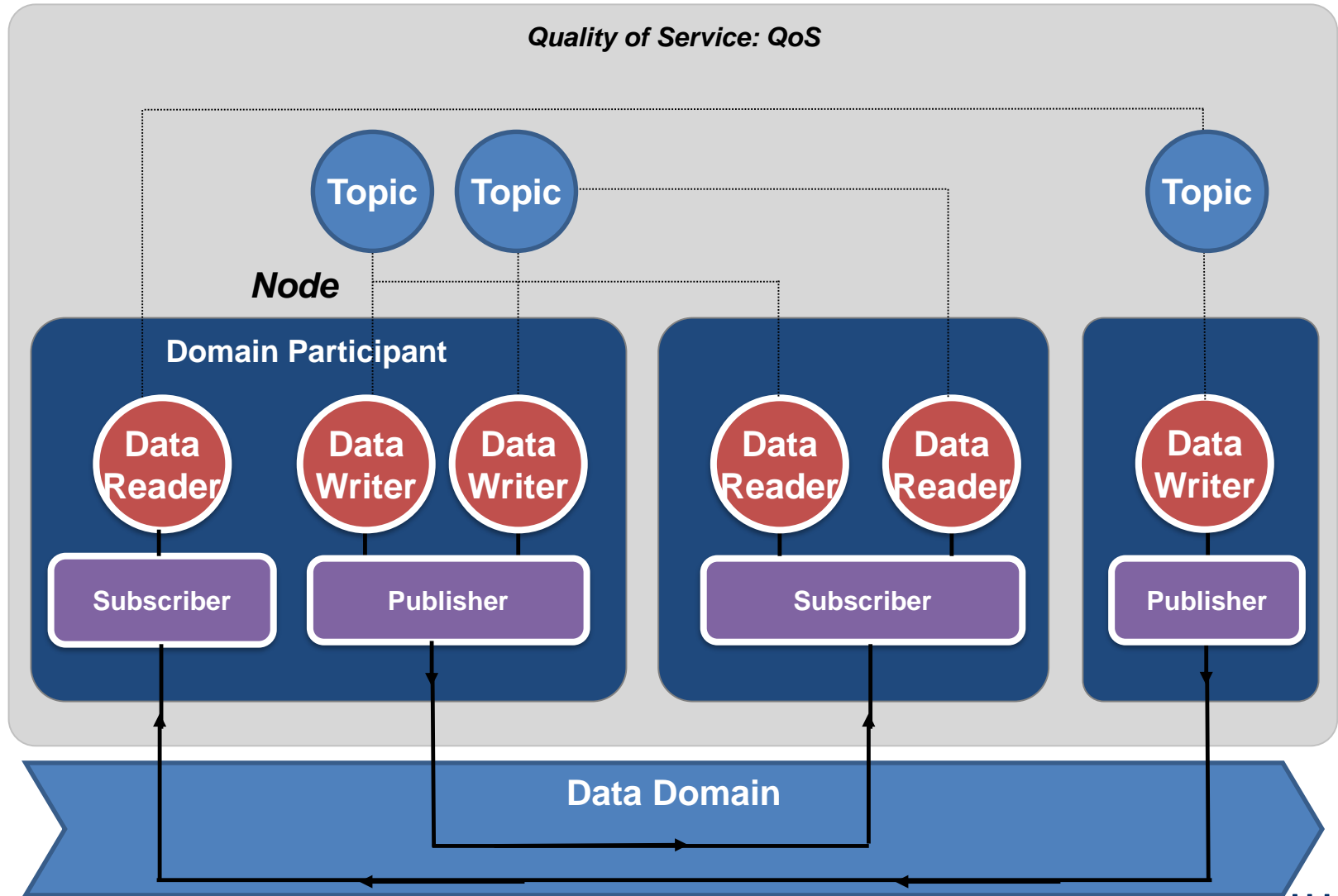
TRANSPORT PRIORITY

# DDS Infrastructure



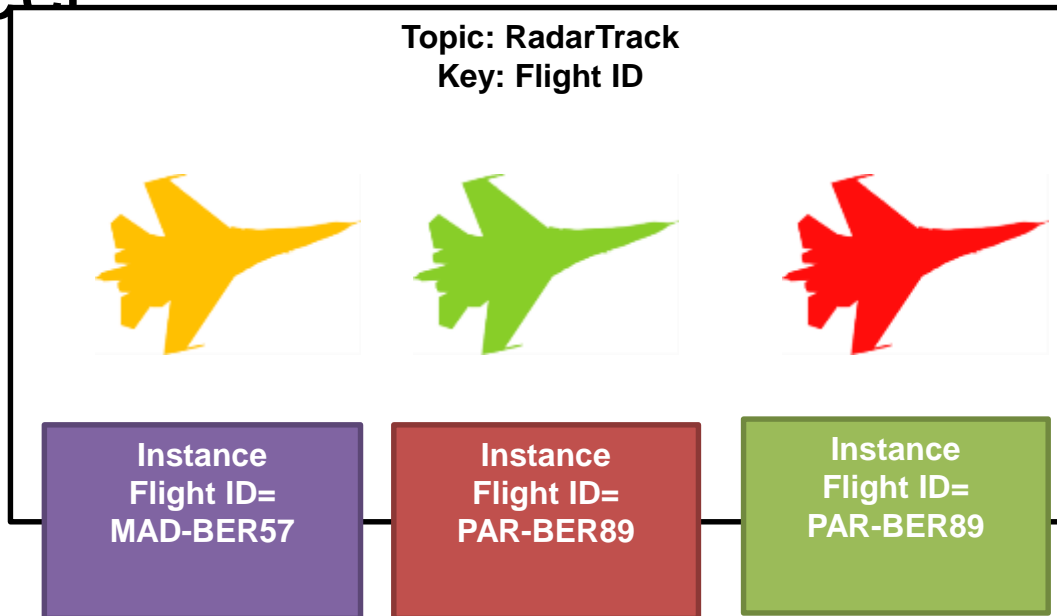
- Standard API for portability.
- RTPS can be implemented over any transport
- No central Broker/Service
- Different Comm channel per topic

# The DDS Model



# Topics, Instances and Keys

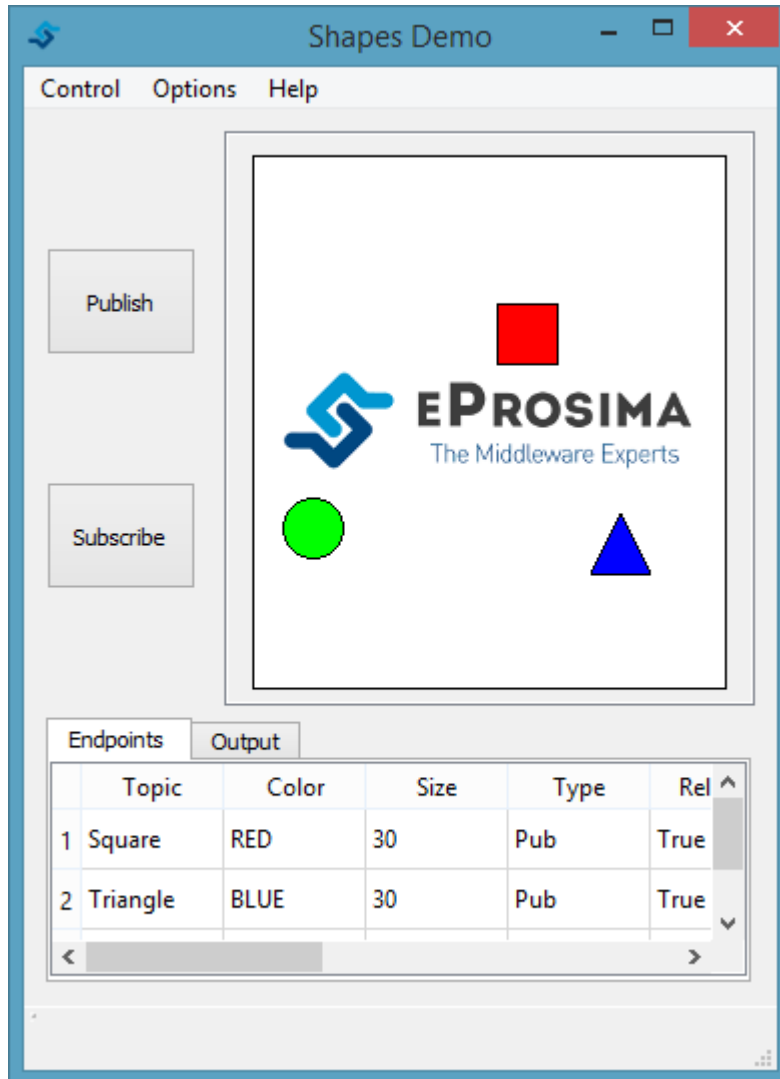
- **Topic:** A set of similar objects, sharing a common Data Type
- **Instance:** A particular object of the set
- **Key:** Fields of the Data Type to identify an object



**Qos**  
**Applied by**  
**Instance.**



# Demo



```
const long STR_LEN=24;  
struct ShapeType {  
    string<MSG_LEN> color; //@key  
    long x;  
    long y;  
    long shapesize;  
};
```

- **3 Topics:**
  - **Square, Circle, Triangle**
- **Color is the KEY**

# Fast RTPS Hands On: A Hello World

# Hands-on Example (C++)

Three minutes to a running app!

1. Define your data
2. Create your project
3. Build
4. Run: publisher subscriber

Type  
Definition  
MyType.idl

MyType.sln

fastrtps  
gen

MyType.h

MyTypePubSubTypes.c

MyTypePublisher.cxx

MyTypeSubscriber.cxx

compiler

Publisher Subscriber.exe

# Example #1 - Hello World

We will use this data-type :

```
const long MSG_LEN=256;  
struct HelloMsg {  
    string<MSG_LEN> user; //@key  
    string<MSG_LEN> msg;  
};
```

# Generate type support (for C++) [Windows]

```
fastrtpsgen HelloMsg.idl -example x64Win64VS2015\  
-replace -ppDisable
```

- Look at the directory you should see:
  - solution-x64Win64VS2015.sln
  - And Several other files...
- Open the Solution:
- Compile from visual studio

# Execute the program [Windows]

- C++:
  - On one window run:
    - `bin\x64Win64VS2015\HelloMsgPublisherSubscriberd.exe publisher`
  - On another window run:
    - `bin\x64Win64VS2015\HelloMsgPublisherSubscriberd.exe subscriber`
- You should see the subscribers getting an empty string...

# Writing some data

- Modify `HelloMsgPublisher.cxx`:

```
/* Main loop */
do
{
if(ch == 'y')
{
    st.msg() = std::string("Hello using cpp ") +
    std::to_string(msgsent);

    mp_publisher->write(&st); ++msgsent;

    cout << "Sending sample, count=" << msgsent <<
        ",send another sample?(y=yes,n-stop): ";
}
}
```

# How to Get Data? (Listener-Based)

```
// Listener code
```

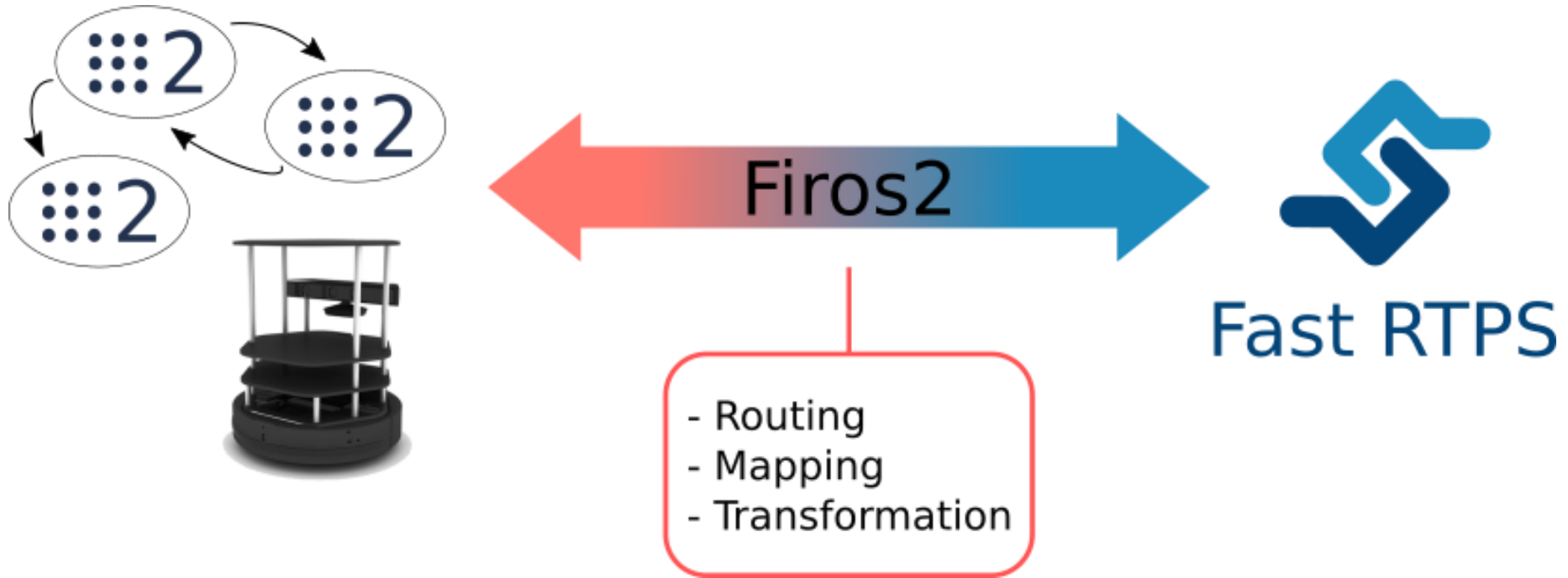
```
void HelloMsgSubscriber::SubListener::onNewDataMessage(Subscriber* sub)
{
    // Take data
    HelloMsg st;

    if(sub->takeNextData(&st, &m_info))
    {
        if(m_info.sampleKind == ALIVE)
        {
            // Print your structure data here.
            ++n_msg;
            cout << "Sample received, count=" << n_msg << endl;
            cout << " " << st.msg() << endl;
        }
    }
}
```



# Connecting to ROS2 from FIWARE

# FIROS2: ROS2 to Fast RTPS



# FIROS2: ROS2 to Fast RTPS

## ROS2

message.msg

byte robot\_id  
float32 battery\_level  
string state  
...



## Fast RTPS

message\_.idl

octet robot\_id\_  
float battery\_level\_  
string state\_  
...

# FIROS2: Roadmap

- Bridge to Orion Context Broker

# Want to know more?

- <https://catalogue.fiware.org/enablers/fast-rtps>
- <https://catalogue.fiware.org/enablers/kiara-advanced-middleware>
- [www.eProsima.com](http://www.eProsima.com)
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