

# Factory Simulation

Digital manufacturing & continuity

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# Factory Simulation enables faster, evidence-based decisions that improve performance with higher certainty



## Why organizations need Factory Simulation

- Pressure to accelerate time-to-market while meeting regulatory requirements
- Increasing process complexity driven by new products and technologies
- Need to adapt rapidly in a volatile operational environment
- Operational decisions have long-lasting impact and must be validated before execution.

## How Factory Simulation supports organizations

- Reduce lead times and production costs
- Increase throughput and OEE through identification of hidden constraints
- Accelerate ramp-up and technology transfer
- Avoid unnecessary CapEx and OpEx investments

Boost performance while reducing cost and investment risk without manipulating the real system



# Examples: Internal Logistics



## AGV Analysis

- A client from the aerospace sector needed to decrease the throughput rate of a wing component from 12 to 8 days.
- Key to this objective, the client wanted to commission AGVs facilitate the intralogistics movements. The client had conducted analysis and determined that they required 10 AGVs.
- Simulation provides detailed statistical insights as well as the ability to test what if scenarios and validate the correct number of AGV



## Results

- ✓ Identification of the optimum number of AGVs, **moving from 10 to 7 AGVs, providing both CapEx and OpEx savings circa € 0,5M**
- ✓ Verification of achievable ramp up targets.
- ✓ Identification of the optimum battery management strategy, **reducing 15% further OpEx energy costs**



## Internal Logistics Automation

- Need to define an efficient logistics system to support expected growth in production.
- Need to generate what if scenarios to evaluate alternatives to automation
- Need to define technical specifications of the new equipment and its system to ensure growth in production will be met



## Results

- ✓ Identification of the **optimum intralogistics system**, substituting manual trolleys, **saving 10 FTEs**
- ✓ Verification of new system will meet required capacity to support production demand
- ✓ Facilitated specification of technical equipment to support business requirements

# A clear vision, data and governance are the key ingredients for achieving the benefits provided by Factory Simulation



## Main Challenges

- **Undefined Business Objectives**  
Without clear decision goals, simulation models become mere technical curiosities lacking strategic value.
- **Data Quality and Availability**  
Unstructured or incomplete operational data leads to inaccurate simulations and erodes stakeholder confidence.
- **Organizational Ownership Challenges**  
Lack of clear process ownership causes outdated models and unvalidated assumptions across departments.
- **Over-modeling and Talent Gap**  
Excessive model complexity and scarce simulation expertise hinder timely insights and model maintenance.



## Main Pre-Requisites

- **Clear Business Objectives**  
Leadership must define specific vision and goals for this capability to ensure the right focus to deliver value
- **Data Readiness and Accuracy**  
Appropriated access to clean, relevant data from enterprise systems and knowledge to avoid incorrect analysis
- **Strong Governance Structure & Methodology**  
A systematic, well-defined approach towards simulation that is embedded within the business processes
- **Cross-Functional Collaboration**  
Ensure key stakeholders are involved and own both the digital asset created and analysis.
- **Appropriated tools and skillset**  
A simulation tool and skills align with the strategic vision to achieve

**Fulfilling main pre-requisites must be main priority for organizations starting with factory simulation**

# Factory Simulation is evolving into a real-time, predictive decision engine for the entire manufacturing ecosystem



## WHERE IS HEADING

1

From offline models to living digital assets

2

From one-shot analysis to end-to-end virtual testing environments

3

From insight reporting to predictive decision making

4

From expert-only tools to business user automation

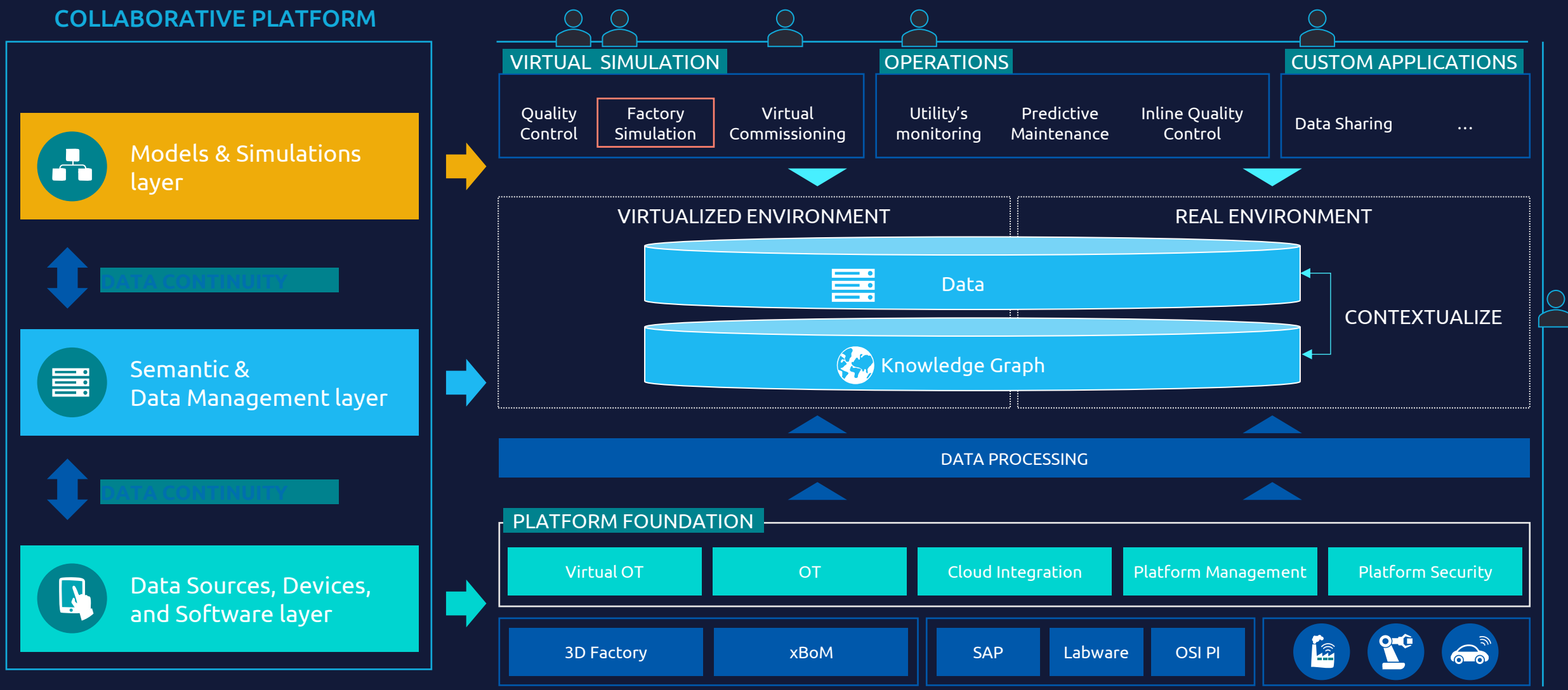
## TECHNOLOGY ENABLERS

- **Real-time data connectivity (APS, MES, IoT, ERP)**  
Factory simulation becomes part of the production planning ecosystem, triggered by business events
- **Cloud scalability**  
Factories will run large-scale experimentations in minutes to identify best strategy under uncertainty
- **Integration with planning and financial decision**  
Organizations will embed simulation to complement CapEx planning, hiring forecasts and technology transfer decisions
- **Enablement of virtual sandboxes**  
Organizations will use virtual sandboxes to verify and validate changes before commissioning them
- **AI generated models & auto calibration**  
AI will accelerate the creation of models and make use of them to provide suggesting to factory or line managers



# 1 Digital twin architecture details

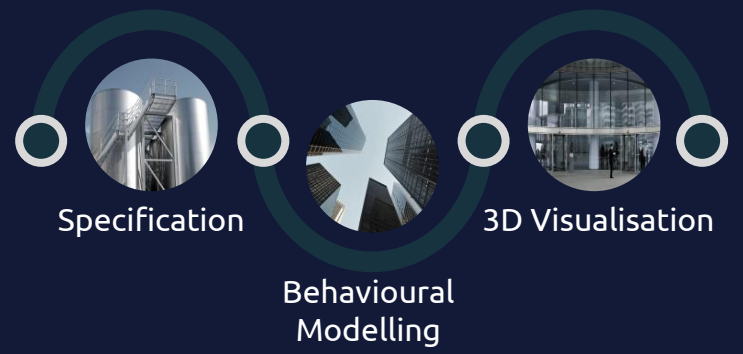
Digital twin is the combination of the virtual and real environments



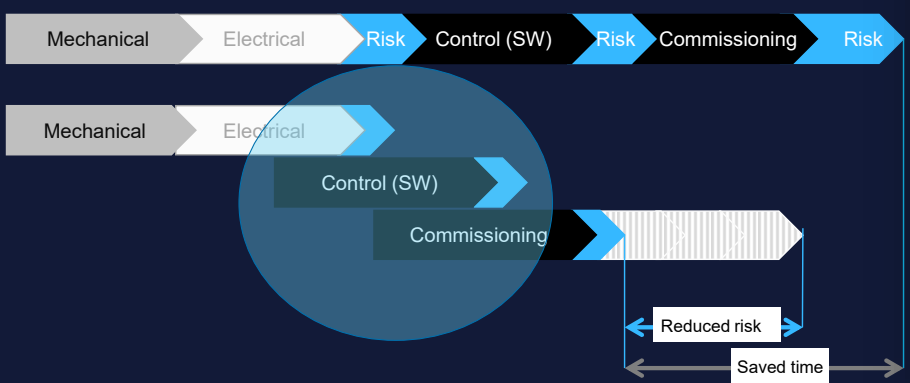


# 2 Virtual Sandboxes example: De-risk integration with virtual commissioning

## Virtual Commissioning



Commissioning can make up to 25% of the total project cycle time. (VDW 1997)



**Virtual commissioning** is the **practice** of using **modelling** and “virtual” **simulation** technology to “commission” - design, install or test - automation system with virtual machine model to **validate** software & upgrades **off-site** before you deploy it to the real system.

Save time	Reduce risk	Increase efficiency
<p><b>Simulate effortless</b></p> <p>Debug realistic systems without real hardware</p>	<p><b>Ensure quality</b></p> <p>Verify logic, detect errors, prove quality</p>	<p><b>Ease operator training</b></p> <p>3D simulation in best-in-class tools</p>
<p><b>Accelerate commissioning</b></p> <p>Optimized system integration</p>	<p><b>Efficient re-use</b></p> <p>Same data in simulation, reality, across projects</p>	<p><b>Convince your customers</b></p> <p>Create insight and trust with functional models</p>

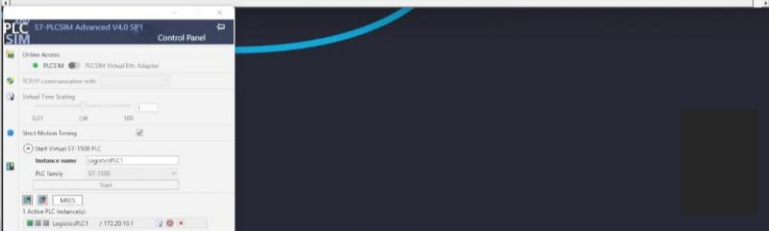
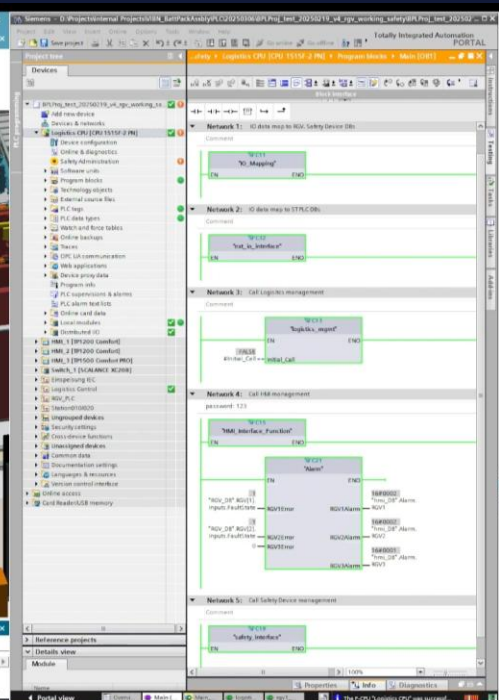
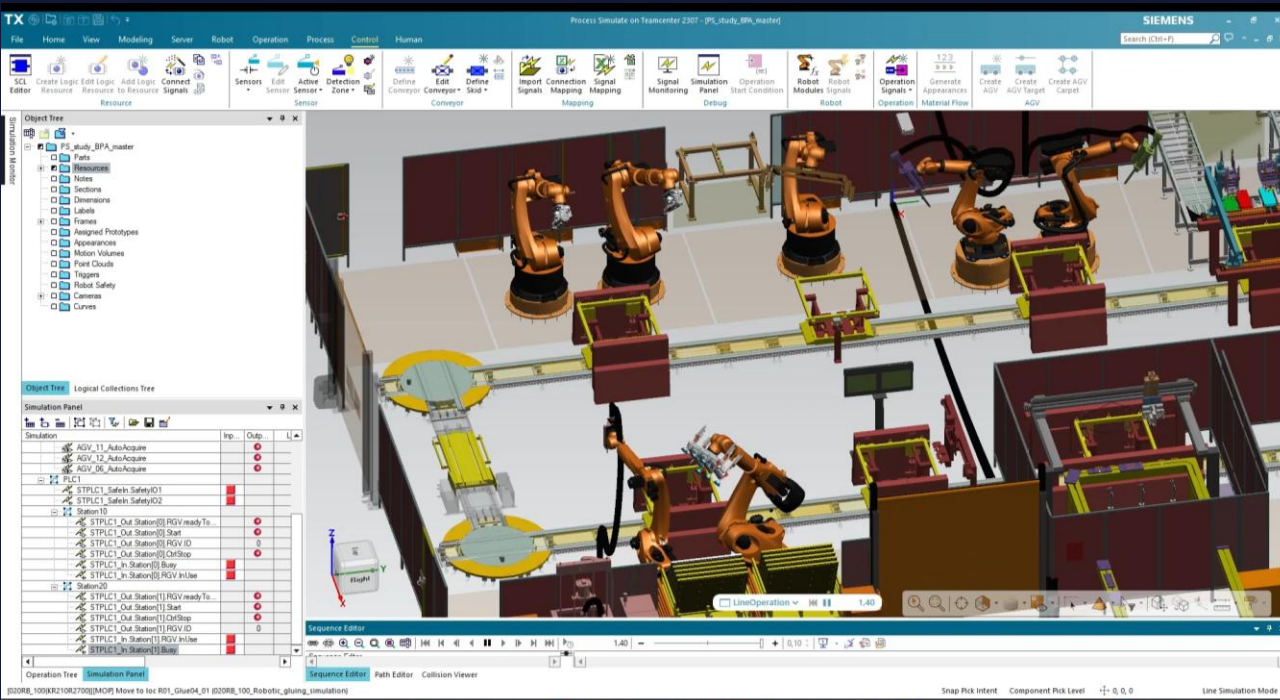


# 2 Virtual Sandboxes example: De-risk integration with virtual commissioning

3D Environment

Manufacturing Software

Operation Panel



PLC Emulator

# Production planning



## Challenges & Opportunities

- A Naval Client is using simulation to support production planning within its Shipyard. This is due to the fact that there is a high level of variability and uncertainty on the duration of activities, requiring constant replanning and scheduling
- The client was looking to migrate its simulation models from Flexsim into Plant Simulation.
- Client was also looking to integrate simulation model with their PLM system to accelerate definition of the mBOM and Bill of process
- However, expertise was required to ensure model logic and behavior was successfully replicated in Siemens Software



## Solution

- Discrete Event Simulation (DES) or Factory Flow Simulation.
- Product Lifecycle Management Software



## Results

- ✓ Time spent by production planners in –rescheduling and planning **was reduced up to 25%, saving potentially 50 man days**
- ✓ The model identify production flow improvements (reductions in lead time) **saving 1-5 days within original schedule.**
- ✓ The model was used to validate millionaire investment value of a new workshop built in the Shipyard.



# 4 Integration with planning and financial cycles: Line Configuration

The screenshot displays a software interface for equipment configuration and asset management. The interface is divided into several panels:

- Top Left Panel:** Filter Assets section with 'Documents' and 'Tag' filters. A search bar contains 'All, Security (document type)'. Buttons for 'Cancel' and 'Apply' are present.
- Top Middle Panel:** A large image showing a 'cota' logo and a 'Bidding / Processing Bid on Equipment' banner with a 'View Details' link.
- Top Right Panel:** A 3D model of a yellow industrial machine with various control buttons and a 'View Details' link.
- Bottom Left Panel:** An 'ASSETS' table with columns for 'Tag Name' and 'Type of Equipment'.

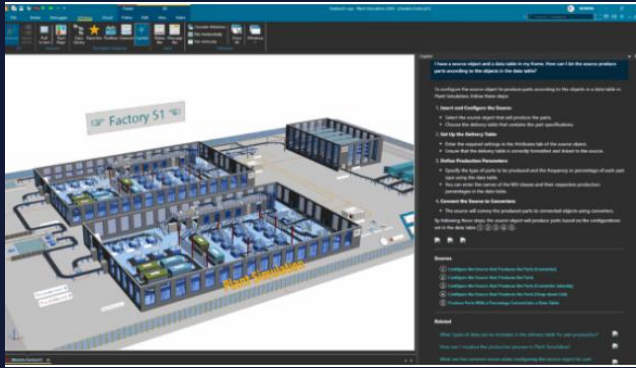
Tag Name	Type of Equipment
11.12.01.1	Processing (Equipment)
11.12.01.2	Processing (Equipment)
- Bottom Right Panel:** An 'ITEMS' table with columns for 'Name', 'Value', and 'Cost'.

Name	Value	Cost
Available in stock	7500	-
Equipment (11.12.01.01)	0	100000
Equipment (11.12.01.02)	7500	100000

At the bottom right, it says 'Powered by' followed by a logo.



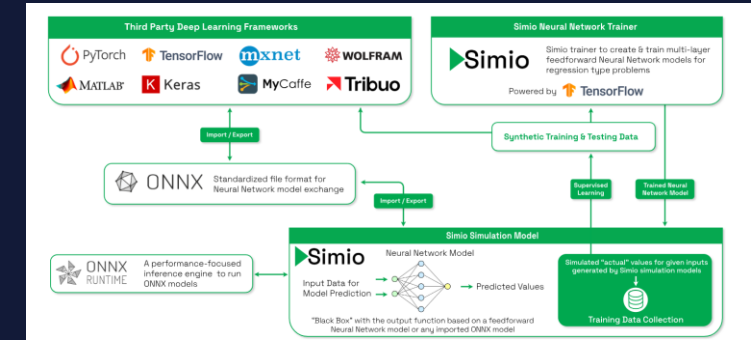
# 4 AI Model Generation: Main software providers are starting to provide AI based solutions



<https://blogs.sw.siemens.com/tecnomatix/introducing-the-ai-powered-copilot-for-siemens-plant-simulation-software/>



<https://www.autodesk.com/autodesk-university/class/Automating-Process-Optimization-with-AI-The-FlexSim-Optimizer-and-Live-Digital-Workplaces-2025>  
<https://www.anylogic.com/features/artificial-intelligence/reinforcement-learning/>



<https://www.simio.com/ai-optimization>

## AI Powered Copilot for Siemens Plant Simulation software

- Reduce time to create models
- Provide suggestion on how to improve productions
- Ultimately, reduce the need for expertise
- Can also help training AI models

## Anylogic and Flexsim provide API to facilitate integration with AI

- Use of chatbots or agents to support coding and programming
- Train AI models

## Similar case, Simio offers an API to facilitate AI integration

Simio provides Neural Network capabilities to facilitate optimization

This capability can also be used to train AI agents in third-party Neural Networks



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**Let's connect!**

# Expert



Thank  
you.

Make it *real.*

