Best

Practices

eXpert for

**CFD** 

Sponsored by NASA Langley Research Center Contract NAS1-03053

DPW-3

3-4 June 2006



NIELSEN ENGINEERING & RESEARCH, INC. Michael R. Mendenhall

Paul M. Stremel



#### Introduction

- Many CFD problems can be traced to inexperienced users producing results with software they do not understand.
- The user has a critical role in current CFD processes.
- Each flow regime may require a special approach to ensure satisfactory results.
- Each CFD algorithm and code may have its own individual requirements and quirks.
- The quality of CFD results is subject to variability of different users and codes.

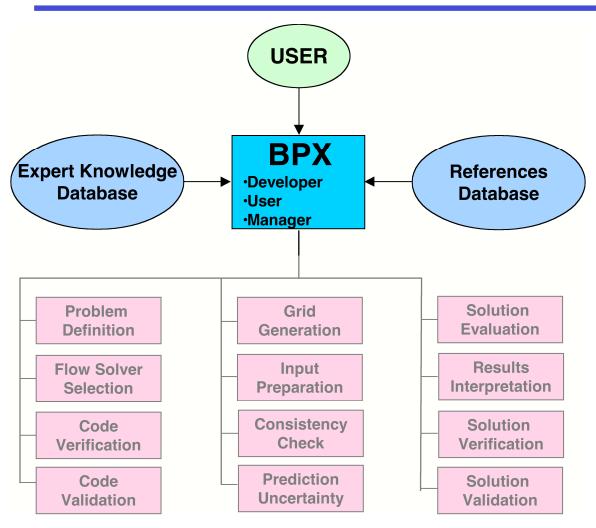


### Background

- NASA Langley Research Center Funding
  - April 2003 to August 2006
  - Technical Monitor: Joe Morrison (with M. Hemsch & J. Luckring)
- The Goal of Best Practices for CFD
  - Achieve Consistent High-Quality Solutions
  - Reduce Uncertainty, Minimize Errors, Quantify Uncertainty
  - Produce More Efficient CFD Tools, Lower Cost Analyses
  - Eliminate Unnecessary Runs
  - Don't Repeat the Mistakes of the Past
  - Leverage corporate and expert knowledge
- The Result is BPX Best Practices eXpert for CFD to provide a bridge between the "art" and "science" of CFD



### What is BPX?



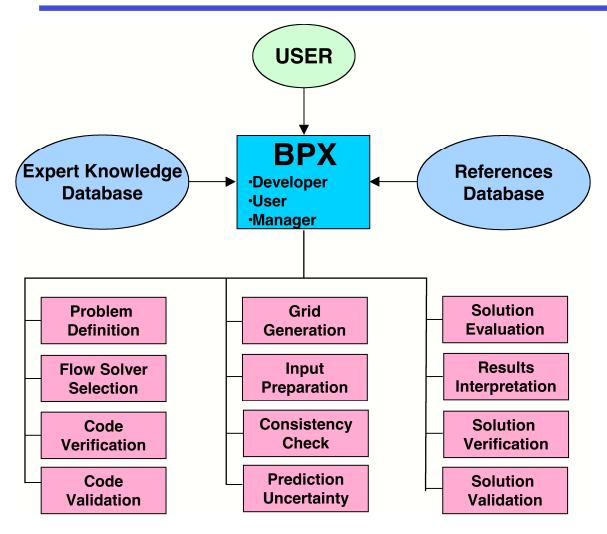


#### **BPX Databases**

- BPX is Built on a Knowledge-Based System
  - Expert Knowledge Database
  - Reports and Documents Citations Database
  - Specific Guidelines
  - Rules for Special Situations and Problems
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Verification and Validation Information

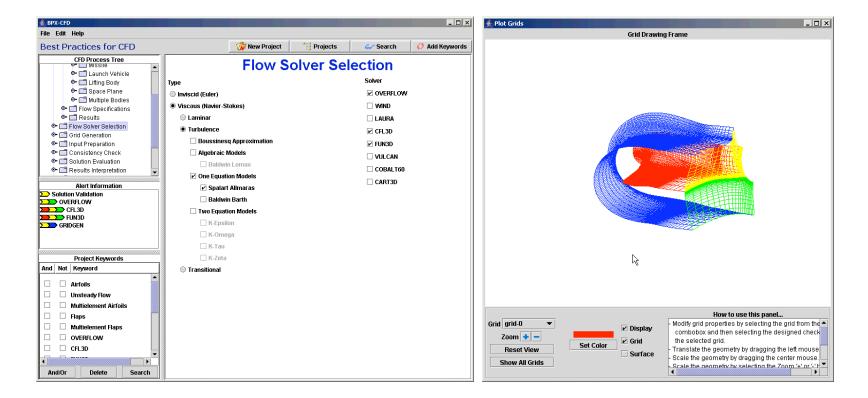


### What is BPX?





# **BPX Application**

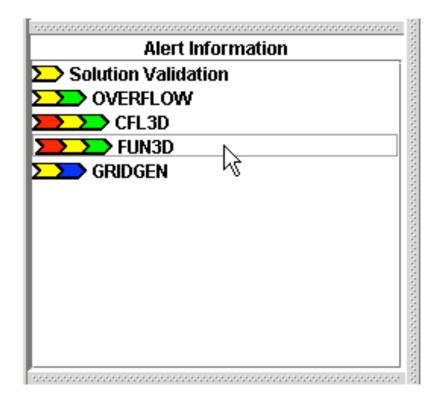


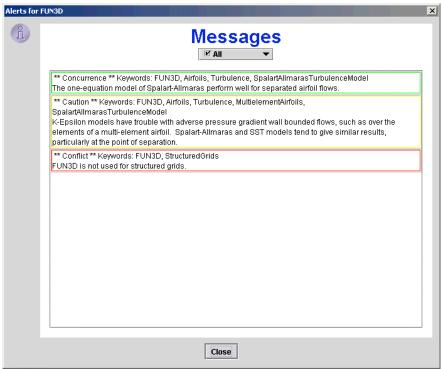
**CFD Process** 

**Grid Visualization** 



# **BPX Application**





Alerts

**Guidelines** 



# Why Are We Here?

- You Are the Experts!
- You Have the Knowledge to Make BPX Work!
- We Need Your Help with Knowledge Acquisition!
- How Does the Knowledge Capture Happen?



## The Knowledge Capture Process

- Conduct Personal Interviews with CFD Expert Users and Developers, (1+ Hours) Record Audio
  - Personal One-on-One Interviews Work Best
  - Telephone Interviews are Possible
  - Group Interviews are not as Productive as Individual Interviews
- Transcribe Audio Tapes
- Check Transcription with Tapes for Accuracy
- Parse Technical Information from the Transcript
- Assign Keywords from the Hierarchy
- Add Information Nuggets to the Database
- Perform Final Editing and Checking
- Perform Follow-up Interviews if Needed



# We Need Your Help

- Contact Information:
  - Mike Mendenhall
    - [mrm@nearinc.com]
    - 650-968-9457 x-224
  - Paul Stremel
    - [pstremel@nearinc.com]
    - 650-968-9457 x-233



#### Where Do We Go From Here?

- BPX will be Delivered to LaRC about August 2006.
- NASA will Provide Distribution for the Initial Version of BPX.
- Future Maintenance and Support of BPX is tbd.
- NEAR will Investigate Other Opportunities for BPX.
  - Proprietary Versions
  - Develop Systems for Other Technology Areas