Abstract:
The presentation discusses the application of assurance cases as a means of building confidence that the software design of a complex system of systems will actually meet the operational objectives set forth in the project's top-level requirements, even before that software has been completed. The discussion will describe assurance cases in general, explain the reasons for selecting the assurance case approach, and step through an example of how to apply the method in the described context. The challenges of applying the approach in a real setting will be considered, followed by conclusions.

The information in this presentation does not necessarily represent the opinions of the author or the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute.

Biography:
Stephen Blanchette, Jr. is Deputy Chief Engineer for Army Programs at the Software Engineering Institute in Pittsburgh, specializing in acquisition improvement initiatives. Mr. Blanchette has over 23 years of experience in the defense industry with positions in software management and development for various systems including the Apache helicopter and the Bradley family of vehicles. He holds a Master of Arts in Diplomacy from Norwich University and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Mr. Blanchette is an associate fellow of the AIAA, a senior member of the IEEE, and a longtime member of the ACM, AFCEA, AUSA, and NDIA.

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