

An introduction to Security Management Systems (SeMS)



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What is a SeMS?

- A SeMS is an organised, systematic approach to managing security which embeds security management into the day to day activities of an organisation
- It provides the necessary organisational structure, accountabilities, policies and procedures to ensure effective oversight
- In summary, a SeMS is an **assurance system for security**

UK SeMS Framework (CAP 1223)

SeMS Purpose: “Corporate Assurance”

- Provide Corporate Assurance that security is well-managed and risks are under control
- Continuous picture of security status
- A means for Directors to deliver their fiduciary duties for protection of staff, customers, assets and the public
- Risk-driven framework for integrating security into daily operations and culture
- Enables an organisation to identify and address security risks, threats, gaps and weaknesses in a consistent and proactive way

*Secretary of State for Transport
UK government*

Mysterious? Secret? Complicated?

- No, no and no
- Ideas and language are new to traditional security methods...
...but well-tried in other disciplines
- Think “ISO9001” Quality Management – systematic, organised, methodical...
- ...and a simple, proven approach to implementation

SeMS Benefits

- Improved security for the public
- Certainty and consistency of security performance
- Efficiencies and operational cost reduction
- No surprises at audits
- Reduced business risk
 - Negligence claims
 - Reputation
 - Fines

= Corporate Assurance

Benefits achieved with a SeMS – industry testimony

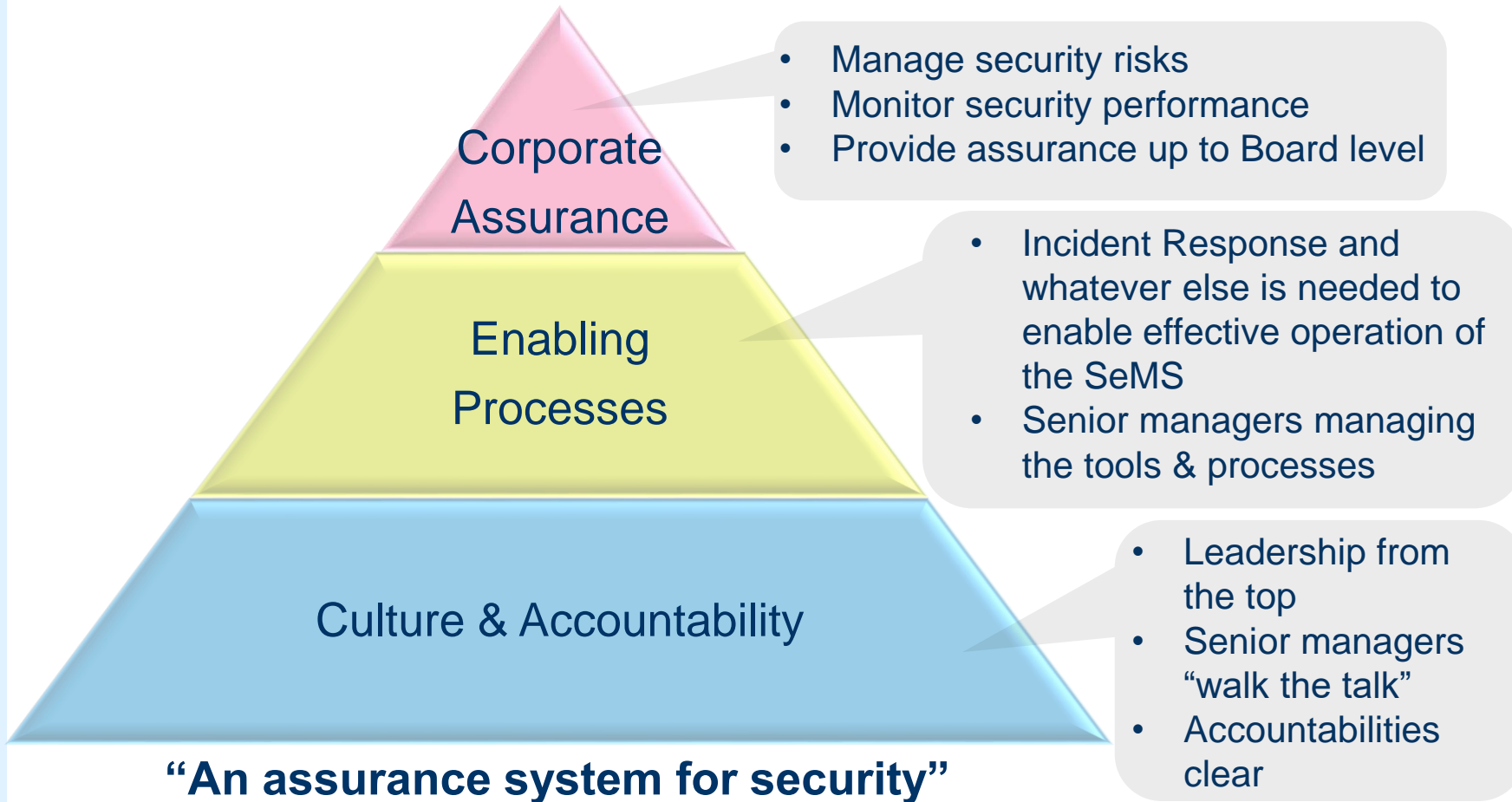
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- Creates Board level accountability for security
 - Demonstrates we are discharging our accountability and responsibilities for security
 - Encourages transparent and verifiable security
 - Delivers greater visibility of compliance assurance
 - Enables more effective use of existing tools and systems
 - Supports threat assessment methodology
 - Builds on Safety Management Systems learning in many industries
 - Encourages collaborative approaches
 - Empowers and promotes pro-active reporting
 - Drives a more assurance based regime
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SeMS Myths and Legends

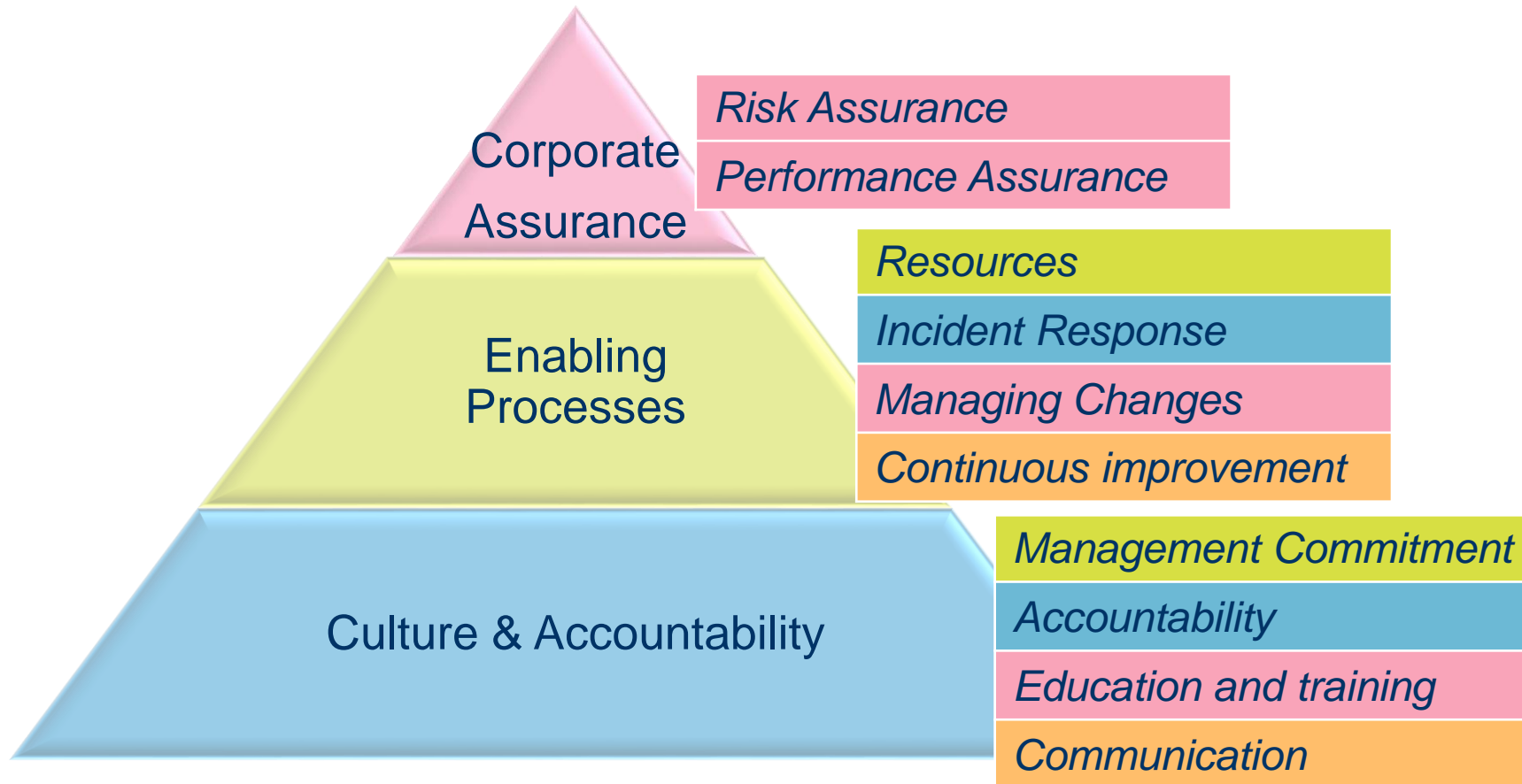
- It's not a set of documents you put on a shelf
- It doesn't have to cost a fortune!
- It's not a silver bullet, or magical solution
- It's not an IT system
- It's not a *one size fits all* solution
- It's not an additional burden
- It's not a rigid process
- It doesn't replace the need to comply with security regulations (for regulated industries)



The easy way to think of SeMS: Three Themes



SeMS Framework Principles – Summary

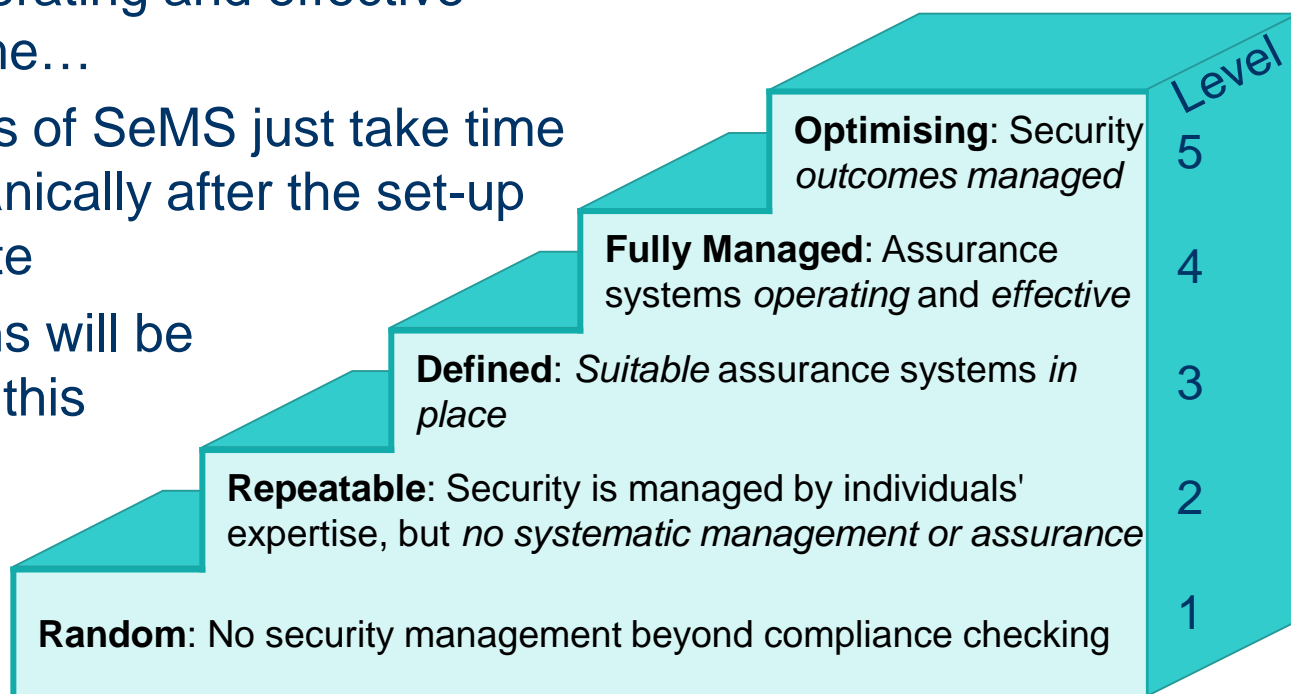


Avoiding a ‘fantasy’ SeMS project

- The SeMS Framework provides a simple, practical approach to implementation
- Proven in Aviation
- Human nature is to look for comprehensive, “provably correct” solutions that have covered every eventuality – and it’s doomed to failure
- In practice, what works is a simple, easy to understand, easy to use SeMS

Steps to an operating and effective SeMS

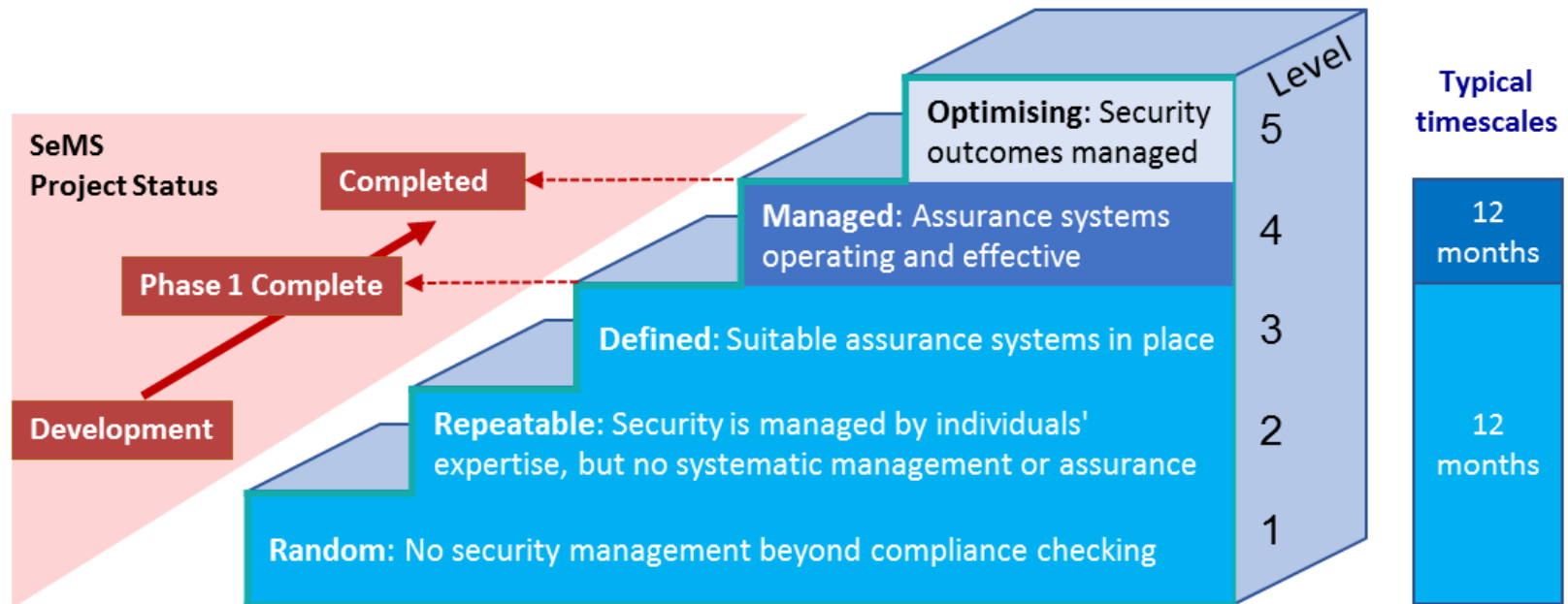
- Creating an operating and effective SeMS takes time...
- ...some aspects of SeMS just take time to develop organically after the set-up work is complete
- All organisations will be somewhere on this maturity ladder



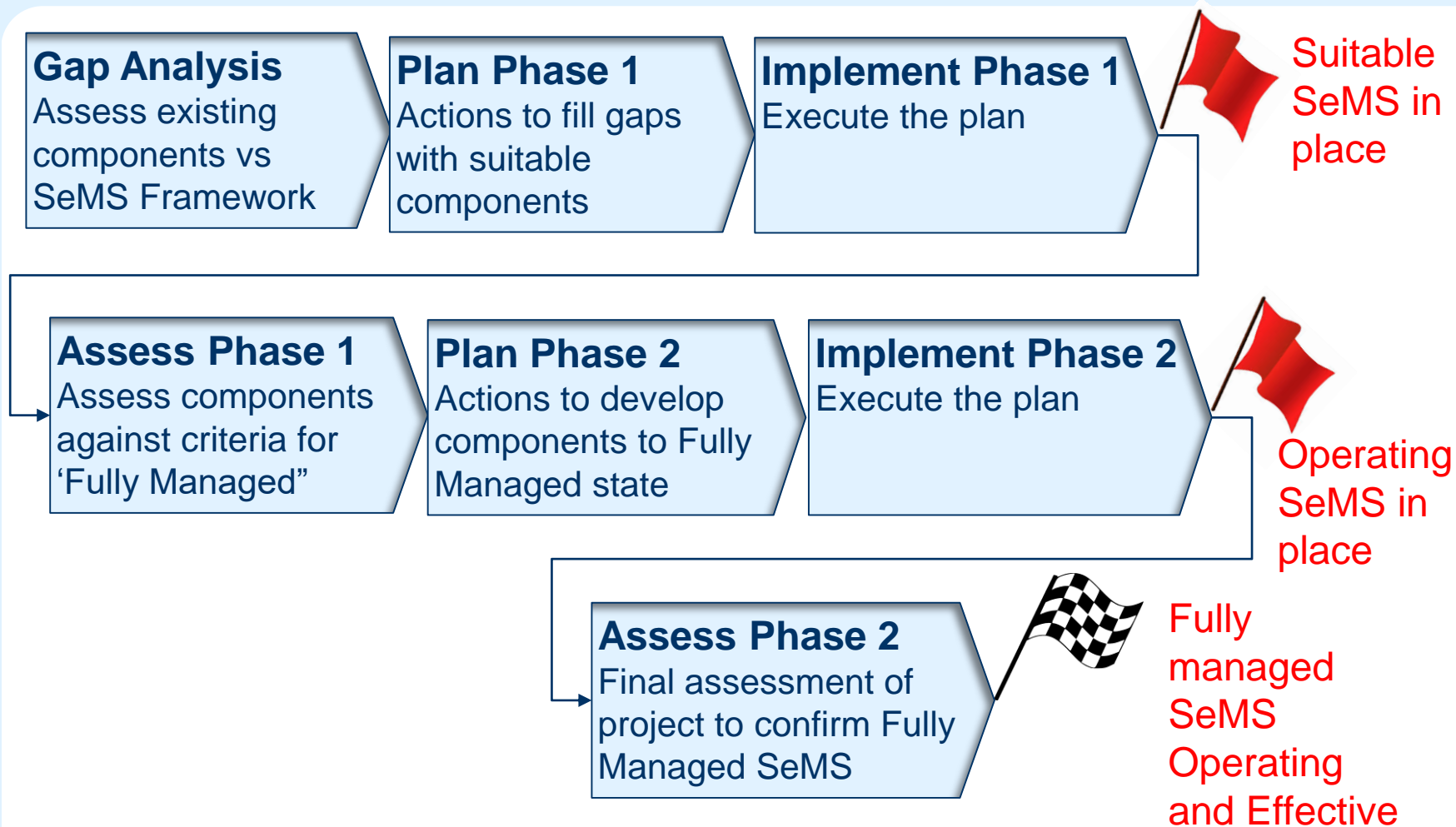
- The project plan will be based on
 - The chosen end goal (usually level 4)
 - The starting point on this ladder

Creating an operating and effective SeMS takes time

- The SeMS has to mature organically
- That maturity journey...is also the SeMS project journey



The practical SeMS Project Lifecycle



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