

SimSummit July '03 Hot-Wash Report

SimSummit Members:

The second formal meeting of the **SimSummit** collaborative occurred in Montreal, Canada on 23 July 2003. The meeting event was held in association with the 'Summer Sim' conference, sponsored by the Society for Modeling and Simulation International [SCS], which organization provided meeting accommodations and general and administrative support. (See Enclosure A for meeting announcement poster.)

This particular **SimSummit** activity was intended to focus attention of the SimSummit member organizations upon the **SimSummit** Topical agenda. (Enclosure B provides a list of the SimSummit topical agenda as derived at the initial July '02 meeting and subsequently modified through discussion by **SimSummit** member organizations.) In particular, the meeting event was conceived to facilitate

:

1. establishment of consensus on the *specification of that agenda* (e.g. Are agenda topics appropriately phrased, clearly understood, sufficiently complete, and reasonably partitioned?)
2. determination of the degree to which viability of topics are significant to the modeling and simulation community (e.g. Are these topics important to ourselves and to others?)
3. determination of the degree to which the agenda is amenable of pursuit and constructive influence by SimSummit (e.g. Can we do anything to effectively improve circumstances – remediate issues, capture opportunity – in regard to these topics?), and
4. establishment of custodial advocacy of various elements of the topical agenda by the SimSummit organizations (e.g. How can leadership advocacy – if not controlling custody - of topics be allocated to SimSummit organizations?)

The July '03 **SimSummit** meeting consisted of one day's activity of organizational representatives onsite and provision for participation via web-meeting by organizational representatives offsite. The meeting agenda is provided as Enclosure C as the "SimSummit Context Briefing", and organizational and individual participation is indicated in Enclosure D your information. Meeting activity consisted primarily of briefings by **SimSummit** member organizations, reporting progress on several activities identified in the **SimSummit** topical agenda and to illustrating both the leadership of **SimSummit** member organizations in those respective topic areas as well as the widespread relevance of those topics to the entire modeling and simulation community-of-interest. Copies of each of those briefings will be posted to the web site and may be accessed along with the Proceedings of the **SimSummit** 2002 Meeting at:

www.sim-Summit.org. Finally, we are compiling the meeting's ACTION-items that will be distributed separately.

Observation of the information exchanged during the meeting reveals some interesting trends. First, participation at the meeting was good, even in the face of rather hurried preparation (that condition, by the way, being my fault entirely). Second, this was the first meeting of outside the United States – very much in keeping with the intention that the organization be international in flavor and world-wide in scope. Third, three new organizations (UAH, JHU/APL, and TBE) were welcomed at this meeting. Fourth, from the briefings presented, it is clear that many elements of the agenda are already being pursued aggressively by member organizations. And fifth, from the discussion at the meeting, it is clear that organizational representatives continue to discover rich common ground and potential constructive relationships among organizations in pursuit of M&S collaboration.

Last but not certainly not least, subscription of **SimSummit** organizations for LEADERSHIP on each of the **SimSummit** program agenda / line-items will be solicited. The assumption of custody of the **SimSummit** agenda by its member organizations is the last and necessary step in establishing a viable ongoing collaborative enterprise. As new organizations join the **SimSummit** activity, and as significant progress is revealed in pursuit of the **SimSummit** agenda (as was certainly the case at this meeting), the prospects of coordinated collective investment and influence in the Modeling and Simulation Profession, Industry, and Marketplace will depend on the collegial assumption of responsibility for the group's agenda. I encourage each of you to consider what role you wish for your own organization in pursuing the topical agenda so far identified, and to be prepared to respond on behalf of your organizations to the upcoming solicitation of interest and commitment.

Regards,

Bill Waite
Acting Director,
SimSummit Executive Committee