

## **SimSummit Meeting**

03 December 2009

At I/ITSEC, Orlando, FL

0830 – 1100

*SimSummit* website: <http://www.sim-summit.org>

### **OVERVIEW OF MEETING**

#### *SimSummit* Executive Committee

Bill Waite, Chair, *SimSummit*

RADM Fred Lewis USN Ret, Exec Dir, NTSA

Katherine Morse, Chr, SISO Excom

Represented by Mark McCall, Chairman, SISO BoD

Mohammad Obaidat, President, SCS

Represented by Diane “DJ” Weed, Exec Director, SCS

Particular attention was paid to topics/subjects likely to be emphasized at the U. S. Congressional M&S Caucus “Simulation Leadership Summit” meeting in February 2010.

Topics addressed included a subset of those which make up the *SimSummit* Topical Agenda. Major categories of the Agenda are provided here, with specific topics listed, having relevance to the February meeting:

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

Body of Knowledge Index Program

M&S Research Agenda

#### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

Certified Modeling and Simulation Professional Program - Block 2

Curriculum development

#### **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**

M&S organizational relations

‘National’ M&S organizations

#### **BUSINESS PRACTICE**

NAICS

M&S ‘Value proposition’

**Figure 1 *SimSummit* Topical Agenda, selected topics**

## REMARKS

### NTSA

2009 I/ITSEC overview: exhibit space, 220K sq ft (55K m<sup>2</sup>, about 3x the area of a FIFA sanctioned International match soccer field), up from 187K sq ft last year); 499 spaces, 550 companies. Attendance, about 18,000. Over 2,000 international attendees from 61 countries.

NTSA is focused on continuing its relation with the U.S. Congressional M&S Caucus and its focus on a national enterprise plan for M&S. NTSA also interested in contributing to the “national M&S plan”, for which some discussion is ongoing both within the Caucus and across U.S. industry. Such plan would likely be published by a coalition of interested parties/organizations; one of first steps is to define what is meant by having a “national enterprise plan”.

### SCS

SCS remains committed to support *SimSummit* activities and initiatives. As a strongly internationally focused society in existence for many years, SCS strives to always expand the field of computer simulation and its application.

### SISO

SISO remains committed to its support of *SimSummit*, and to working through the challenges presented by the economic downturn affecting the international community. Near future SISO events were briefed, including those to be conducted/co-located with SCS (see [www.sisostd.org](http://www.sisostd.org) and [www.scs.org](http://www.scs.org) ).

### ***SimSummit* Chair remarks**

Introduction: *SimSummit* status as a virtual on-line, unifying, organization which conducts occasional face-to-face meetings, and the importance and value of the *SimSummit* Topical Agenda were reviewed. Of significance, this Topical Agenda will again form at least part of the basis on which to organize the agenda for the upcoming U.S. M&S Leadership Summit, to be held 01 February 2010 in Virginia Beach, VA, USA.

[Note: information on U.S. Congressional M&S Caucus can be found at:  
<http://forbes.house.gov/Biography/MSCaucus.htm> ]

Due to this circumstance, Bill Waite focused the session on discussion of items relevant to the Leadership Summit.

### Thumbnail of M&S Leadership Summit

A one day, all day event.

Morning devoted to briefings and discussion regards 4 to 8 topics.

Afternoon session to be a workshop, with subgroups working on discussed topics and any suggestions/recommendations coming out of the morning session.

Following workshop sessions, groups will report out a summary of discussion and recommendations to the members of U.S. Congress in attendance at the meeting.

The overall objective of the day's effort is to achieve enough consensus among participants to come up with specific recommendations for follow-on actions, either by industry/academia, or by the U.S. Congress.

#### SimSummit relation to M&S Leadership Summit

*SimSummit* leadership is interested in two specific objectives:

By observation and participation, verify the continuing relevance and importance of the *SimSummit* Topical Agenda to the activities and interests of member organizations, and

Generating material and consensus at the meeting sufficient to form at least an initial basis for making decisions and crafting an agenda framing effort to develop a 12-24 month program plan to guide drafting of a first cut National M&S Plan, or perhaps an outline of the content of such a Plan.

[Note: attached to these meeting notes, please find a copy of the slide, "Leadership Summit Meeting Perspective Guidance". Included within the slide is a listing of the *SimSummit* Topical Agenda.]

## **DISCUSSION**

The last 90 minutes of the meeting was given to lively discussion of various Topical Agenda items (see Figure 1 above), with a focus on how they might be represented as part of the M&S Leadership Summit meeting agenda. Highlight of these discussions are provided below, in bullet and/or text form, as indicators of membership input regards relevance to U.S. Congressional Caucus interest in developing a U.S. national M&S plan.

### M&S TECHNOLOGY

#### Body of Knowledge (BoK)

- BoK drives a research agenda; part of the benefit of such agenda is in illuminating gaps/holes in the knowledge base.
- Closed related to this, a BoK research provides a menu of topics that individuals need to know.
- Both (research agenda and framing individual knowledge) have real world impact on near term issues of interest to organizations such as NDIA's systems engineering committee. As example, both can impact such things as

- research grants, identifying specific topics to be funded with research dollars, and the specifics of contracting language, and defining of contracts' specifics.
- BoK could fall in multiple “buckets”

[Note: for M&S BoK, see URL: <http://www.sim-summit.org/BoK07/index.htm> ]

### M&S Research Agenda

Regards “research agenda” – significant commentary:

- The state of, the focus of, and the ‘vector(s)’ associated with a top level M&S research program - at a national scale, none of these are known.
- The ‘core’ of a M&S research agenda/program is an “unknown”, in the sense that one cannot today find a consensus based, or authority based, listing of the “now” agenda.
- There needs to be a common way for multiple government agencies/organizations to ‘view’ M&S research; the state of affairs today does not support having such a common view.

### Other Comments

- Future Challenges should be added to the M&S Technology portion of the topical agenda
- M&S is a problem solving tool and therefore encompasses a lot of areas

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Certified Modeling and Simulation Professional (CMSP) Program - Block 2

- For CMSP block 2, there is ongoing work to establish a body of core knowledge which should drive the Block 2 effort.
- Block 2 was described as a “relaunch” of activity to provide a workable process by which individuals can become a CMSP.
- There is intent for Block 2 to be up and running within about a year’s time from now.
- Two tracks in Block II: M&S Practitioner and M&S Manager
- CMSP needs to have some benefit, such as requirement for CMSP in major government contracts.
- **Bill Tucker will send a link to the CMSP Block II information to the *SimSummit* community.**

## Curricular development

- U.S. DoD is making significant effort towards this. The question raised in the meeting was, what about other U.S. Federal agencies? Other International agencies/organizations/governments?
- As this is such a broad topic, should this topic be recommended for inclusion in the M&S Leadership Summit meeting agenda for 01 February 2010?

## STEM

Regards STEM as a subset of curricula development, it is clear that this topic needs to be part of the education discussion. However, discussion at the meeting raised the question, ‘how and what to discuss that will (or should) lead to specific recommendations and actions to take away from the M&S Leadership Summit meeting?’ The concern is that, within a one day only meeting, achieving consensus on actionable outputs may not be a realistic expectation.

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

### M&S organizational relations

The broad question is, ‘what should they be?’

For *SimSummit*, the relevant question is, how and what approach could be recommended for progress towards formalizing of relations among organizations? Regards “what organizations”, discussion raised the question, which types/categories of organizations should be included in the discussion - both U.S. (the Caucus interest) and International (the *SimSummit* interest). Candidate organizations include government (national level, state/territorial, local), industrial, academic, regional groups, and perhaps other (non-profit, professional societies, etc.)

### ‘National’ M&S organizations

The short term focus of discussion was on how to present this topic at the M&S Leadership Summit. The larger question, not discussed, is how a U.S. national M&S Plan might, or should, relate to the plans and programs of other nations, etc. Regards a U.S. Plan, there is need to identify the existence and non-existence of current intergovernmental relationships which now, or would in the future, affect the form and content of a US national M&S Plan. **Bill Waite will send his proposal for a National M&S Organization to the *SimSummit* community.**

## BUSINESS PRACTICE

- M&S Industrial Classification has been submitted to the North American Industrial Classification System. Should be announced this month if M&S will have a category. **Patrick Rowe will post the URL to the proposal on the NTSA website.**
- Should the topic of NAICS code be moved to Workforce Development in this discussion?
- A few studies on value of M&S have been completed: M&S CO Return on Investment Study; Fred Hartmann has a training study showing training with M&S more effective, etc. These should be noted under this topic.
- Developing a common business case format for government M&S investment should be added to this category.

## LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

### Goals for Leadership Summit

- 1-3 Year program plan
- Broad based subscription to plan
- Coordinated activities
- Collaborative effort
- Collective results

### Comments on Goals

- This requires resources. So far it is all volunteer. Need to scope the above to something that can be accomplished.
- Need to define products of meeting—items that are actionable and tractable. Are we looking to publish the plan?
- Anyone in SimSummit can provide input to Linda Bryant but do so soon.

## FINAL COMMENTS BY ATTENDEES

- Jim Hollenbach – Lofty goals but skeptical regarding how much can be accomplished. **Jim agreed to point out difficulties and how they can be mitigated and send those to *SimSummit* community.**
- DJ Weed – This is an opportunity for success. It will take action and collaborative effort, and we need to make it happen. **DJ agreed to take information to SCS and ask for action.**
- Paul Lowe – Build on call to action. **Paul agreed to build message content that puts out call and provide that to Bill Waite**

- John <*Fill in last name ... from Boeing I think*> - Models are tools and M&S is a discipline. Need to investigate things common across discipline or go after big pieces. Strike the right balance between basic research and more abstract activities. **John agreed to frame a statement on this for input to Caucus. Send to Bill Waite.**
- Patrick Rowe – **Will send updates on CMSP and NAICS to *SimSummit* community.**
- Charles Hutchings - This is a noteworthy goal and will require collaboration amongst Federal organizations.
- Mark McCall – **Agreed to socialize idea to SISO.**
- Alberto Tremori - We need to look at these concerns of the U.S. in an international world.
- Priscilla Elfrey – Interfaces between organizations become very important if there is desire to have a national impact. White House has charged NASA with national lead for STEM.
- John <*last name ??? sat at table with Rick*> - the scope of each of these areas is important. **Bill Waite agreed to provide an explanation of the scope to *SimSummit* community and all may comment.**

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- **Bill Tucker will send a link to the CMSP Block II information to the *SimSummit* community.**
- **Bill Waite will send his proposal for a National M&S Organization to the *SimSummit* community.**
- **Patrick Rowe will post the URL to the proposal on the NTSA website.**
- **Jim Hollenbach agreed to point out difficulties and how they can be mitigated and send those to *SimSummit* community.**
- **DJ Weed agreed to take information to SCS and ask for action.**
- **Paul Lowe agreed to build message content that puts out call and provide that to Bill Waite.**
- **John agreed to frame a statement on the right balance between basic research and more abstract activities for input to Caucus. Send to Bill Waite.**
- **Patrick Rowe will send updates on CMSP and NAICS to *SimSummit* community.**
- **Mark McCall agreed to socialize M&S Caucus ideas to SISO.**
- **Bill Waite agreed to provide an explanation of the scope of M&S Leadership Caucus activities to *SimSummit* community and all may comment.**