

SimSummit Meeting

02 December 2010

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

Represented by Patrick Rowe, Director of Membership, NTSA

Katherine Morse, Chair, SISO Excom

Mohammad Obaidat, President, SCS

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

1. Bill Waite opened the meeting inviting the sponsors/executive committee members to offer a few opening remarks.
 - a) Patrick Rowe discussed the progress of the revised CMSP exam. It will be broken into two exams, Manager and Technician, and is currently in the review stage. Volunteers are needed for beta testing.
 - b) Bill Waite spoke for SCS and described the society and the renewed emphasis on publications in their technical branch.
 - c) Katherine Morse provided an update on SISO, discussing the upcoming joint SISO/SCS meeting in Boston from 4-8 April. Additionally, she noted that SISO is reviewing its organization from top to bottom to make it more relevant and will roll out changes over the next year. SISO is pursuing stronger relationships with NTSA, SCS, and ITSA.
2. Bill Waite discussed the cooperation of M&S agencies that will enhance the future of the discipline and provided a brief background on the SimSummit concept and history. He said that SimSummit was created to influence the future of the M&S discipline, profession, industry, and market. SimSummit has a topical agenda that is organized into four main areas: Technology, Workforce Development, Industrial Development, and Business Practice. He noted that it may be time to re-engage the SimSummit members regarding their level of interest in each area.
3. The Republic of Korea Agency for Defense Development, represented by Changbum Ahn, PhD, Director and Principal Engineer, provided a briefing on their M&S activities and interests. **{I have notes on the briefing, but was not sent the slides. Does Bill have them to include?}**
4. Bill Waite requested that the attendees introduce themselves. It was noted that John Rice from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare was in attendance and is the first person from the Healthcare industry to attend. Bill invited them to join the SimSummit membership.
5. The majority of the remainder of the meeting was spent discussing SimSummit activities.
 - a. Bill Waite led a discussion on how we can raise awareness of M&S across our communities. The first topic was the M&S Body of Knowledge (BOK).

- i. Jeff Wallace noted that there does not exist a good introductory M&S textbook to teach M&S at the undergraduate level. He asked if the BOK effort could be used to assist in creating that text.
 - ii. Tom Baptiste noted that there should be some basic questions and answers (FAQ) about M&S that will help elected officials and the general populace understand M&S better.
 - iii. Peter Kincaid in response to Jeff Wallace's comment stated that the University of Central Florida uses the Old Dominion University textbook (not required) but agreed that it is not the best for an introductory course.
 - iv. Jim Coolahan noted that M&S is not hierarchical and that he was working on a M&S textbook for system engineering courses.
 - v. Priscilla Elfry provided the viewpoint that the value of M&S is not information but experiences. M&S produces experiences.
 - b. The discussion then turned to a Code of Ethics for an M&S Professional. Bill Waite stated that an M&S professional needs to subscribe to a code of ethics similar to other professions. He noted that SCS has one and suggested that SimSummit adopt theirs as the M&S standard Code of Ethics.
 - i. Bill Tucker stated that he believed this to be a very delicate subject since most people believe themselves to be honest and feel they do not need a code of ethics. However, a code of ethics will provide support for practitioners to do the right thing if they are pressured by employers to compromise their ethics. SimSummit could adopt the code of ethics and impose penalties for ethical breaches.
 - ii. Jeff Wallace agreed with Bill Tucker and noted that there needs to be a document that each professional will sign.
 - iii. Bill Waite offered that to be a CMSP each individual is required to sign a code of ethics document.
 - iv. Peter Kincaid noted that codes of ethics are widespread and why wouldn't we desire to have M&S professionals sign and abide by one.
 - v. Jim Coolahan agreed with Jeff Wallace and suggested that SimSummit develop a three sentence poster which summarizes the code of ethics and display the poster at SISO/SCS meetings and have attendees sign as a show of support.
 - vi. **ACTION - DJ Weed agreed to produce the code of ethics summary for a poster.**
 - c. Bill Waite initiated a dialogue on the CMSP exam. He referenced Patrick Rowe's earlier comments noting that there are two different levels of certification: manager and technical user. Bill Waite noted that the exam must be robust and appropriate to today's M&S professionals and stated that SimSummit members should review the exam. Bill Tucker agreed with this statement. Bill Waite then asked all SimSummit members to be involved in some way. There are still opportunities for question development and review.
 - i. Bill Tucker then summarized the current status of the CMSP exam. He noted that the new exam does not minimize or "cheapen" the current certification in any way. There are two kinds of tests and each one is an automated process. There are approximately 1300 questions in the test bank and each exam contains 100 questions. They have added sections/questions on ethics to earlier versions of the exam. The new design is intended to extend to new communities that previously may not have considered CMSP certification (healthcare, automotive, etc).

- ii. Bill Waite asked if the professional societies could have CMSP tutorials at their meetings/conferences. No action was taken, but it was noted that Georgia Tech Research Institute might be a good candidate to produce a tutorial.
 - d. The discussion then moved to the topic of Investment Metrics and return on investment. Bill Waite stated that it is an interesting problem in that leadership acknowledges investment metrics are critical, but is not interested in applying them to any problem or investment. The issue is not to make M&S more cost effective, but to find ways to understand the value of M&S and how to measure that value. Bill noted that there is considerable literature on the topic, and asked what SimSummit could provide in this arena.
 - i. Steve Gordon stated that the November 2008 report on M&S Investment metrics is not well socialized and we need to increase the awareness of the document.
 - ii. Tim Cooley mentioned that a 10 page summary of the complete report now exists and SimSummit could send the 10 page summary with a link to the full report to every SimSummit member. Mark McCall offered to have the report posted on the SISO web-site. [10 page report attached to these notes]
 - iii. Bill Tucker stated that we need to deal with this topic professionally and the profession needs a business case for M&S on projects. We should “buy” our way into the market and we need to set expectations for M&S with our customers and then meet those expectations.
 - iv. Bill Waite followed with the fact that we need to provide a framework for the business case and, so far, we have not done so.
 - e. Bill Waite noted that there was some SimSummit administrative business that required discussion.
 - i. First, we have some work to do to persuade SimSummit members to regularly use the SimSummit Sharepoint site and web-site. Peter Kincaid suggested we post the links in university libraries such as UCF and Georgia Tech.
 - ii. Bill Waite noted that the SimSummit meetings are always in conjunction with other meetings and suggested that the hosting organization play a bigger role in the SimSummit assembly. Perhaps the hosting organization could chair/coordinate the meetings and they might be more diverse and perhaps more interesting to the attendees. AEGIS Technologies would still provide graphics support. **ACTION – DJ Weed and Mark McCall agreed to jointly coordinate and host the spring SimSummit meeting in conjunction with the SISO/SCS joint meeting in April.**
 - iii. Bill Waite listed the collaborative environments available to SimSummit. The web-site is: www.sim-summit.org, and the sharepoint site is not operational at the present time. Tim Cooley mentioned that there is a SimSummit LinkedIn group. [note: a facebook account for SimSummit now exists]
- 6. Bill Waite asked for any further comments and there were none so the meeting was adjourned.