



For the Future of the Modeling and Simulation Profession, Industry, and Marketplace

SimSummit at I/ITSEC 2004

"Topical Agenda for the M&S Community-of-Practice"

Ladies and Gentlemen:

From its inception in the Summer of 2002, the *SimSummit* round table has been sensitive to the identification of an overarching or 'meta' topical-agenda for the modeling and simulation (M&S) community-of-practice. *SimSummit* participants recognized at once that establishing such a synoptic, consensus topical agenda could serve to provide a common basis of communication and action throughout the world-wide M&S community, and, consequently, to facilitate the systematic evolution of M&S technology, profession, industry, and marketplace.

Appreciating the seminal value of such an explicit topical field-map as a basis of shared appreciation and commitment to common topics across the agendas of otherwise disparate constituencies, *SimSummit* identified in its earliest data product (Enclosure 1) topical loci that already have influenced coordination and collaboration across the broad sectors of the M&S community. Particular effect has been felt in the following areas: a) promulgation of an M&S Code of Ethics, b) collaboration among professional societies, c) support for professional certification and industrial classification, and d) systematic investment in body-of-knowledge specification and curricular development guidance.

Therefore, in view of the significance of M&S topics of common interest, and the special opportunity of *SimSummit* to contribute to M&S evolution by continuing to clarify the synoptic meta-topical field of the evolving M&S community of practice, we suggest that:

***SimSummit* convene at I/ITSEC in Orlando during December 6-10, 2004, to begin to identify, publish, and promulgate a definite topical agenda to serve as a basis of collaboration across the entire M&S community of practice, worldwide.**

We believe that SimSummit is practically the only forum in which such a task might reasonably be attempted at this time. As Motivation for this transaction, we educe the following rationale:

- Scope – *SimSummit* is the only forum extant whose comprehensive scope of topical interest, breadth of constituency representation, and diversity of organizational membership is commensurate with the subject challenge.
- Feasibility – generating the suggested work product is well within the capacity of the *SimSummit* collective organizations and other interested parties who may volunteer participation.
- Effectiveness – the product topical agenda will support subscription of interest from all M&S constituencies, and will facilitate fecund topic – specific collaborative relationships and activities within the M&S community-of-practice.
- Necessity – if SimSummit does not undertake this effort, then who will? Who could?

Therefore, we invite you to assume the following responsibilities:

1. Confirm receipt of this invitation and comment on your impression of the proposed activity / work-product, NLT 30 Sept.
2. Consider potential topical subject areas, and comment on your organization's preferences for topical identification, qualification, and pursuit, NLT 30 Oct.
3. Attend or assign someone to attend on behalf of your organization for planned December 2004 meeting.

***SimSummit* Executive Committee:**

Fred Lewis, Director NTSA

Francoise Cellier, President SCS

Warren Katz, Chairman SISO EXCOM

Bill Waite, Chairman SimSummit EXCOM