

## The Way Ahead for DoD M&S

*Strategic Vision for DoD Modeling and Simulation signed by M&S Steering Committee*

The Department of Defense (DoD) has undertaken a major restructuring of its Modeling and Simulation (M&S) management structure and is now employing a “board of directors” approach to managing its M&S activities. The board, known as the M&S Steering Committee, consists of the leads for the 4 services, the Joint Staff, and six newly established Communities enabled by M&S composed around distinctive M&S issue areas: acquisition, analysis, experimentation, planning, testing, and training. Initial activities include improved visibility and collaboration across communities and a reduction in unnecessary duplication. Another focus is improving the Department’s interactions between DoD and other government agencies, international partners, industry, and academia.

To support this newly developed management structure, the Department is implementing its “Strategic Vision for DoD Modeling and Simulation”. This vision is to “Empower DoD with modeling and simulation capabilities that effectively and efficiently support the full spectrum of the Department’s activities and operations.”

The goals of the M&S strategic vision are to provide:

- Shared accessible standards, architectures, networks and environments,
- Tools and authoritative data that are available to credibly support the full range of DoD interests,
- Enterprise-wide policies that promote the use of common capabilities and minimize unnecessary duplication
- Management processes that promote sharing, reuse, and cost effective development of M&S tools and data,
- A well-trained workforce

To achieve the vision and implement the specific goals set forth by the M&S Steering Committee, a FY2010 “Enterprise-wide” Common and Crosscutting Business Plan is being developed in coordination with the DoD Components and published under the authority of the USD (AT&L). This business plan will serve as the basis for identifying DoD common and crosscutting M&S needs, as well as potential redundancies. It will also include an assessment of current M&S capabilities and gaps, a status report on current M&S efforts, and a roadmap that delineates the management, investment, and technical strategies required to achieve the DoD M&S Strategic Vision.

With greater DoD Community and Service coordination enabled by strategic planning and based on the decisive vision, the Department is moving forward through enhanced collaboration on its M&S initiatives and projects to leverage its significant investment in M&S.