

## **Education in and with Defence Modelling and Simulation - experiences and challenges**

### Abstract

The Simulation and Synthetic Environment Laboratory (SSEL) is a facility dedicated to support activity in Modelling and Simulation at the Defence College of Management and Technology (DCMT) of the Defence Academy of the UK at Shrivenham. The SSEL is owned and operated by the Operational Analysis, Modelling and Simulation Group (OAMSG) of Cranfield University at Shrivenham.

This presentation will discuss the facilities and capabilities of the SSEL, as it has evolved over the last 15 years to support specific teaching of Modelling and Simulation (M&S). The range of educational activity encompassed will be described, together with the challenges presented by this very same broad range of activity. Examples of student case study, project and exercise work will be presented, including activities where the SSEL has been linked both nationally and internationally in wide area networked and distributed simulations. The important role of both Government organisations and Defence Industry in supporting the facility will also be highlighted.

In recently relocating the SSEL to the new Defence Capability Centre (DCC) at Shrivenham, an additional aspiration by DCMT is for the laboratory to take a growing role in also providing a M&S service to support education in other (i.e. non M&S) areas and subjects. This aspiration poses a number of challenges, some technical, some of organisation and resources and still others that are more concerned with attitudes and teaching practices.

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