

# Initiation of GRID Concept

Excerpt from

**SIMULATION IN THE SERVICE OF SOCIETY (S3)**, Simulation, September 2000

**John McLeod** A Technical Editor

**Suzette McLeod** A Managing Editor

## **Power (?) Grid!**

As readers may have noticed, this writer has been interested in the desirability/possibility of someone, or some agency, developing a global communication network since my first discussing the matter with **Tak Utsumi** in **1972**. At the time Tak and I were both primarily interested in the use of such a network for the **distributed simulation of "Peace Gaming,"** as contrasted with the war games so widely used by the military of all countries. However, my early enthusiasm had to be redirected from personally contributing to such an undertaking when I realized the enormity of the technical problems. **But Tak has persevered and has successfully demonstrated many components of a necessary infrastructure.**

Tak and his colleagues have had to raise funds from any sources that they could, as well as pushing back the technical frontiers. But recently several powerful publicly funded organizations have entered the picture. NASA of course has a worldwide communication network which is necessary in support of its space program. However, I understand--perhaps mistakenly--that it is to be made available commercially. More on that when I learn more.

And now we have the following article describing a communication network which it seems to me is misnamed, and I wonder how many others, think of a power grid as a network for the distribution of electrical power. Be that as it may, the description seems to be that of an information network, and the list of participants seems to indicate that it is supported largely by the National Science Foundation. -JM

## **Building an Information Power Grid ....**

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H241159B9>