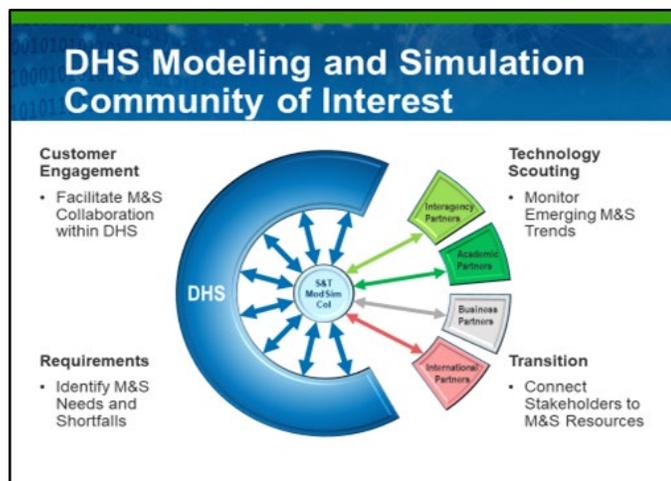# DHS Modeling and Simulation Community of Interest

M&S EXCELLENCE AT DHS

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Directorate (S&T) Modeling and Simulation Technology Center (MS-TC) serves as a modeling and simulation resource for all of DHS. It provides strategic modeling and simulation guidance, tools, and support to entities and programs within the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE) seeking to achieve performance management thresholds. These thresholds relate to applying new technologies and knowledge products for operational missions and environments.

MS-TC established the DHS Modeling and Simulation Community of Interest (ModSim CoI), which is dedicated to promoting awareness, cooperation, reuse and interoperability of modeling and simulation (M&S) across DHS to improve capacity and provide cost savings.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The DHS ModSim CoI seeks to enhance collaboration across the enterprise and reduce the time, money and expertise spent developing "new" solutions that, in fact, already exist within DHS. It serves as a forum for M&S practitioners to discuss questions and provides members with the opportunity to:

- Engage with other DHS M&S professionals

- Identify M&S capabilities and needs

- Discover and adapt new M&S technologies, techniques and processes from external agencies and organizations

- Build relationships and establish M&S best practices

- Connect with a larger M&S Community

Monthly meetings furnish members with opportunities to collaborate with fellow M&S practitioners both within and external to DHS. Such encounters cut across organizational boundaries and expose members to expertise outside of their local experience. CoI members can learn and share advanced techniques, identify lessons learned and consolidate best practices that can be instituted in their home organizations and applied to local questions of interest.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) is the nation's focal point for sharing sensitive but unclassified information and hosts more than 700 communities with more than 95,500 registered users.

The DHS ModSim CoI website leverages HSIN's infrastructure to offer a number of resources to its members. The site supports a secure online forum where members can pose questions, offer answers and collaborate on M&S projects. The website maintains a document library, discussion boards, a community calendar, several on-line meeting rooms and external links to sites of interest to the Community. CoI members are encouraged to make use of these resources at their convenience to enhance their own M&S capabilities and to strengthen those of the CoI.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the ModSim CoI is open to individuals with an interest in the application of M&S techniques to programs and activities. Membership is supported for the following three categories of individuals:

- **Practitioners** – DHS employees and contracted support personnel, who design, develop or operate models and conduct simulations in support of DHS Headquarters and Component organizations

- **Managers** – DHS employees and contracted support personnel, who manage the design, development or operation of models and simulations in support of the DHS Headquarters and Component organizations

- **Enablers** – Non-DHS employees from industry, academia, and partner agencies/organizations, who contribute to the design, development or operation of models and simulations in the context of Homeland Security