



15th Annual Software Technology Conference Focused on Strategies and Technologies

Using strategies and technologies to bring about improvement in software processes was the focus of the 2003 Software Technology Conference (STC) held recently at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City. From April 28 – May 1, presenters and speakers brought their expertise and experience on the conference's theme, "Strategies and Technologies: Enabling Capability-Based Transformation," to more than 2,500 attendees from around the world. The STC is one of the largest co-sponsored events for U.S. defense-related software technologies, policies, and practices.

The challenge for future software developers was outlined early in the conference during the co-sponsor's panel discussion. Representatives from the U.S. Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, Army, and the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) each said that the future encompassed true, joint, seamless interoperability among all the military forces. The key to this interoperability is quality software, they agreed.

"We want to get to the fight faster," said Lt. Gen. Peter M. Cuvillo, director, office of the Army Chief

Information Officer G-6. "True joint, seamless interoperability joins all the forces, as we did in Iraq. That was the most detailed, interdependent operation to date." He stressed that the software development process must allow scalability and predictability.

The 15th annual STC featured 167 different exhibitors and 168 speaker presentations, ranging from software systems/architectures, maturity models, common and open systems to information assurance, best practices and more. In addition to the educational and training opportunities at the STC 2003, the conference gave attendees a chance to network at all levels at a variety of

planned events throughout the week.

The STC is co-sponsored by the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, DISA, and Utah State University Extension. The co-sponsors have already started planning STC 2004, scheduled for April 19-22, 2004 in Salt Lake City. ♦

Photos by Randy Schreifels of the Software Technology Support Center.



(Photo above) Maj. Gen. Scott C. Bergren, Commander, Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, (right) spoke with Utah Governor Mike Leavitt (left) after the opening general session where Leavitt welcomed attendees to the conference.

(Photo below) Members of the co-sponsors panel (from left) Rear Adm. Michael A. Sharp, U.S. Navy; Lt. Gen. Peter M. Cuvillo, U.S. Army; Diann L. McCoy, Defense Information Systems Agency; Robert L. Hobart, U.S. Marine Corps; Dawn C. Meyerriecks, Defense Information Systems Agency; and John M. Gilligan, U.S. Air Force.



(Photo above) Attendee during conference break to do so.



(Photo above) Lt. Gen. Peter M. CuvIELlo of the U.S. Army talked with exhibitors at STC as he toured the exhibitors' show floor. (Photo insert in text) Conference attendees asked questions of individual participants on the co-sponsors' panel.



Attendees take advantage of a conference networking.



(Photo above) A mid-week Polynesian theme and entertainment added a note of festivity to the exhibitors' show floor. (Photo left) CrossTalk and Shim Enterprise, Inc. teamed up to offer attendees a chance to test their skills on a climbing wall.