



SE REVIEW



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Next Board Meeting
7 October 2008
1130 – 1300
Bldg 2187, Room
3180

Next Chapter Meeting
TBD (in process of finding a replacement speaker)

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President's Perspective

It is ironic that last month I wrote about emergent properties of complex systems as described in "Complexity: The Emerging Science at the Edge of Order and Chaos", and as I write this, the US Congress is debating giving \$700 billion to the Treasury Department to bailout/stabilize the US and globally-linked economies. The world economy is a very complex, dynamic system. As such, it is expected that it will undergo periods of instability, and new stabilizing properties will emerge. The book goes further and claims that the instability cannot be avoided and that the more energy that is used to control the system's stability, the more catastrophic instability will be when it happens. So we should not expect \$700 billion to put the system back the way it was. We can hope that the \$700 billion will influence the emergence of sound, enduring and equitable stabilizing properties. That hope depends on some good Systems Engineers working with Congress to ensure that the money isn't going to create even more instability.

How ironic that as I get back to this article, that Congress, specifically the House of Representatives, worked hard on a bill and then didn't get it passed. Talk about instability--over a trillion dollars was lost in one day in the New York financial markets. That is more than a tenth of the national debt. There was a lot of finger points going on about the bill, so I got a copy and read it as a Systems Engineer and found it to be reasonable from that stand point. I can not say I understand all the legal jargon, but I know systems controls and constraints when I see them. Most of the bill contains limits, feedback loops, and oversight controls. I am sure there are 'Loop holes', or as we call them incomplete design, but I found places where review and modifications to the bill was specified. All in all, it is not bad for a week's work.

This brings us back to the control of a complex system like the economy, which we can expect to have times of extreme instability leading to emergent controls of new stability. What should we do? We have seen what happens when we do nothing; that is to say we will do something and don't do it. We must do something and use system controls to help make the system more stable for longer periods of time. But is there something more fundamental that we can focus on that will help the damage already done to the world community that has depended on a stable system? In my opinion, the answer is yes. The system is all based on money. It is the electricity the energy that makes this system work. But money is an object that stands in for the objects owned and controlled by a country and the faith that the country will meet its obligations. Shaky loans are not the best objects to base a currency on, but throw them into a pot with the natural wealth of the US, our national parks, forests, mineral rights, fisheries, etc. and they become fairly insignificant. Some loans will fail, but some will succeed. On the other hand, if you take money out of the systems as insurance and shift the burden of the loans to the faith that the country will meet its obligations, we will contract the energy running the system and stress that faith part which is a lot harder to prop up in the short term.

Just one Systems Engineer's opinion.

Respectfully,
John Walker
President, Southern Maryland Chapter
president@INCOSE-SoMD.org

INCOSE News

Microsoft Office® Live Meeting 2007 comes to INCOSE

We are pleased to begin the rollout of a new conferencing solution (Live Meeting) to facilitate communications within the INCOSE technical community. The migration from INCOSE's limited legacy system previously used for teleconferencing will greatly enhance the ability of Working Groups to come together. Contact your Working Group Chair or the INCOSE Central Office <<mailto:info@incose.org?subject=Livemeeting%20information>> to receive an invitation with toll free phone number and participation code. A one-time download of the software is required prior to participation and can be performed at any time once you receive your invitation.

2008 Elections

The 2008 international elections will begin October 1. This year, our elections will include electronic balloting for those who have elected to vote electronically. If you have not already done so, you may register to vote electronically through your member profile <https://www.incose.org/membersOnly/memberInfo/updateMemberInfo.cfm>.

Make Plans for the 2009 International Symposium... In Singapore

The theme for INCOSE 2009 is "East Meets West: The Human Dimension to Systems Engineering." Mark your calendar now to attend the next INCOSE International Symposium in Singapore 20 - 23 July 2009. For more information, go to the Symposium website at <http://www.incose.org/symp2009>.

IS 2009 Host Committee is Waiting for Your Submissions!

The technical content is the life-blood of every symposium. You can contribute to the success of next year's event by sending in a paper, panel or tutorial submission.

To minimize confusion and provide the maximum preparation time, the important dates for all three categories (papers, tutorials, and panel moderators) are the same. Check out the website to download the submission package --

http://www.incose.org/symp2009/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=78&Itemid=84--and to see what other surprises and events are being planned.

KEY DATES:

Draft Submission: 3 November 2008

Acceptance Notification: 13 February 2009

Final submission: 27 March 2009

We invite all interested companies and decision makers to visit our sponsoring page http://www.incose.org/symp2009/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=68&Itemid=73 as well. For further questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Cheah Kok Keong or Ms. Lim Hui Leng at (65) 6516-5113 or by e-mail to <<mailto:is2009@nus.edu.sg?subject=Sponsorship>>.

New INCOSE Technical Product

Hampton Roads Chapter created an official INCOSE Tutorial for use preparing for the CSEP exam based on version 3.1 of the SE Handbook, which may be found in the Product Area <https://connect.incose.org/products/SAWG%20Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2fproducts%2fSAWG%20Shared%20Documents%2fSE%20Handbook%20Certification%20Tutorial&FolderCTID=%26View=%7b9DF80F66%2d3EB7%2d4497%2dA8C1%2d21DD7B1969AC%7d> of INCOSE Connect.



Schedule of *INSIGHT* Deadlines

The following is a list of upcoming INCOSE *INSIGHT* deadlines:

SUBMISSION DATE	PUBLICATION DATE	THEME	THEME EDITOR
15 October 2008	December 2008	Space Systems: Navigating Complexity to Explore the Unknown	Jim Andary James.F.Andary@nasa.gov?subject=INSIGHT%20Volume%2012%20Number%201
15 February 2009	April 2009	Cognition: Pursuing the Next Level in System Performance	Steve Deal
15 May 2009	July 2009	The Interplay of Architecture, Systems Engineering, and Security	Rick Dove
13 August 2009*	October 2009	East Meets West - The Human Dimension to Systems Engineering	Leo Tin Boom (TBR)
15 October 2009	December 2009	Model-Based Systems Engineering: The New Paradigm	Rob Cloutier

*early submission date

Renew Your Membership

Don't forget to renew your membership. Your annual membership now expires 12 months after your enrollment anniversary. If you want to know what your enrollment date is and when your current membership will expire, just view your member profile <https://www.incose.org/membersOnly/memberInfo/updateMemberInfo.cfm>. Should you have problems or questions, e-mail Central Office (<mailto:info@incose.org>).

Update your membership profile

Did you know that you have the ability to reset your own password, change your address, phone number and employer, and even change the e-mail addresses you want your incose.org e-mails to go to? Did you know that you can also update your biography and even your picture? To keep your membership information up to date, just go to www.incose.org. On the left side, select the option to View / Update Member Record.

Chapter Highlights

Member Profile

Please welcome our new member:

James King joined on 9 September. He is a Senior Systems Engineer at Advanced Concepts Incorporated. His e-mail is jrking@king-md.us, and phone number is (301) 596-2712.

Member Contributions & Support Needed

We are in desperate need of more help, more involvement, more members, and more leadership from our current members to maintain our ambitious schedule of events. Also please send news on your projects at work, on your personal or professional achievements, any notable upcoming events the membership should know about, etc.

Send electronic pictures, too! We continue to request that each of the Chapter members provide us with a brief bio, so everyone will get to know you a little better. This will also make it easier to network with other Chapter members. Please include items such as where you went to school and any degrees, current and past positions, INCOSE activities, and any other information you would like to share. Our newsletter can use your articles and your support. Please send all contributions to Karl Geist at kgeist@md.metrocast.net, Dawn Jaeger at Dawn.Jaeger@navy.mil, or Steve McKeown at mckeown_steve@bah.com. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail or call Dawn at 301-757-0907, or Steve at 301-862-7033. So, please consider volunteering and being part of the exciting opportunities in Systems Engineering. As current members, the Chapter Board of Directors (BOD) welcomes your feedback to the chapter's plans. Address these comments to any of the Chapter's Officers or BOD members found in the Chapter's monthly SE Review newsletter. Thank you!

Upcoming *Events*

Southern Maryland SPIN Chapter Meeting

Co-hosted by SoMD SPIN Chapter and INCOSE SoMD Chapter in Patuxent River, Maryland

When: 1 October 2008, 1700-1900

Where: Frank Knox Building, Room 120

Theme: Implementing CMMI High Maturity: Strategies and Techniques

Speaker: Venkat Gopalan of Cyber Solutions

Info: <http://www.somdspin.org/>

POC: Liz Burnett at 301-862-7398, Liz.Burnett@ManTech.com

Venue: Food and Refreshments

Cost: Free

Southern Maryland Chapter Meeting

Hosted by INCOSE SoMD Chapter in Patuxent River, Maryland

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Theme: TBD

Info: www.incose-somd.org

Speaker: TBD, in process of finding replacement speaker

POCs: Karl Geist, 301-475-5646 or Steve McKeown, (301) 862-7033

Venue: TBD

Cost: TBD

Description: TBD

Project Risk Management Conference 2008

Hosted by Program Management Institute (PMI)

When: 3-5 November 2008

Where: Nice, France and Monte Carlo

Theme: Discover the Jewels of Risk Management!

Info: www.pmisymposium.iso-intl.com

POC: Conference@RiskSIG.com

Description: This event is of interest not only to risk experts but to everyone involved in using projects to achieve competitive advantage—from senior managers, through portfolio and program managers to project managers and functional managers. No project management conference would be complete without a track addressing risk. This is an opportunity to network with other practitioners and to leave with new knowledge and contacts that can be applied immediately to enhance chances of success.

Highlights of this event include:

- 18 sessions organized in 2 tracks, covering topics such as Human Factors, Case Studies, New Techniques, Enterprise Risk Management, Risk Culture, Risk Standards, Management of Innovation, and Tools and Techniques
- Exhibition area displaying interactive products and leading edge technology suppliers
- Conference attendees are eligible for 14 PDU Credits

Upcoming Events (cont.)

Information on
Working Groups
can be found at the
INCOSE web site:

www.incose.org
Advancing the Practice
→ *Technical Activities*

The goals of this unique conference are to:

- Inspire improved management of risk in projects
- Celebrate examples of best-practice application of risk management
- Point the way to future developments in project risk management
- Provide opportunities to learn from leading practitioners and experts
- Support networking with peers in a fabulous setting
- Showcase the achievement of the PMI RiskSIG over the past ten years

OCD & CONOPS in Capability Development Course

Presented by Mr. Robert Halligan, FIE Australia

When: 10-14 November 2008

Where: Clarion Las Vegas, Nevada

Info: www.ppi-int.com

POC: 1-888-772-5174 or contact@ppi-int.com

Cost: \$3,250.00

Course Code: P958-03

Description: This course is a 5-day immersion in the development of military capability, with a focus on problem definition, Operational Capability Description (OCD—how the capability, and each element of its solution, will be used), and the Concept of Operations (CONOPS—how the military outcome is to be achieved). The course is consistent with a systems approach to problem solving, as advocated by defense administrations worldwide.

Systems Engineering for Technology-Based Projects & Product Developments Course

Presented by Mr. Robert Halligan, FIE Australia

When: 08-12 December 2008

Where: Clarion Las Vegas, Nevada

Info: www.ppi-int.com

POC: 1-888-772-5174 or contact@ppi-int.com

Cost: \$2,350.00

Course Code: P006-355

Description: This course will provide a strong foundation for achieving improved results on technology-based projects. The course, already delivered to over 4,000 delegates worldwide, addresses systems engineering as it is understood and practiced in world-class organizations (developer, acquirer, and supplier). The course provides an integrated approach to the set of management and technical disciplines which combine to optimize system effectiveness, enhance project and product success, and reduce risk.

2009 INCOSE International Workshop

When: 31 January – 3 February 2009

Where: San Francisco, California

Theme: Various Committees, Working Groups, and Certification Beta Test

Info: <http://www.incose.org/>

POC: PCMI, (858) 565-9921

Description: The workshop features many committee and working group meetings such as the Certification Working Group, Handbook Working Group, INCOSE Fellows, the Corporate Advisory Board, Certification Advisory Group, Certification Beta Test, etc.

Second International Conference on Model-Based SE (MBSE'09)

Hosted by the Israeli Chapter of INCOSE

When: 2-5 March 2009

Where: Herzeliya and Haifa, Israel

Info: <http://www.mbse-org.org>

POC: Prof. [Dov Dori](mailto:dori@ie.technion.ac.il), Technion, Israel dori@ie.technion.ac.il

Description: The Conference is a premier forum for the elicitation and exchange of ideas on issues and problems regarding systems engineering and its relation to the development, evolution, adoption, evaluation, and dissemination of languages, methodologies, and approaches for conceptual models of complex systems. The objective of the Conference is to improve practices of Model-Based Systems Engineering by endowing this evolving discipline with missing theoretical and methodological underpinnings and improving the communication of complex

Upcoming Events (cont.)

systems' function, structure, and behavior among stakeholders. In addition to research and practice papers the conference will feature invited speakers, tutorials, and an industrial exhibition.

2009 INCOSE International Symposium

The 19th International Symposium -- Hosted by Region VI Chapters of Australia, Beijing, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan

When: 19-23 July 2009

Where: Suntec International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore

Theme: East Meets West: The Human Dimension to Systems Engineering

Info: <http://www.incose.org/symp2009/>

POC: ASK International Conference, is2009@askintlconference.com

Description: The theme for INCOSE 2009 highlights the dramatic expansion in the scope of contemporary Systems Engineering where the human cognitive dimension is becoming an integral part in the Systems Engineering processes. Future systems, where the machines are designed around the man, will benefit from Systems Engineering best practices and processes. Systems Engineering methodologies have been successfully applied to designing large-scale complex engineering projects that are multi-disciplinary in nature.



SoMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Web Site	www.incose-somd.org

SoMD
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Board of
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