

**IMAGE 2011
KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**“Training the Force with Simulation
in the 21st Century
...opportunities and challenges”**

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ABSTRACT

Secretary of the Army John McHugh testified at the House Armed Service Committee meeting on March 2nd, 2011 that *“Modeling and simulation technology is important to our United States military as we face both the realities of significant budget constraints and twenty-first century warfare.”* In an era of persistent conflict, the US Army is finding that it is facing an unpredictable adversary that is well adept at using 21st Century technology and innovation. In order to "overmatch" our adversaries, US forces must stay ahead through operational adaptation and flexibility to incorporate emerging technologies. To that end, the Army must build a immersive learning environment and a training support systems that adds a level of realism so that the scrimmage is as demanding as the actual contest. In today's environment of constrained budgets and limited training space at home station means the Army will have to rely on an integrated live, virtual, and constructive training environment. This creates rare opportunities to advance our training capabilities but comes with unique challenges as well.