

What's Up MÄK



I/ITSEC 2011 - A Preview

We're hard at work putting the finishing touches on our I/ITSEC preparations and we wanted to share some of the highlights with you.

Customers, Concepts, and Capabilities

Our expanded booth is back this year, because we have so much to show you. As you've come to expect from MÄK, our team will be demonstrating our interoperability, simulation, visualization, and terrain product capabilities as well as our end-user command and staff trainer solutions. We will also be highlighting how MÄK's products can be integrated together and with our partner products to build end user applications. And we will be showcasing two of our customer's solutions.

SRC, Inc.

SRC will be demonstrating their text-to-speech synthesis technology integrated into a VR-Forces simulation. The system provides the ability to synthesize and manipulate natural sounding speech in multiple voices, while also allowing users to synthesize a speaker from short recorded samples. From these samples, they are able to generate many hundreds of individual speakers. Ultimately, this will deceive a human listener into believing the synthesized speech was produced by a live human.

C4I Center - George Mason University and Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica

This collaborative effort is investigating the impact of international coalitions and humanitarian relief operations. Their test bed scenario simulates severe flooding to produce an environment to support planning automation in relief operations.

MÄK's Special I/ITSEC Events

Innovation Showcase - Monday, November 28th, 4:00 pm
"Simulated Video – Image Generation for Unmanned Vehicle Systems"

Paper Presentation - Wednesday, November 30th, 4:00 pm,
Room W304G "Open Streaming Terrain for Modeling and Simulation"

MÄK Fest - Every night! An entirely new concept in MÄK partying.
For more details, check out [page 2](#).

MÄKapalooza to MÄKhanalia: MÄK Fest 2011

What's better than one night of partying with MÄK? Three nights.

Welcome to MÄK Fest 2011: Distributed I/ITSEC Soirees.

Three nights. Three Orlando venues. Plenty of fun.

More MÄK, fewer calories.

So how do you get in on it?

Everyone is invited to join us, but only a limited number of tickets (securing free admission and drinks) are available. To get yours, contact your MÄK sales representative.

Monday's event will be at **Howl at the Moon** on International Drive.

Next week we'll be posting the other venues on the **MÄK Blog**, so be sure to check back for details. And let's party!!!



Pssst...Want to save 60%?

For a limited time, we're offering a bundle of MÄK's VR-TheWorld terrain server and VR-inTerra Terrain Agility API for 60% off. This **special terrain bundle** makes it easy for you to create simulations within real-world, 3D environments. This deal will only be available until December 23, 2011 so act fast!

Webinars

Building a Simulation Environment for Air Traffic Management

November 17, 2011; 9 am EDT & 4 pm EDT

The next generation Air Traffic Management systems are being developed in the US and Europe under the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) and Single European Sky ATM Research (SESAR) programs respectively. These require significant concept development, research, engineering, validation and demonstration. All are being supported by simulation.

The military and other Government agencies are making greater use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) that must also fly through the commercial airspace and mix with civilian air traffic. Enabling UAVs and commercial air traffic to safely coexist will take several years to achieve and requires significant ongoing research and development and collaborative efforts between the ATM system providers, military, local agencies, and prime contractors.

What is needed is a collaborative, distributed modeling and simulation environment ideal for simulating and visualizing the next generation ATM systems and airspace. VT MÄK's suite of products can help make this a reality. This webinar will explain how MÄK's products can help:

- Link disparate simulations and real systems into an integrated simulation-based experimentation and development environment;
- Create a common synthetic environment for all participants;
- Provide a flexible 3D visualization of the simulation from multiple different perspectives; and
- Supplement existing simulations with representations of UAS's, ground traffic, military aircraft and the ATM communications network.

Space is limited, so register now to reserve your seat!

Want to join us? To register for the 9:00 am webinar, click [here](#). To register for the 4:00 pm webinar, click [here](#).

Company News

Major General William L. Bond Joins VT MÄK's Board of Directors; Lieutenant General Leo Pigaty Elected Chairman of the Board

MÄK is pleased to announce two updates to its board of directors. Major General (USA Retired) William L. Bond was appointed a member of the MÄK board. Lieutenant General (USA Retired) Leo Pigaty, who has served on the MÄK board of directors for four years, has been elected Chairman.

After 33 years of active service, Bond retired from the US Army in 2003. Among his many US Army positions, he acted as the Commanding General for the Simulations, Training and Instrumentation Command (now PEO STRI) and Director of Force Development for the Office of the G-8, United States Army, Deputy for Systems Management and Horizontal Technology Integration, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology). After his retirement, he joined Cypress International in Alexandria, Virginia as Vice President.

Pigaty served on active duty with the U.S. Army for over 33 years. His military career included high-ranking roles in all aspects of logistics, research & development, and acquisitions for the Army and for the Defense Logistics Agency. Some of these positions included Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Army Material Command, Commanding General for the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command, and Commanding General of the Defense Industrial Supply Center for the Defense Logistics Agency. After his retirement in 1994, Pigaty joined as vice president at Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc. (LATA), responsible for LATA's Defense business sector in addition to corporate executive responsibilities.

"MAK is a company of great talents with a proven track record of providing quality products on time and within cost to the Warfighter. I am excited about joining the company and assisting them in identifying next-generation Warfighter needs during this challenging time when defense budgets are decreasing while the demand for increased realism and efficiency of training has risen."

~Major General (USA Retired) William L. BOND
VT MÄK Board of Directors

"General Tom Dickinson did a terrific job as Chairman and I wish him well in his retirement. I look forward to working with the other board members to achieve growth and prosperity for VT MÄK."

~Lieutenant General (USA Retired) Leo PIGATY
Chairman, VT MÄK Board of Directors

"As MÄK's COTS products evolve to be more directly relevant to end users, having a better understanding of end-user needs is critical to our success. MG Bond and LTG Pigaty's backgrounds are a perfect fit for the direction MÄK is headed and we look forward to benefiting from their insights and experience."

~Warren KATZ
Chief Executive Officer, VT MÄK

MÄK did it again!



Once again, MÄK was selected as one of Military Training Technology's Top 100 Simulation and Training Companies. We were also chosen as an industry innovator and given a blue ribbon award for our work with VR-inTerra. To see the other winners, check out MT2's [top companies newsletter](#)!

Employee Spotlight: Fred Wersan

Principal Technical Writer



If you think you know what a technical writer does, think again. Meet Fred Wersan, known officially as MÄK's Principal Technical Writer since 1998, but unofficially as Doer of All Things Demo, Writing, and Web.

If you've visited us at a tradeshow, it's likely that you've seen our Berkeley, MÄKland, VR-Village Car Bomb, or Subway demo—you can thank Fred for those. He's also responsible for all MÄK's product and trainer documentation, in addition to providing some tech support, web site content management, tech tips, proposal editing, and testing. He's had two articles published in Intercom, a publication of the Society for Technical Communication, entitled "Do-It-Yourself Single Sourcing" and "Write Your Own Utilities," and was a speaker at the 2002 STC Annual Conference (Creativity and Technical Writing is Not an Oxymoron). What we're trying to say here is that Fred can pretty much do anything.

He has several degrees, including a MA from Boston College in Counseling Psychology, a

Masters of Education from Rutgers in Creative Arts in Education, and a Certificate in Software Technical Writing from Middlesex Community College. Before his days as a technical writer, he was a social worker with the Massachusetts Department of Social Services and worked with abused and neglected children.

Born in New York City but raised in New Jersey, Fred has acquired an interesting set of skills outside the workplace. He's a banjo, guitar, concertina, and mandolin player, as well as the lead fiddler and vocalist for the Assabet Ramblers, an obscure old-time string band. Not only does he play a bunch of instruments, he also collects odd zither-like instruments including a Marxophone, Marxolin, Hawaiian Tremeloa, and Ukelin. He also has a large collection of wooden nickels.

We hope we've piqued your interest in getting to know our MÄK team. Stay tuned to our [website](#), [blog](#), and [community forum](#) to learn more about MÄK!

Product Updates

MÄK Data Logger 5.1. - Improvements made to remote control API; Logger is now available for MS VC++ 10; database export functionality upgraded to support MySQL ODBC Connector 5.1.

VR-Forces 4.0.2 - Available on Linux platforms.

For more information, please contact info@mak.com.

MÄK is hiring!

Available positions include:

- Junior C++ Software Engineer
- Services & Solutions Engineer
- C++ Software Engineer
- Sales Engineer
- Business Development Executive
- Account Manager
- Lead Graphics Programmer

To learn more, visit our [Careers](#) page!

MÄK in the News

Read about MÄK's contribution to Air Traffic Management!

"Intensive ATC Training" by Erin Flynn Jay
Military Training Technology, page 6

MÄK Blog

Check out our blog! MÄK's product managers and business development team are blogging about industry news, changing standards, product updates, and even passing along technical tips. Don't miss out on the latest!