

Solutions for Web-based Simulation Services

Simulation studies often apply a wide variety of IT-solutions, ranging from simulation systems and animation tools to office software and groupware. In relation to the usually short duration of these studies, the required software acquisitions contribute to high total costs of ownership. Additionally, simulation often involves intensive communication and cooperation between the customer and a simulation consultant in order to specify, implement, adapt and apply the simulation model. *Web Based Simulation Environments (WBSE)* that integrate simulation related tools with groupware and Application Service Providing (ASP) concepts can help to make simulation studies faster and cheaper. The B2B Simulation Initiative is an effort to coordinate the work for enabling simulation for the Web and integrating separate components into a common framework. Within this initiative, two WBSE prototypes have been designed. They are described and compared in this paper.