

May 2025

Dear Congressional Leader,

As the President of the National Training and Simulation Association (NTSA), we have enjoyed a long and productive relationship with the Modeling and Simulation (M&S) Congressional Caucus, established in 2005. That relationship has benefited both the modeling, simulation and training industry and our Congressional Representatives. NTSA has provided you with education of the industry and its impacts within your districts. Likewise, your efforts have provided opportunities to minimize cost across the federal budget through application of M&S across industries in the United States.

I am writing to you today to help to inform the huge decisions you currently face to manage our budget and yet maintain readiness for our military to secure our national security. Specifically, my comments are focused on the importance of one of the U.S. Army's premier organizations responsible to manage its modeling and simulation programs – the Program Executive Officer for Simulation Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI), based in Orlando, FL. This organization manages a multi-billion-dollar portfolio for the Army and is co-located with similar organizations in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marines Corps, and U.S. Air Force. The co-location with the other Services in Orlando has provided opportunities to both leverage training technologies across the Services and to highlight the critical nature of training efficiency across all of the DoD. Specifically, the Army's involvement as a part of TEAM Orlando has brought synergies across the Services in the identification of effective training solutions and technologies, the creation of training synergies across Services, and the sharing of best practices to ensure readiness.

We understand that Army leaders at the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASAALT) are considering reducing the Army from thirteen PEO's to nine, with PEO STRI being eliminated entirely. If the decision to eliminate PEO STRI stands, it will be difficult for the Army to maintain its core competency in MS&T. More importantly, eliminating PEO STRI will have severe negative consequences that will degrade military confidence and reduce soldier lethality. Simulation offers the ability to rehearse dangerous operations and missions, train our military and workforce, and to design and test equipment and manufacturing processes in a virtual environment before ever operating in the real environment. Simulation technology affects every soldier, sailor, airman, marine, coast guardsman, and guardian to ensure they are trained and ready to support our national defense and missions throughout the world on behalf of the United States of America.

We respectfully request that you consider the Army's recommendation carefully and its impact on our military readiness. We believe the synergies created due to the co-location of the Services M&S organizations save the Government time and money, and support training effectiveness and efficiency across all Services. I welcome the opportunity to meet with your office to discuss this further and can provide you with any information you may require as you deliberate on these critical decisions affecting our Nation's safety and security.

Very Respectfully,



VADM Sean S. Buck, USN (Ret.)
President, NTSA