

## CSC Chooses MÄK's VR-Link for Virtual Ship 2000 HLA Compliance

CSC Advanced Marine's comprehensive ship maneuvering and navigation simulation software called Virtual Ship has been used in simulators for training and engineering/virtual prototyping applications for some time. In 1999, CSC Advanced Marine decided to develop a new version of this software, Virtual Ship 2000, which would have a new architecture to support the latest capabilities including HLA compliance, open architecture, object oriented design, and the ability to scale from desktop and embedded systems to full mission simulators. The Surface Warfare Officer School, in Newport RI, has been evaluating this new software since October of last year.

"We decided to base our Virtual Ship 2000 simulation software inter-process communications architecture entirely on HLA," explains Eugene R. Miller, senior principal engineer and senior technical leader of training technologies at CSC Advanced Marine Center. "We defined and developed our own FOM (not based on the RPR FOM) and used MÄK's VR-Link as the framework from which to expand and build our system. Using VR-Link greatly accelerated the process of our HLA development. It provided isolation from RTI changes and we did not have to develop directly to the RTI."

"VR-Link provided us with a solid object oriented architecture that we could extend and build upon," said Miller. "The product was vital in our development program. Plus MÄK's technical support staff was excellent, not only answering questions, but also running tests to investigate problems. The project was accomplished more quickly and efficiently thanks to MÄK's products and technical support."

CSC plans to complete compliance testing during the summer of 2001. CSC Advanced Marine Center has been developing simulators for the U.S. Navy and Army over the last decade, with installations in Norfolk, San Diego, and Newport, as well as overseas in Rotterdam and Japan.