

Working Group General Information	
Working Group Title	WG for Business and Enterprise Modelling
Working Group Short Name	BEM WG
Short Summary of the Working Group Topic	
Investment in ICT support systems has become a key, enabling strategy of many manufacturers in their migration towards lean manufacturing into well-integrated value chains. Highly successful as this has already been, the emphasis has so far tended to be on supporting localized functionalities (e.g. scheduling, planning, customer support systems, human resources) rather than addressing the overall issue of creating lean, effective business processes which may be brought together into a total system for overall optimisation.	
Short Summary of the Working Group Goals	
The SIM-SERV partners will review the state-of-art surrounding modeling, simulation and optimization of total businesses, or enterprises with a view to creating a perspective on future simulation developments needed. This challenge will be met by forming an expert working group to discuss the issues involved and to move towards a written position statement.	
Short description of the Working Group topic	
The Sim-Serv supported working group will bring together representatives of European simulation community. The purpose of the working group is to form and write down a vision on how research and applications of modelling/simulation will evolve in the next 5-10 years time.	
Background. Reasons why this Working Group is needed.	
<p>Sim-Serv needs a forum where European researchers, software developers, application providers and users are able to meet and identify how the technology might be brought to provide increasing support in the critically important competitive area of business support systems.</p> <p>The use of business modelling is still at a relatively early stage of practical application where available commercial systems tend to be custom-built and suitable only for large manufacturers where high installation costs are not a block. The present working group will assess how more generic approaches may be developed leading to lower cost – and hopefully more effective -solutions.</p>	
Working Group goals.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review state-of-art - identify key areas where new applications will have a major impact - assess scope of existing proprietary systems - define R&D needs for next 5 years. 	
The expected impact of the working group.	
The working group will provide a position statement that will be publicly available for all interested parties on the Sim-Serv web site http://www.sim-serv.com/ . It will guide European researcher and software developers in their efforts to create focused collaborative R&D initiatives. In addition Sim-Serv will be recognised as an important European initiative for enhancing co-operation and setting directions for future research.	