



**December 1, 2011**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**Nearly 600 CIOs and Senior IT Executives Gathered at SIMposium 2011, the Annual Conference of the Society for Information Management, at the Hilton Bonnet Creek in Orlando, Florida**

ORLANDO, FL – Close to 600 CIOs and senior IT executives gathered at the Society for Information Management’s 43<sup>rd</sup> annual *SIMposium* at the Hilton Bonnet Creek in Orlando, Florida to discuss *The Future of IT*.

During the three-day conference, which was held November 13-15, attendees furthered their professional development in topics such as Future Leadership Skills & Trends; Tomorrow’s IT Workforce; Best Practices & Processes, Leading Edge IT; Global Trends & Developments; and Game Changing Vendor Developments.

“The annual *SIMposium* is an excellent opportunity to bring together IT executives from around the world to further professional development and network with our peers,” said conference co-chairs Conrad Cross of the Central Florida chapter of the Society for Information Management and Andrew Jackson, SIM International Management Council, Conferences and Seminars. “We wish to convey our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the attendees, sponsors and our event management company MeetingTrack Inc., for their participation, and varied significant contributions in helping to make *SIMposium* 2011 a resounding success.”

The following companies sponsored *SIMposium* 2011: Gold Sponsors Idea and Verizon Wireless; Silver Sponsors Computer Aid Inc. (CAI), Dell, iGate Patni, Oracle and UMT Consulting; and Bronze Sponsors Accenture, CAST, CDW, Dataflux, iDashboards, Presidio Networked Solutions, Softchoice and Time Warner Business Class. Golf Sponsors included Eagle sponsor iGatePatni and Birdie sponsors Aruba Networks, HP, LearnSmart, Time Warner Cable Business Class and Verizon Wireless.

During *SIMposium* 2011, Pat Coffey, SIM International Chair and Jim Knight, SIM International Vice Chair awarded the SIM Leaders of the Year awards. The winners are:

**Small Chapter Winner:** Stacey Alexander, Consultant, Resources Global & SIM Program Chair, Colorado Chapter

**Medium Chapter Winner:** Joel Schwalbe, CIO and SVP, CNL Financial Group, Inc. & SIM Chapter Board Member, Central Florida Chapter

**Large Chapter Winner:** David Kocs, Owner and Principal, TDK Technologies & SIM Chapter Board Member, St. Louis Chapter

**Extra Large Chapter Winner:** Kevin More, Vice President of Information Technology, May Institute & SIM Chapter President, Boston Chapter

Mary Sumner, Professor at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville who is in charge of Academic Community Affairs and a member of the SIM Management Council presented the SIM Paper Awards for 2011. During the Paper Selection Process, 22 abstracts were submitted. A total of 15 author teams were invited to submit full papers and there were 10 finalists. Winners include:

**First Place Paper:** Assessing Cloud Readiness At Continental AG, Claudia Loebbecke, University of Cologne, Bernhard Thomas,- Continental AG, Thomas Ullrich,- Continental AG

**Second Place Paper:** Drawing "Align" in the Sand: The Cultural Shift Towards Embedded IT, Dr. Jerry Luftman, Stevens Institute of Technology, Frank Wander, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, Mark Nathan, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, Harshil Sutaria, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America / Stevens Institute of Technology

At the closing BBQ of SIMposium 2011, the gavel was passed to the Dallas Fort Worth SIM chapter who will host SIMposium 2012, October 28-30, 2012 at the Gaylord Texan in Dallas, Texas. The theme of SIMposium 2012 will be CIO Means Business to reflect the evolving role of the CIO as IT becomes the center of business operations. *SIMposium 2012* sponsors to date include: Bronze Sponsors **Paladin Consulting** and **Pariveda Solutions**; and Exhibiting Sponsor **BravoTech**. Further event details are available at [www.SIMposium2012.org](http://www.SIMposium2012.org).

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### **About SIM**

Established in 1968, the Society for Information Management (SIM) is the premier network for IT leaders comprised of more than 4,000 members including CIOs, senior IT executives, prominent academicians, consultants, and other IT leaders. SIM is a community of thought leaders who share experiences and apply rich intellectual capital, and who explore future IT direction. Through its 31 Chapters, SIM provides resources and programs inspired by IT leaders for IT leaders that enable CIOs to further develop the leadership capabilities of themselves and the key and emerging leaders in their organizations. SIM provides the collective voice to advocate policy and legislation on behalf of the IT profession across industries. Learn more at [www.simnet.org](http://www.simnet.org).

### **About MeetingTrack Inc.**

MeetingTrack provides full-service association management, conference and trade show planning services. MeetingTrack customizes creative events that maximize results from the combination of strategic objectives, individual learning styles and destination distinctions. Every element and interaction – inspirational surroundings, world-class culture and cuisine, productive networking opportunities and focused classroom, panel and roundtable sessions – are designed to contribute to the complete conference experience. More information at [www.meetingtrack.com](http://www.meetingtrack.com).