

High-tech firms strut their wares

A couple of our fast-rising high-tech companies showed off their wares last week in conferences here in town.

AEgis Technologies hosted the annual Huntsville Simulation Conference in conjunction with the Society for Modeling and Simulation International and the Alabama Modeling and Simulation Council.

Also, CabinetNG had its annual Collaborate Conference for its customers. In keeping with the season, one of those customers is SFX Baseball, the marketing and management arm of Major League Baseball.

With Huntsville being one of America's leading simulation hubs with headquarters and branches of most all of the large companies with modeling and simulation interests, the location is a perfect fit, according to AEgis Technologies Chairman/CTO Bill Waite, a founding member of the Alabama council.

"Several hundred government, business professionals and academics" met



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here to discuss the importance of modeling and simulation, he said.

Besides the technical and classified sessions, which included discussions about cybersecurity, Waite said topics also included ballistic missile defense, NASA space enterprise and the national power grid and infrastructure.

"The diversity of the participation this year and the use of modeling and simulation as a national critical technology can be leveraged on behalf of the security and economic well-being of the U.S. and allies," he said.

Waite said it's important for the modeling and simu-

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lation community to know the needs of government, industry and academia and work to answer those needs.

"The Huntsville Simulation Conference is one of the ways we can collaborate to continue to provide solutions to the hurdles faced by government and commercial industry alike," he said.

CabinetNG plays

ball

While the San Francisco Giants were turning the world of Major League Baseball upside down, CNG heard from its customers - SFX Baseball included - during last week's conference.

CNG is a Huntsville-based provider of document management and workflow software.

Every year, the company turns the conference over to the attendees for feedback on CNG's products and services. SFX talked about how the agency is using CNG-SAFE to help MLB in

accounting, legal and personal contacts.

But they didn't say if they could hit a curve ball.

The conference also featured a trip to Monte Sano State Park Lodge and a keynote talk by area weather guru Bob Baron, who spoke on "What Technology can do for your Company." Baron emphasized how technology has improved the way weather is forecast and how we prepare for severe weather - kind of coincidental considering the storms that rolled through here last week.

Baron was at WAFF-TV

in 1989 when a deadly tornado struck Huntsville, killing nearly two dozen people and injuring about 500 people, while cutting a swath along Airport Road and into Jones Valley.

"It was a seminal moment where I thought we were prepared," said Baron, who now owns Baron Services, a weather technology company. "But what we had were pretty pictures, not actual tools."

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