§1. Organization of Department of Simulation Science

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According to the recommendation by the steering committee of NIFS, the Department of Simulation Science was established in Apr. 2007 by integrating both former theory and simulation center and former computer and network information center. The newly established Department of Simulation Science consists of LHD and Magnetic Confinement Simulation Division, Fusion Frontiers Simulation Division, and Rokkasho Research Center. Through the integration of the former two centers, knowledge on soft-ware (physics basis and simulation technique) and knowledge on hard-ware (computational technique and network technique) have been combined, leading to a good circumstance for simulation researches.

In order to show the direction of the simulation researches clearly and to promote the simulation researches efficiently and functionally, three simulation projects, namely, LHD and Magnetic Confinement, Laser Fusion, and Plasma Complexity have been organized. Those simulation projects are promoted under the strong collaborations with domestic or international universities and institutes. The LHD and Magnetic Confinement simulation project is mainly promoted based on the collaborations with Kyoto and Kyusyu universities and JAEA. In the case of the Laser fusion simulation project, the collaborations with Osaka, Setsunan, Kyusyu, Nagoya, and Hyogo prefectural universities are key factor. The plasma complexity simulation project is based on the collaborations with NINS, ES center in JAMSTEC, and Kyusyu, Chiba, Shinsyu, Yokohama National, Saitama, Nagoya universities.

Also, in order to promote collaborative researches more intensively, the computer working group and the network working group have been created. Those two groups will play a quite important role for introduction and operation of new super-computer system in Mar. 2009, and strongly support computer users in the various aspects.

Finally, Virtual Reality (VR) Task Force has been newly set for promoting researches on VR, and extending VR activities into the other fields. This activity also becomes powerful under the tight collaborations with NINS, ES center, and Kounan university.