The work performed at VT under the NAVCIITI project has had an
invaluable impact on the Navy's initiatives to assess virtual reality
technology within the context of warfighter needs. These needs include
tactical, training, and planning operations. VT has developed a unique
application tool called DIVERSE which provides a versatile backbone for
combining a broad spectrum of applications and interface devices, and
will soon be extended to an Open GL version, which will allow the
software to run on a broad spectrum of machines from UNIX to SG to
LINUX PCs. This will facilitate the Navy's ability to get VR programs
and devices operational on shipboard and submarine systems quickly. A
specific beneficiary of the work conducted under NAVCIITI funding is a
program entitled "Visualization for Multiwarfare Planning and
Execution" - an Office of Naval Research (ONR) funded effort led by the
Naval Undersea Warfare Center and the Naval Research Laboratory. This
project rated as ONR's best C4I project at their May 2001 review,
specifically addresses the "value added" of 3D visualization and VR in
the context of the submarine passive localization problem. In FY03
this program will evolve into a Future Naval Capabilities (FNC) effort
aimed at developing a 3D VR-based sensor-to-shooter decision aid for
submarines. Without the support of VT and specifically the NAVCIITI
project, which laid the necessary groundwork and developed the
necessary expertise at VT, this project would neither have evolved as
quickly as it has and would not have had the tool (DIVERSE) we are
using to assess VR options or to integrate VR technology into the
current UNIX-based Navy submarine combat system (Open GL DIVERSE). VT
has done an excellent job under NAVCIITI support in furthering the
state of the art in virtual reality, has developed an outstanding VR
tool in DIVERSE and has developed outstanding scientists who have made
significant contributions to Navy programs.*

*VT's work under NAVCIITI funding has also resulted in a transition to
a current NAVY FNC program on undersea weapon connectivity.

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"Visualization for Multiwarfare Planning and Execution")

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