

Changing the societal "fabric" towards a new structure (upper figure by R.E. Horn)

Converging Technologies for Improving Human Performance NANOTECHNOLOGY, BIOTECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE - NSF/DOC-sponsored report Edited by Mihail C. Roco and William Sims Bainbridge, National Science Foundation June 2002, Arlington, Virginia

Theme	Key visionary ideas/projects
A. Overall Potential of Converging Technologies	NBIC strategy for technological and economical competitiveness
	New patterns for S&T, economy, and society
	Enhancing individual and group abilities, productivity, and learning
	Sustainable and "intelligent" environments
	Changing human activities towards the "innovation age"
B. Expanding Human Cognition and Communication	Human cognome project and cognitive evolution
	Brain-to-brain interactions and group communication
	Spatial cognition and visual language using converging technologies
	Enhanced tools for learning and creativity
	Predictive science of societal behavior
C. Improving Human Health and Physical Capabilities	Healthcare, body replacements, and physiological self-regulation
	Brain-machine interfaces and neuromorphing engineering
	Improving sensorial capacities and expanding functions
	Improving quality of life of disabled people
	Aging with dignity and life extension
D. Enhancing Group and Societal Outcomes	The Communicator: enhancing group interaction and creativity
	Cognitive engineering and enhancing productivity
	Revolutionary products, including "aircraft of the future"
	Networked society, with bio-inspired culture
E. National Security	Enhancing physical and mental capacity of a soldier
	Enhancing readiness and threat anticipation tools
	Globally linked detection devices
	Uninhabited combat vehicles
F. Unifying Science and Education	Unifying science from the nanoscale and integrative principles
	Cognitive, civic, and ethical changes in a networked society
	Breadth, depth, "trading zones," and reshaping education at all levels
	Changing the human culture

Table 2. Key visionary ideas and projects discussed in this report