



October 23, 2001

Dr. Nathaniel Pitts
National Science Foundation
Director, Office of Integrative Activities
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230

Dear Dr. Pitts:

Lockheed Martin Corporation is well aware of the many activities of the National Science Foundation, Department of Defense, NASA and Department of Energy in support and development of the emerging computational grids. For example, the Distributed Terascale Facility (DTF) represents an exciting future resource to address large scale, high end, computational application challenges.

Internally, Lockheed Martin has significant distributed, networked, computational resources. Our government customers face these same complex application challenges. With over 50,000 engineers and scientists and 50 sites nationally, Lockheed Martin is a very large and sophisticated user of distributed computational facilities. We have several programs in the Corporation that have significant computer intensive applications including the Sandia National Laboratory programs for the DOE, and simulations for DoD, such as the Joint Strike Fighter, DD-21 Surface Combatant and Space Based Infrared Satellite.

Dr. Kennedy's proposed Center for Grid Application Development Software (CGrADS), will address the critical issues of programming, application development and enablement for the grid. In order for the emerging grids to succeed, industry must have engineers and scientists educated in the use of this architecture and the programming tools, support libraries, and development environments to greatly simplify its use. We understand this will not be easy.

The outstanding, nationally recognized research leaders assembled by Dr. Kennedy would be capable of addressing these very significant challenges. We at Lockheed Martin look forward to working with them over the next several years by bringing to this team our application expertise and examples of challenging customer software development needs for applications suitable to grid computing implementations. In addition, we will serve on the Center's Industrial Advisory Board and participate in tests and evaluations of CGrADS research prototypes.

Lockheed Martin Corporation strongly encourages the National Science Foundation to support the proposed CGrADS national science and technology center. We look forward to our future industrial partnership with Dr. Kennedy and CGrADS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MCDyer", written in a cursive style.

Michael C. Dyer
Corporate Fellow, Software Engineering
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Corporate Engineering & Technology
8901 Rockledge Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20817

cc: Dr. Malcolm R. O'Neill