

NOTES FOR SLIDES “A Vision of Digital Earth: Knowledge Base for Global Symphony”

Slide 1 (Image of Earth)

Human thought has changed everything. Human thought has reached the cutting edge of global evolution. And human thought has created (next slide) Digital Earth, a knowledge base for global symphony.

Slide 29 (Chart titled, “In Thought and Action, from an Old World to a New”)

- The area below the Line of Global Sustainability represents the box of current thinking. It represents the idea that we are ultimately limited in what we can do, and that the best we can do for the Earth is to limit the damage we cause. And within this box of limitation are three ideas which are really three sides of the same coin (if a coin could have three sides). **The first** is the idea that we should minimize degradation of the global system in an attempt to approach sustainability. **The second** is the idea that the Earth’s system is so huge that it doesn’t matter what we do, the system will be capable of absorbing it. **And the third** is a belief that the whole thing will eventually wind down, so why worry about it. Just live for today, and, “So what if we degrade the system to an ultimate state of inert uniformity, it’s going to happen eventually anyway.” (Entropy: the degradation of the matter and energy in the universe to an ultimate state of inert uniformity.)
- The Line of Global Sustainability is like the Glass Ceiling of Global Evolution, to be shattered by creative thought.
- Breaking through the Line of Global Sustainability breaks us out of the box of limitation and allows for creation of an enhanced system. It initially manifests itself by limiting the damage we do, but soon transforms to a paradigm in which we learn, not only to understand and maintain what has been created before us, but to build on the foundation of our inheritance to create a new world of unknown limits.
- Key thought: the key to changing human **action** is to change human **thinking**. The essential drivers for creating a living new world are love and hope – the most powerful, yet fragile, elements of our existence. In themselves, they may not be fragile. But our connection to them is. And it is our connection to them that gives embodiment to their existence, and in essence, to ours.

Slide 31 (blank chart [white on hard copy, black on projected slide] with CD symbol at center)

Thought Experiment (for the experiment, please close your eyes):

- Now, with your eyes closed, think of a world in which you feel hope for your life and the lives of your loved ones.
- Think of a world in which you have found a niche for your genius, in which you find satisfaction in your work, in your play, and in everything you do.
- Think of a world in which you are able to listen to and communicate with anyone instantly, clearly, and accurately.

- Think of a world in which you feel confident to successfully innovate and improvise to meet both your needs and those of others in dynamic situations with unknown outcomes.
- Think of a world in which there is magic in our interactions, and music in the results.
- And now, with your eyes still closed, I'd like you to listen to a living example of a kind of active-creative participation in an evolving future, each new moment being created seamlessly out of the old to create an integrated whole over time.
- **Play CD**
- *Symphony: Consonance or harmony of any kind. Something which in its harmonious complexity or variety suggests a symphonic composition; as, to listen to the symphony of nature. (Webster)*
- (Gradually decrease music volume so that voice-over can be heard.) Now think of a world of the not-too-distant future, which has become a symphony, with 10 billion people linked interactively through a multi-dimensional Digital Earth. This is the world we will create, reaching sustainability – and beyond.
- **Thank you very much.** Questions? Thoughts? Discussion?