A reply to Peter Quarrell:

The purpose of our article was to illustrate that the simulation software market can be segmented into several clusters oriented towards different kinds of users.

We are not unaware of HOCUS's existence, as Peter Quarrell suggests, just as we are not unaware of the existence of the *other* 227 simulation software packages also mentioned in the "**Catalog of simulation software**" (*Simulation*, October 1988). Our sample was primarily based on this list. We included 15 packages satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) it must be (more-or-less) general-purpose simulation software;
- (2) it must be able to handle (at least) discrete-event simulations;
- (3) it had to be available at that time under the DOS operating system for the IBM PC and compatibles;

- (4) we must have received sufficient objective information concerning the package for inclusion in the final report.

Of the many packages we did not include, HOCUS had been left out early in the study because of the DOS constraint: as indicated in *Simulation* (October 1988, p. 143), HOCUS was available on IBMs and compatibles only under the Xenix/Unix operating system.

We apologise to all manufacturers of simulation software who have been left out, but we do not think that this should affect the basic idea and result of our study "**Segmenting the simulation software market**".

ALEX Van BREEDAM,
JAN RAES,
KAREL van de VELDE
University of Antwerp—RUCA
Belgium