# COSMOS Version 2.0: The Next Generation

The next version of COSMOS, the first departmental work application developed for use on SIGNET, was launched at Headquarters and at over 100 missions on November 28th, 1995. COSMOS Version 2.0 consists of a new and improved CAMANT (Case Management) and BF (Bring Forward), in addition to the ROCA (Registration of Canadians Abroad), PMP (Passport Management), TIP (Travel Information) and CONPLAN (Contingency Planning) programs.

## Case Management (CAMANT) and Bring Forward (BF) Programs

The new CAMANT and BF programs offer a number of improvements, of which the following are the most noteworthy:

We have incorporated within CAMANT a new internal case messaging system which enables consular staff to notify their counterparts, either at the mission(s) or at Headquarters, of new cases and/or updates to existing cases while remaining within CAMANT. With the debut of the new CAMANT, users will no longer have to resort to switching back and forth between CAMANT and ICONDESK e-mail to both enter cases and advise others of these new and/or updated entries. CAMANT will therefore provide consular staff with "one-stop shopping" for total consular case management.

In response to popular demand, we have also increased the size of each individual case note and added a formal Case Note report so that users can now print out each note in the same format as other CAMANT reports (i.e., the Case Summary report).

The Passport Control List or PCL (unclassified version) will be available to users on-line and is triggered when data is saved on the Tombstone screen in CAMANT. This will permit the automatic checking of names of persons requesting consular assistance against the PCL. This feature, especially when combined with searching the CAMANT database for prior cases involving a given individual, provides mission consular staff with additional valuable and timely information about the client in question.

To address difficulties with some dates for the year 2000, we have modified all date fields within COSMOS to register the year as four digits (i.e., 1995), instead of the current two year digit format (i.e., 95). This improvement will ensure that COSMOS enjoys a smooth transition when we reach the year 2000.

## The New COSMOS ROCA Program

For those missions which register Canadians, COSMOS Version 2.0 will provide them with a much improved ROCA program. The Registration of Canadians Abroad Program (ROCA) of COSMOS has been designed to support (a) the registration of Canadians who live in selected countries and (b) the management of the associated Warden System. As before, the new COSMOS ROCA Program is to be used in association with the existing Registration Card for Canadians Residing Abroad (Form EXT 217).

The most important features of the new COSMOS ROCA program are as follows:

The main improvement in the management of ROCA information is that, with the introduction of COSMOS ROCA, missions will no longer have to download their data to disk and forward it to Headquarters. Since the new ROCA has been totally reprogrammed and designed to function as part of the COSMOS System, all ROCA data will be immediately stored in the COSMOS database in Ottawa once it has been entered and saved by missions, just as all CAMANT data is currently handled within COSMOS. The new COSMOS ROCA is a fully networked product, again, the same as CAMANT, and consular staff will soon realize the benefits of this approach over the former DOS based, stand-alone ROCA program.

The new COSMOS ROCA program will have the same look and feel as CAMANT. Consular users will find the program much easier to work with, not only in terms of the visual appeal of the switch from a DOS to a Windows based user interface, but also in terms of operational reliability and product support.

All printing within COSMOS ROCA will be done using standard SIGNET issue laser printers.

As noted above, the new COSMOS ROCA program provides for the total management of the Warden System. Now missions will be able to quickly and easily establish their particular Warden System by entering the appropriate district and warden data and then assigning registrants to the relevant areas and individuals in charge.

The new COSMOS ROCA allows consular staff to generate address information from the database to produce mailing labels in WordPerfect for the purpose of keeping in contact with registered Canadians.

All existing data from the previous ROCA software program will be converted into the new program. This data has been loaded at Headquarters into the previous ROCA database and, once converted to the COSMOS ROCA format, it will be available to all missions.

## The COSMOS Passport Management Program (PMP)

The Passport Management Program (PMP) is a fully computerized passport processing program that will operate at all missions and will be fully accessible to the Passport Office in Hull through their connection to SIGNET. This new