

## Government Departments

The public sector, including state and federal administrations and government-owned corporations, purchases approximately 60 percent of mainframes, 75 percent of minicomputers and 64 percent of microcomputers. Public sector dominance of the software market is not as pronounced — it accounts for about 39 percent of purchases.

Government departments use computers for a wide range of public administration applications ranging from tax collection to social security administration. The most important government users of computers, in declining order of computer spending are:

- *Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público (SHCP)*, Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit
- *Secretaría de Energía, Minas e Industria Paraestatal (SEMIP)*, Secretariat of Energy, Mines and State-owned Industry
- *Departamento del Distrito Federal (DDF)*, Department of Mexico City
- *Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT)*, Secretariat of Communications and Transportation
- *Secretaría de Salud (SS)*, Secretariat of Health
- *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development
- *Secretaría de Programación y Presupuesto (SPP)*, Secretariat of Planning and Budget
- *Secretaría de Agricultura y Recursos Hidráulicos (SARH)*, Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydrological Resources
- *Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP)*, Secretariat of Education
- *Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social (STPS)*, Secretariat of Labour and Social Welfare
- *Secretaría de Pesca (SP)*, Secretariat of Fishing
- *Secretaría de Gobernación (SG)*, Secretariat of the Interior
- *Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores (SRE)*, Secretariat of Foreign Affairs
- *Secretaría de Turismo (SECTUR)*, Secretariat of Tourism

All of these departments use mainframes for mass information storage.

and smaller computers for individual operations. State governments are also beginning to use computers.

## Teléfonos de México

*Teléfonos de México (TELMEX)* is the national telephone company of Mexico. *TELMEX* was sold by the government of Mexico to private investors, in December 1990, for approximately US \$1.8 billion. The new owner is a group of investors led by *Grupo Carso*, which includes participation from Southwestern Bell and France Telecom. The government has a continuing role in *TELMEX* as a minority partner and it retains control over the telecommunications sector through the regulatory system.

It is a condition of the *TELMEX* concession that it dramatically improve and expand the telephone network. It is required to provide long-distance service to all towns with more than 500,000 inhabitants by 1994. *TELMEX* must publish a series of plans that detail its modernization goals. During the first five years the company will install four million new terminal lines.

The first *TELMEX* three-year plan, which covers the period 1991 to 1994, called for total spending over the period of US \$7.2 billion. More than a third of this will be spent on imports. Mexico's telephone density is presently one of the lowest in the world, with only about five percent of families receiving telephone service. This is expected to increase to one-third of families in the first three years. Eight thousand communities will receive telephone service for the first time.

## Telecomunicaciones de México

All other telecommunications services in Mexico are provided by *Telecomunicaciones de México (TELECOM)*. *TELECOM* is an agency of the *Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT)*, Secretariat of Communications and Transportation. This organization provides a variety of services. It operates the basic telephone infrastructure, including satellite earth stations, marine radio and data communications. It also provides telephone service to small towns (under 1,500 inhabitants).

In addition to providing telecommunications services through *TELECOM*, the *SCT* also issues permits and licences for private sector telecommunications activities. These include radio and television broadcasting, mobile radio-telephones (including cellular phones), cable television, amateur radio and paging systems.

Concessions for cellular telephone service have been granted by the *SCT* in each of Mexico's eight regions. Each concession is a Mexican company associated with a foreign partner. Bell Canada is the foreign partner in two of the regions.

## The Banking System

The Mexican banking and financial system ranks second, behind government agencies, in the use of computers; it is also a major telecommunications user. All Mexican banks were nationalized in 1982. They are regulated through the central bank, the *Banco de México*, but make their own decisions regarding equipment purchases. In 1991, the government began a policy of privatizing the banks and several have already been sold.

There are six national banks, eight multi-regional banks and six regional banks operating in Mexico, in addition to the government-owned development banks. The most important banks are *Banco Nacional de México (Banamex)* and *Banco Comercio (Bancomer)*. They illustrate the ways that Mexican banks use computers and telecommunications.

- *Banamex* has 75 branches throughout the country. It uses 10 mainframes, 50 minicomputers and roughly 10,000 terminals, kept on-line through a complex telecommunications system.
- *Bancomer* uses 40 IBM S/36s, two 43/81s and one 30/90 computer. They have 11,000 personal computers on-line, connected using integrated digital networks and fibre optics.

Both of the major banks are connected to the large supermarket chains for the automatic authorization of credit card purchases. *Bancomer* alone has 12,000 point-of-sale systems in place. The banks use mainframes mainly to manage customer accounts. Smaller



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