



sizes him up after each question and chooses the next question accordingly.

In this way, the system tailors the test to each applicant, zeroing in on his knowledge level within specific information categories.

The test breaks ground in a number of significant areas. It is the first use of Telidon for testing. It is also the first full-scale use of latent-trait testing theory, a statistical technique developed for the U.S. government at the University of Tennessee.

Telidon-NAPLPS colour terminals are being installed at Motor Vehicle Department offices throughout the province. The system is developed by the Adaptive Testing Network.

Adaptive Testing is a joint venture of Dominion Directory Co., Ltd., and Educational Research Institute.

For further information, contact:
Dominion Directory, Telidon Services
4400 Dominion St.
Burnaby, British Columbia
Canada V5G 4G4
Telephone: (604) 438-5535

VIDEOTEX KEEPS CANADIAN FORCES ON THE ALERT

When Canada's National Defence team goes on the alert, videotex graphics play a vital role in the information system.

Deep in an underground complex at Canadian Forces Base North Bay, in Northern Ontario, the videotex-based system provides pages of information to senior management levels to update them on significant new developments and status changes.

The system is located in the Regional Operating Control Centre (ROCC) and provides a command and control capability within Canadian airspace in support of Canada's military and sovereignty requirements.

This ROCC Information Display System was developed by Systemhouse Limited of Ottawa. Known as RIDS, it is a computer-based graphics generation, data storage and a retrieval system which incorporates NAPLPS graphics technology.

It provides an efficient means of generating, storing and communicating graphics and text.

System integration was carried out by Systemhouse, which also tailored the software to the specific requirements of the Canadian Forces.

RIDS is accessed through keyboard or keypad operator stations and data is displayed on colour monitors. All operator interfaces are menu driven.

The database is generated by an Information Provider System (IPS). Through the use of various graphic devices, the user may capture existing graphic information such as maps, or generate custom graphics.

As well, the user has full control over colour selection, graphics generation and text creation or editing through simple operator commands. Upon the completion of a graphic "page", all information is compressed into the NAPLPS format and stored on disk for transfer to the host computer.

One of the features of the system is the provision of "Action Pages". Any user can call up any page of information in the computer or "force" this page of information to other users.

This becomes vital in updating senior management on new developments and status change.

As well, any user can generate new skeleton pages as required, complete with headings, colours, and tabular or text data.

The RIDS system has been in active use since June 1983, and is evolving into a valuable aid in disseminating information to senior management levels.

For further information, contact:
Systemhouse
2827 Riverside Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1V 0C4
Telephone: (613) 526-0670