

Experience has shown that considerable time and effort can be wasted and frustration generated in efforts to overcome subtle incompatibilities and unexpected interactions between different operating systems, programs and microcomputer equipment which depart from industry standards. Departmental budgets and available technical resources will be inadequate to implement COSICS on schedule if time and money need to be expended in modifying or replacing non-standard equipment.

COSICS and related systems, both secure and nonsecure, will be funded through a Long Range Informatics Capital Program (LRICP). This program includes capital funds for the purchase of workstations for all EAITC staff who do not already have suitable equipment. Consequently, organizational units should no longer have to divert program funds to buy or rent workstations to meet their informatics needs. Units with established, funded programs which include the purchase of workstations that do not meet the standards set out in this document should contact the Systems Development and Operations Division (MSS) to seek funding to cover the incremental costs associated with adherence to these standards.

LRICP funds will **not** be available for the purchase, upgrade or replacement of any hardware or software procured after the coming into force of this document unless it is fully compliant with these standards or unless explicit approval has been obtained from MSS. Staff using non-compatible equipment will be effectively cut off from the Department-wide information flow that is implicit in COSICS II.

Procurement

All procurement of microcomputer hardware and software for Headquarters must be carried out through MSS for **unclassified/protected(A)** or MST for **classified**.

Missions abroad may procure microcomputer hardware and software through Ottawa, locally or through other missions that, for one reason or another, may be more suitable sources of supply. Equipment which is intended for use in the sensitive area of a mission **must be procured through Ottawa or from reliable sources that have been approved by Ottawa**. This requirement holds regardless of whether the equipment will be used for unclassified or classified processing within the secure area. Such equipment may be serviced only by Canada-based or cleared personnel. No equipment may be moved from the open area to the sensitive area. More stringent restrictions may apply at particular missions. All equipment for classified processing will be procured through MST. All maintenance on classified equipment will be performed by Departmental technicians.