

6) **The Institute of Systems Science, NUS**, is setting up an R&D Center for the development of image archival systems. For use in companies or organizations with large databases, these systems are made to store and quickly retrieve documents that incorporate images, text, and photos. The ISS hopes to involve five or six companies in the funding of the R&D Center.

ISS engages in two main types of R&D: 1) Tool development for use in-house and for sale to computer vendors and 2) State-of-the-art technologies that will help Singapore companies become more productive and will aid in their ability to use new computer technologies. The three main product divisions, in which there are currently 16 projects in progress, include Multimedia, Natural Language (Computer Aided Translation), and Advanced AI products. Actual projects from these divisions include: an artificial intelligence diagnostic system for avionics equipment for Singapore Airlines; a computer-aided translation system for IBM Asia-Pacific; and an inventory of videotapes for the Curriculum Development Institute of Singapore.

Long-term plans for R&D have been identified as Knowledge Acquisition, Processing, and Interconnected Distribution. The first involves a computer that can obtain and describe information in the form of images, graphics, voice and sound. The second concerns the deciphering patterns, such as language. The third will focus on computers transferring information (video) across telecommunications networks.

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Sources:

"Institute of Systems Science Hopes to Set up R&D Center", The Straits Times, January 17, 1991.

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