

Library Services: On-Line Public Access Cataloguing System

Project MG 02A

As a member of the UTLAS, sharing cataloguing group of libraries since 1973-74, the DEA has been asked to be a test library in Canada for the development of on-line public access cataloguing (OPAC). This system will provide an updated catalogue on a daily basis. A better service will be provided to the users when inquiring about the availability of material.

To date one central processing unit (CPU) has been installed and a fully revised, upgraded and debugged software has been loaded into it. Delivery of a catch-up software which includes keyword searching and two new terminals to display the diacritics is expected in near future.

In order to render the system fully operational, an additional CPU with additional terminals will be required. This will decrease the present, rapidly deteriorating, response time and permit the use of software for the routing of kardex and routing systems. A submission is being prepared with the help of information system division (MISE) to lease to purchase a new CPU and delivery is estimated at approximately next February.

Physical Resources, Roles and Responsibilities

Project MR 01

This project was developed to achieve Departmental approval of the precise definition and assignments of physical resource responsibilities, both real property and material. To achieve this, the project involves the development of a clear understanding of the role of External Affairs versus Public Works Canada in their responsibilities for Real Property Management.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in August 1987 between DEA and Public Works concerning the provision of architectural and engineering Services for property management outside the country.

Another MOU concerning contracting responsibilities is to be discussed between DEA, PWC and TB.