- 20,000 files, free format documents; no OCR)

- Ontario Ministry of Consumer & Commercial Relations, Vital Statistics (births, deaths, marriages, divorce registries - imaging old archive - 11 million documents; imaging new entries + manual data entry - no OCR; "re-engineered business into paperless activity")

6.2 Communications Technology.

Communications technology will be closely integrated with any and all other technologies used in future passport systems. Communication services are available today which would allow transmission of virtually any type of information, including images (e.g. digitized photos, signatures and other identification features) and application history, to most passport issuing locations in the world at relatively low cost. Communications facilities can easily be established within an office and between all offices, missions and headquarters. It is conceivable that communications with other sources and destinations may be desirable in the future; for example to or from police computers, provincial registries, and Immigration Canada.

Communications technology can be utilized to provide sharing of all types of information between passport office users whether locally or internationally located. It can facilitate the efficient sharing of resources between workers in a single office; it can more completely integrate various steps in handling passport applications with data that is centrally available; and it can make the same information accessible to all offices, regardless of location.

Communications will be of strategic importance to the Passport Office in many ways.

- Transmission of images from a master data base for confirmation of identity.