

(c) The possibility of procuring ADP equipment and ADP software as separate and distinct items, not necessarily from the same suppliers.

(d) The possibility that additional sources of procurement should be cultivated to serve as competitive alternatives to procuring equipment or services directly from the supplier.

(e) The advantages and possibilities of consolidated or other purchase arrangements for equipment to be selected by the agencies.

2. GSA will undertake a program to assist individual Federal agencies in negotiating the procurement of equipment and systems support, assuring that—

(a) The Government profits in each succeeding acquisition from the experience of prior procurements and strives to acquire the data processing equipment and accompanying software, training, etc., at the minimum cost.

(b) The agency determines its ADP equipment requirements, including development of systems specifications.

(c) The agency determines the final selection of equipment.

(d) A basis is established and maintained for continuing relationships between agency and supplier after equipment is acquired.

(e) Equipment available or expected to become available for redistribution is considered by agencies prior to instituting action to select new equipment.

3. In collaboration with the scientific and technological research and evaluation capabilities of NBS, GSA will develop procurement techniques which would focus upon "total system performance" in lieu of product capability.

C. Redistribution of excess equipment

1. Although excess ADP equipment will be used to the maximum extent in meeting legitimate approved agency needs, computers should not be used by agencies for work that is not essential to the agency mission. The Bureau of the Budget will require that the same criteria are used in acquiring "excess" equipment that apply to new equipment.

2. GSA will extend and intensify its program to effect the redistribution of excess equipment within the Government (including its cost-type contractors) whenever practicable. In particular, GSA will (a) review existing processes for obtaining and circularizing information regarding equipment availability and institute improvements as necessary, (b) seek and evaluate reasons why equipments are unclaimed by agencies, as a basis for improving the effectiveness of the redistribution program, (c) initiate and cultivate working contacts with agencies to assist them in arranging for the use of suitable excess equipment in lieu of acquiring additional equipment wherever economically feasible, and (d) initiate steps to assist agencies in achieving economies by substituting excess owned equipment for similar equipment being rented or leased.

3. GSA will maintain a continuous review of potential excesses in various categories of Government-owned equipment, and will inform agencies when such excesses are sufficiently imminent (a) to be considered in determining the need for soliciting industry or (b) to warrant only the temporary rental of additional equipment (in lieu of purchase) until the excess equipment is available for redistribution.

D. Source data automation

GSA, through the National Archives and Records Service, will continue its program for developing and encouraging the use of source data automation techniques by Government agencies.

E. Information systems

Work has been in progress within the Bureau of the Budget to develop an information system which will meet the requirements of central agencies, agency or sub-agency management and the operating activities. The central agencies and the principal using agencies will participate in an evaluation and critique of the initial draft of this system (preferably through the Federal ADP Council) and the development of the framework of the final system. Thereafter, GSA will provide full time staff members to assist in the detailed design of the system, and such personnel as may be required to program, operate and maintain the system.

As an interim measure BOB Circular A-55 is being revised to provide, among other things, a December 31, 1965 inventory. From this interim action it will be possible to determine agency plans for acquisition of additional computers during the remainder of F.Y. 66 and 67.