

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 11901

make purchasing assignments in a manner that will preclude overlap and duplication in the federal agencies. The task group consists of representatives from DoD, DHEW, GSA and VA.

The preliminary report of the task group provides for an integrated system in which non-cataloged, locally-purchased items would be reported through a data collection system, screened and recommended for item entry and subsequent stockage. The items not recommended for central stockage would be screened against other predetermined criteria for assignment of a National Stock Number and management on a non-stocked basis.

This task group is continuing its effort and is currently expanding the following concepts and procedures: (1) A method of collecting data on non-cataloged locally purchased items which would be candidates for item entry; (2) A procedure for item entry and review; (3) A procedure to determine the best method of supply; (4) A procedure to determine the best method of procurement to include the appropriate procuring agency; (5) A method of collecting and maintaining usage data on items in the system that are designated non-stocked; (6) The development of a Federal Supply Catalog which would contain all the items in the "System"; (7) An examination of the impact of the implementation of the task group's recommendation on the Federal establishment. We anticipate that the report of the task group will be completed within the next 60 days.