

the projects for inclusion in the Annual Program. The seven Panel members, none of whom are associated with any of the participating institutions, are primarily from business and industry.

In choosing the projects to implement STSA in Pennsylvania, emphasis is placed on uniqueness, practicality, and projected significance. While all PENNTAP projects reflect this, three are particularly outstanding.

The Library Information System, established by The Pennsylvania State University, provides organized technical information to industry in response to industrial inquiries. An industrialist from any section of the Commonwealth can submit specific technical questions to the System. After a search of the literature is made, the pertinent data is sent to the inquirer. By using the facilities of the University's 20 Commonwealth Campuses and Centers, the Library Information System is easily accessible to business and industry in every section of Pennsylvania. Another unique feature is that this project deals with the specific problems and needs of industry as defined and requested by the industrialists themselves.

Another library project, conducted by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, is an interesting and novel venture: a mobile science-technology library. This is the only known mobile library serving the scientific and technical needs of American enterprise. This specially-constructed van is stocked with the latest scientific and reference materials of interest to industry. As the van travels through western and central Pennsylvania, the library staff conducts seminars at plant locations and shows industrialists how to cut through the unfamiliar maze of library procedures to obtain information. The van, valued at \$25,000, was purchased under the provisions of the Library Services and Construction Act, and has been made available—without cost—to PENNTAP.

The third distinctive project couples the expertise of six major Pennsylvania universities with ten industrial scientists in providing a series of seminars on materials technology. This cooperative effort of academic and industrial personnel is, in itself, unique; that it is producing an effective program for industry is even more significant.

In addition to these three programs, PENNTAP offers in-depth library services for industries using metal plating and coating, powder metallurgy, and carbon-graphite technologies. Seminars on color measurement, materials technology, textiles, and computer applications in small industry are being conducted. Radio, television, and films are also being tested as media of information transfer.

Many meritorious projects have been proposed for PENNTAP's 1969 Annual Program. However, the number of good, active projects which can be undertaken will depend solely upon the availability of funds.

Initial evaluation indicates that PENNTAP is a promising venture with great potential. However, it is almost impossible to evaluate a program of this type in the same calendar year in which its activity is approved for funding. A few action projects in the program may give preliminary indications of success, but there must be an elapsed amount of time between the completion of a project and its true economic evaluation. Since PENNTAP is the sum of its individual projects, it cannot be evaluated accurately until its projects are measured.

Moreover, since industrial application of technical information generally requires much time, thought should be given to delaying the evaluation of projects. Perhaps even funding—up to, say, 5% of the total project budget—should be included in the initial project cost for this delayed evaluation. Thus, a more accurate evaluation would be made possible.

Even though a true evaluation of PENNTAP and its projects cannot be made at this early date, there have been numerous successes—in both numbers using the services and industrial application of information. These have been reported to the Office of State Technical Services in the Annual Reports and through more informal means.

The Designated Agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania received, in late 1965, a planning grant of \$25,000 to organize PENNTAP and to prepare the *Five-Year Plan* and the first Annual Program (1966). An accounting of this money was submitted in the 1966 Annual Report. This second planning grant has just been approved and will be used to evaluate present activities and to determine potential areas of service.

In addition, PENNTAP has received approval of three annual program grants, all of which were on a matching fund basis. To date, approved program appropriations from both the Federal and the Commonwealth Departments of Commerce amount to nearly a million dollars. Of this amount, \$476,399 has come from the Federal government; \$500,000 has been from the Commonwealth; and approximately \$25,000 from private sources.