

MINICOMPUTER SYSTEMS
DOCUMENTATION

1. GENERAL

1.01 The purpose of this section is to describe documentation requirements for minicomputer based systems. The documentation items listed in this section should exist for all minicomputer systems placed into a production environment. Some deviation from these rules are allowed if the economics for a particular system being installed cannot justify expending the monies required for the associated documentation effort. Such deviations are at the risk of the system's project manager.

1.02 Whenever this section is reissued, the reason(s) for reissue will be listed in this paragraph.

2. DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTATION

2.01 Centrally developed systems targeted for large-scale computer or minicomputer execution utilize two existing Bell System Practices as guidelines for system development documentation. These two practices should be reviewed for applicability as the documentation guide for all minicomputer based systems being developed by Southwestern Bell. Compliance is required for all guidelines documented in these practices found to be applicable. These Bell System Practices are:

- (a) BSP 007-227-305 "Developmental Documentation"
- (b) BSP 007-227-310 "Developmental Documentation Specifications - General Information"

2.02 During minicomputer project feasibility and approval stages, all rules pertaining to Southwestern Bell Joint Practice (JP) 71 shall be observed such that full compliance is achieved. JP 71 is titled "Data Systems Projects".

2.03 After receiving approval to continue with the development of a minicomputer based system, the selection process and purchase of an appropriate minicomputer must be undertaken. Prior to contracting for any minicomputer system, all rules pertaining to JP 87 ("Competitive Procurement Practices") must be observed such that full compliance is achieved.

2.04 During minicomputer project implementation and conversion, various documentation tasks need be completed and verified. Standards for performing these documentation tasks can be found in BSP 007-227-310 subsections 6 and 7. These guidelines should be reviewed for applicability. Compliance is necessary for all guidelines found to be applicable.

3. DOCUMENTATION AVAILABILITY

3.01 Minicomputer documentation can be associated with:

- (a) An application; refer to 3.02.
- (b) A minicomputer system running one application; refer to 3.03.
- (c) A minicomputer system running multiple applications; refer to 3.04.
- (d) A minicomputer facility; refer to 3.05

3.02 There should be at least one complete set of documentation for each application executing at a site. If the application executes on more than one minicomputer at a site, multiple sets of documentation are not required.

3.03 Many minicomputer based systems have only one application associated with a particular machine. Additionally, it may be difficult to define the interface between system software and application software. In these cases, it is not necessary to separate operating system documentation from application documentation.

3.04 When a minicomputer system houses more than one application, documentation associated with system hardware and operating system software does not need to be duplicated for each application executing on the minicomputer.

3.05 Certain documentation is only associated with a minicomputer site. The associated documents do not need repetition for each application nor for each minicomputer located at the site.

4. SYSTEM ACCEPTABILITY DOCUMENTATION

4.01 Minicomputer system acceptance criteria must include all documentation required to operate the system. The existence of any one particular document is guided by paragraphs 3.01 through 3.05. This documentation must include at least the following:

(a) Overall system description: This describes the basic flow of the system and itemizes major system constraints.

(b) Installation guidelines (for new systems). These guidelines are

described by paragraph 2.04.

(c) Statement of the resources required by the minicomputer system. This includes people and machine resources. Performance data should also be included. If possible, this information should be based on trial results.

(d) A detailed description of the files accessible by a user at a remote terminal. Additionally, a general description of all other application software accessed files should be included.

(e) A description of all parameters that are installation dependent and installed during system conversion or system update shall be included. If there are no such parameters, a statement to this effect shall be included.

(f) Instructions describing methods to be used to validate data in existing files. If such methods are not required, a statement to this effect shall be provided.

(g) A data security plan: Section 007-301-901SW should be referenced for further details.

(h) Backup and recovery procedures. See Section 007-590-903SW.

(i) Criteria for evaluating engineering specifications of system. This data tells operations when engineering specifications (e.g. - disk storage capacity, CPU capacity, terminal response time, etc) have been exceeded. Support organizations can then be notified promptly.

- (j) Description of all message traffic available for system to console operator communications.
- (k) Documentation describing service objectives and method for recording performance. See Section 007-505-901SW.
- (l) Scheduling criteria.
- (m) Real-time system provisions.
- (n) Description of management reports associated with application.
- (o) Trouble reporting, change requesting, update procedures.
- (p) Contact lists and escalation procedures.
- (q) Disaster recovery plans or statement as to reason none exist. See Section 007-590-901SW.