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ORGANIZATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
PACKAGES, APPLICATIONS AND ARCHITECTURE <sup>1</sup>

Transmitted by the State Statistical Committee,  
Russian Federation

SUMMARY

1. The Russian State Statistical Committee (Goskomstat Rossii) has a good record in the use of information technology to process statistical information. Local-area networks integrating computing and telecommunication resources have been functioning in every statistical organ at the federal and regional levels since 1995.

2. Currently, pursuant to the federal statistical reform programme, a range of design and commissioning work is under way as part of the Technology 2000 project, the objective of which is to change from the ad hoc design of data processing tools to the creation of integrated information resources at the federal and regional levels of the IT and telecommunication system. This objective is being pursued through the use of up-to-date methods and technology for the management of bases and banks of statistical data, including CASE tools.

3. The architecture for the statistical information system is based on the following main components, executed to industry-wide standards and bearing in mind foreign experience:

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<sup>1</sup>Prepared by E.S. Butova.

An electronic catalogue of statistical indicators (KSP);

A uniform corpus of normative and reference information (NSI);

Electronic forms (EVF);

Hardware for electronic data processing on the basis of statistical data bases (EOD/BD).

4. The KSP database has been developed and installed on an MS Windows NT local-area network using a hierarchical plant/server data exchange architecture under the MS SQL SERVER DBMS running on the debt Windows 95 workstations with PowerBuilder. It generates comparable arrays using uniform coding for all the indicators in the Goskomstat Rossii system. It currently contains more than 10,000 indicators.
5. The NSI database has been developed in a Windows 95/Access 97 environment using Visual Basic. The NSI contains a single, unified list of primary objects of statistical observation (general set) and a list of the catalogues of objects that characterize each such primary object (catalogue of territories, sectors, forms of ownership, institutional and legal forms). The NSI base contains a total of 14 catalogues, but this list will be expanded.
6. The KSP and NSI have in turn been used for the development, in an Access 2.0 environment under Windows 95 and using Visual Basic, of the EVF system. It is intended to transfer this system in the near future to Office 97. The EVF is a uniform system for data input, verification and processing according to standard procedures.
7. The EOD/BD: currently, processing is performed over a LAN that includes, in addition to PCs, a number of mainframes. Tasks performed on the mainframes are carried out in an MVS environment using the ADABAS DBMS and the NATURAL query language.
8. Two operating environments have been chosen for PC operations: MS-DOS for implementer-guided system-internal tasks, mostly implemented in Clipper and FoxPro, which were chosen some time ago as basic development tools and run on a Novell LAN. They yield DBF arrays, that format having been defined as a standard for data exchange.
9. For federal-level processing of the information in statistical-observation forms, we use MS SQL SERVER and MS PowerBuilder; the results can be exported to Word and Excel for the performance of non-standard processing functions. For regional-level processing, we use MS Access 97 with Visual Basic and PowerBuilder under Windows 95, allowing for peer-to-peer network exchanges.
10. The advances are being introduced on a step-by-step basis. A number of regional centres may continue processing in MS-DOS, transferring data in prescribed exchange formats.

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