

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Washington, DC 20405

November 19, 1993

FIRMR BULLETIN C-27
Revision 2

TO: Heads of Federal Agencies
SUBJECT: Reuse of Outdated Federal Information Processing (FIP)
Equipment

1. Purpose. This bulletin provides a listing of outdated FIP equipment and guidelines for determining whether FIP equipment is obsolescent.

2. Expiration date. This bulletin contains information of a continuing nature and will remain in effect until canceled or superseded.

3. Contents.

Topic	Paragraph
Related material.....	4
Information and assistance.....	5
Definitions.....	6
Acronyms.....	7
Background.....	8
Guidelines for determining obsolescence.....	9
Agency action.....	10
GSA action.....	11
Submission of comments.....	12
Cancellation.....	13
Outdated FIP Equipment.....	Attachment A
Manufacturer Abbreviation Codes.....	Attachment B

4. Related material.

- FIRMR Subpart 201-22.3 -- Obsolescence Review.
- FIRMR Part 201-23 -- Disposition.
- FIRMR Subpart 201-20.2 -- Analysis of Alternatives.
- FIRMR Bulletin C-2 -- Disposition and reuse of FIP equipment.
- FIRMR Bulletin C-29 -- Acquisition of used computer equipment by the Federal Government.

TC 90-7

Attachments

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2

5. Information and assistance.

General Services Administration
Regulations Analysis Division (KMR)
18th and F Streets, NW.
Washington, DC 20405
Telephone FTS/commercial (202) 501-3194 (v), or
FTS/commercial (202) 501-0657 (tdd).

6. Definitions.

"Outdated FIP equipment" means any FIP equipment over eight years old, based on the initial commercial installation date of that model of equipment, and that is no longer in current production.

7. Acronyms.

ADP Automatic Data Processing
FIP Federal information processing
OEM Original equipment manufacturer
SF Standard Form

8. Background. GSA manages a Governmentwide FIP equipment reuse program to encourage the reuse of economically viable FIP equipment and to discourage the use of outdated FIP equipment. Outdated FIP equipment should not be reused within the Federal Government unless an analysis is conducted in accordance with FIRMR 201-20.2 that shows reuse of the outdated equipment will be the most advantageous alternative for satisfying a FIP requirement. Although outdated FIP equipment may help solve a short term problem, it tends to perpetuate costly information processing solutions. When reported by agencies as excess, outdated FIP equipment is ordinarily removed from the Federal inventory for disposal as surplus equipment.

9. Guidelines for determining obsolescence.

a. Outdated FIP equipment may be characterized by one or more of the following factors:

(1) The maintenance services or replacement parts for maintaining standard performance of the computer or telecommunications equipment are no longer commercially available from traditional sources, including the original equipment manufacturer (OEM);

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2

- (2) The operating system of the FIP equipment is no longer supported by the OEM;
 - (3) Records indicate a degradation in the reliability of the equipment and show adverse effects on the supported mission;
 - (4) An increasingly higher portion of the overall operating costs is being applied towards the maintenance of the FIP equipment;
 - (5) The energy consumption, including necessary environmental control, is relatively high;
 - (6) The FIP equipment is not compatible with recent and more cost-effective software enhancements, such as automatic documentation, data dictionaries, coding optimizers, and extensive software libraries, new data structures, and new communications software; or
 - (7) The FIP equipment is not compatible with recent more cost-effective hardware enhancements and newer technology such as newer model storage units, tape drives, and controllers.
- b. If one or more of the above factors applies to FIP equipment, an obsolescence review should be performed on the equipment, in accordance with FIRMR section 201-22.3, to determine whether cost savings are obtainable with newer technology.

10. Agency action. Agencies should include the notation "Outdated FIP equipment" for all equipment meeting that definition when reporting excess or exchange/sale equipment to GSA on the SF 120.

11. GSA action. GSA periodically updates a listing of outdated FIP equipment to be used in agency analyses for obsolescence. Attachment A contains the listing of specific make and model FIP equipment with original acquisition costs above \$100,000 identified by GSA as being outdated at the end of fiscal year 1993. The list does not cover FIP equipment with lower acquisition costs because the applied technology changes at a more rapid rate and product life cycles are frequently much shorter. Agencies should consider this when examining FIP equipment for obsolescence using the factors mentioned above.

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2

12. Submission of comments. GSA welcomes suggestions and comments for updating Attachment A. Comments, including substantiating data, should be sent to:

General Services Administration
Regulations Analysis Division (KMR)
18th and F Streets, NW.
Washington, DC 20405

13. Cancellation. FIRMR Bulletin C-27 Revision 1 is canceled.

JOE M. THOMPSON
Commissioner
Information Resources
Management Service

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment A

This Attachment of Outdated FIP Equipment is missing.

For information call 202-501-3748.

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

MANUFACTURER/DESIGNATION ABBREVIATION CODES

Code MFR/Designation Name

ACE Acer/Altos

ACT Action Computers

ALL Alliant Computer Systems

ALP Alpha Microsystems

AMD Amdahl

AMP Ampex

ANA Analogic Corporation

ARI Arix

ATV ATV Systems

AUG August Systems

AUS Austin Microsystems

BBN BBN Computer Corporation

BTI BTI

BMA Bull Micral of America

BUL Groupe Bull

CAL Callan Data Systems

CAN Computer Automation

CAM Cambex

CDC Control Data Corporation

CEN Centurian Computer Corporation

CHI Computer Hardware Incorporated

CHL Charles River Data Systems

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

CLM Climax Computer

CMP Compal

COM Comark Corporation

CON Concurrent Computer

COR Corvus Systems

CPL Compal

CRD Custom Research & Development

CRO Cromemco

CRY Cray Research

CYB CYB Systems

DCS Distributed Computer Systems

DDA Display Data

DEC Digital Equipment Corporation

DEN Denelcor

DGC Data General Corporation

DIA Diablo Systems Incorporated

DIG Digital Datacom

DMA DataMedia

DPT Datapoint

DSC Dual System Control

DTC DTC

DVU Datavue

DYN Dynabyte (Zentec)

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

DYT Dynatech Computer Systems

ELI Elite Corporation

ELX Elxsi

ENC Encore Computer

EVO Evolution Computer

FOR Formation

FUJ Fujitsu

FWD Forward Technology

GEN General Automation

GLO Global U.S.I.

GNR General Robotics

GSM General Systems Marketing

HAR Harris

HDS Hitachi Data Systems

HEU Heurikon

HIT Hitachi Limited

HPC Hewlett-Packard Corporation

IAC Inner Access Corporation

IBM International Business

PLX Plexus Computer

PLY PolyComputers

PRM Prime

PRO Prophet 21, Incorporated

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

PT4 Point 4 Data

PYR Pyramid Technology Corporation

QAN Qantel

Q1C Q1 Corporation

RAD Tandy/Radio Shack

REX Rexon Business Machines

SAM Samsung

SCI SCI Systems

SCN Scan Optics

SEN Sentinal Computer

RUB Rubicon Systems Machines

ICL ICL

IDB Independent Business

INF Infotecs

INT Intel

IPL IPL

ITB Integrated Business

ITM Intellimac

JCS J C Systems

KEY Keydata

LBM Logical Business Machines

LGM Logical Microcomputers

MAC Macro-Tech

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

MAI MAI Systems Corporation

MAT Matra Datavision

MCD McDonnell Douglas Corporation

MCS Modular Computer Systems

MEM Memorex-Telex

MET Metaphor Computer Systems

MIC Microsource Computer

MIZ Mizar, Inc.

MOD Modular Computer Systems

MOL Molecular Computers

MOM Momentum Systems Limited

MOT Motorola Computer Systems

MYL Mylee Digital Science

NAB Nabu

NAT National Computers

NBI NBI

NCR National Cash Register

NEC NEC Technologies, Inc.

NNC NNC Electronics

NOH Nohalt

NOR Norsk Data

NOV Novell Systems

NRS North Star Computers

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

NTC Northern Telecom

PER Perq Systems

PIV Pivot Computer

SHB Sharebase Corporation

SIE Siemens Nixdorf

SIN Singer (ICL)

SMS SMS Technologies, Incorporated

STA Star Technology

STR Stratus Computer

SWS Southwest Technical

STR Star Technology

SYN Synapse

TAN Tandem

TEL Televideo

TER Teradata

TLX Telex Computer Products

TOL Tolerant Software

TXI Texas Instruments

TWI Thoughtworks Incorporated

UNI Unisys

VEC Vector Graphics

VER Versyss, Incorporated

VIA Viasyn Corporation

FIRMR Bulletin C-27
Revision 2
Attachment B

Code MFR/Designation Name

VIC Victory Computer

WAN Wang

WIC Wicat

WOR Workstations Product

XEP Xepix Incorporated

XER Xerox

ZAX Zax Corporation

ZIL Zilog

