EDP conversion consideration

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ABSTRACT

Conversion from one manufacturer to another is a simple phrase that embodies a myriad of changes. There are large changes in the obvious. That is, changes in hardware and software. This, however, is only the beginning. There are sweeping changes to be made in concept, DP management, machine operation, systems programming, forms and forms control, methods and procedures to mention a few. The changes in this case are not analogous at all to a change from one automobile manufacturer to another. Rather, the change is analogous to a change from an automobile to a helicopter.

The conversion, if it is successfully done, then has a sweeping effect on all operations. Special purpose leased or written software packages will not work. Extensive Systems software that allows the unity of processing on multiple machines will not work. Systems and systems programmer groups will no longer be backed up to each other nor can their efforts be coordinated and shared. This will create multiple problems on systems instead of duplicate problems for the same equipment. One for one conversion will not be a satisfactory method of program change. A complete redesign of application program systems would be necessary to best utilize the hardware and software capabilities of a new system.