Nine major United States and Canadian Corporations are now using FLOW GEMINI, a highly flexible and comprehensive software system for the storage, retrieval and analysis of occupational health data. The unusual flexibility of the system has been the major factor contributing to this unusual degree of market success in just two years.

FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND FEATURES

Scheduling of medical exams, industrial hygiene inspections and protective device maintenance.

Industrial hygiene surveillance via analysis of personal and area samples; complete record and reporting of every employee's work, exposure and medical history; material safety data sheets; industrial hygiene problem summaries and environmental agent inventories.

Medical surveillance via automated medical reports, health risk assessment, summaries of abnormal individual and group findings, evaluation of hearing threshold shifts and OSHA reports.

SOFTWARE COMPONENTS AND FEATURES

A Data Base Management System, developed for FLOW GEMINI, to support structuring, building, loading and modifying the data base. Key features include comprehensive data entry, extensive editing and validity checking and extensive data and access security including data encryption.

A Data Dictionary containing thousands of data elements that are the foundation of the standard FLOW GEMINI data base. Customers may develop their own data base or modify or adopt the standard one.

A Data Descriptor Editor for on-line user modification and validation of the structure of the data base and any of its individual components and parameters.

A Report Program Generator, that provides a high-level, user-oriented language for the development and/or modification of standard reports.

A Query Language, consisting of an interactive English-like set of commands, for retrieving data contained in the data base. A virtually unlimited set of variables and values in any combination may be used to select data.

Several Statistical Package options, including SAS, UCLA's comprehensive BMDP Biomedical Statistical Programs, with a specially designed FLOW GEMINI interface, and a simplified set of Flow General-designed programs for frequently performed occupational health analyses.

An External System Interface for on-line definition and transfer of data between FLOW GEMINI and other computer hardware and software systems via magnetic tape, fixed or floppy disk or telecommunications between computer systems.

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

FLOW GEMINI is available as a stand-alone software system to run on a Customer's own computer, as a time-sharing system on Flow General's computer, or as a service. FLOW GEMINI runs on Digital Equipment Corporation VAX computers. For time-sharing, the customer needs only an asynchronous ASCII terminal, modem and printer. Service customers need no hardware.

FLOW GEMINI is designed so that users of the system do not have to know or use a programming language. The Report Generation System, made up of the Report Program Generator and the Interactive
Report Generator (query language), provides full retrieval and relational analysis capabilities. Both retrieval tools are easily learned by non-programmers during the two-week training program for all new customers.

Data may be key entered from on-line terminals, magnetic tape, magnetic and floppy disk, clinical laboratory instruments, or directly from other computers.

FLOW GEMINI is an on-line system; however, data can be entered and retrieved in batch mode at the Customer's discretion.

FLOW GEMINI users can employ any coding schemes they desire. System standards are ICD-9-CM for diagnoses and ANSI-216.2 for occupational injuries.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY FEATURES

An unusual degree of confidentiality and security are achieved in FLOW GEMINI via the separate control of access to the system's functions and access to the data. Individuals using the system are permitted, under password control, to access only those functions that are part of their job, e.g. entering data, modifying data, changing the data base structure. In addition, each user has a unique data access profile based on the individual's need to enter and/or retrieve specific types of data and specific portions of the data base.

REPORTING AND RETRIEVAL

FLOW GEMINI's Report Generation System includes many standard reports. Its Report Program Generator (RPG) and query language are easy to use, highly flexible tools for developing new standard and ad hoc reports. All standard reports were developed using the RPG, and system users can change these reports and develop new ones quickly and easily. The FLOW GEMINI query language is designed to serve on-line retrieval needs of a less repetitive nature. Records may be identified based on any combination of employee, workplace and environmental agent variables. Complete statistical capabilities are available in conjunction with all components of the Report Generation System.

Additional information about FLOW GEMINI may be obtained by calling or writing:

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