

Staffing Levels in the IRM Environment

While the use of computer technology saves time in the generation and manipulation of data, the product of the technology—more data and information—must be properly managed. This requirement has given rise to the concept of IRM (Information Resource Management).

IRM functions touch every part of an organization's operation, with its major purpose being to support program planners and managers across the entire organization. To this end, IRM activities should, at all times, be clearly linked with the accomplishment of the organization's mission, goals, and objectives.

The IRM Concept

The IRM concept is intended to significantly change management practice. The implementation of IRM directs the focus of management away from technology toward information by emphasizing the significance of information as a resource. Managers must recognize that their responsibilities include the creation, collection, use, manipulation, storage, transmission, processing, dissemination, and disposition of information within their departments.

As IRM is a complex management function that affects every program area

of an organization, the IRM staff at all levels (executive, tactical, and operational) plays a crucial role in determining how well and in what manner organizations will meet their information needs and, ultimately, their missions.

Executive-Level Management

For the IRM staff to accomplish its function within the organization, the executive-level management must be strong proponents of IRM. At this strategic level we have what is called the "Chief Information Officer" (CIO). The CIO is the
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Computer Ethics Institute Holds First Conference

Earlier this year the Computer Ethics Institute (CEI) hosted its First National Computer Ethics Conference in Washington, D.C.

Created in February of this year by The Brookings Institute, IBM, The Washington Theological Consortium, and the Washington Consulting Group, CEI is a non-profit organization concerned with the ethical use of computers. Its members include people in business and religious communities, education and public policy, as well as computer professionals.

CEI's goals include the dissemination of information, education in computer ethics, and critical examination of ethical issues in the use of computer technology. To meet these goals CEI will conduct seminars, convocations, and an annual national conference.

At this year's conference attendees adopted the following "Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics":

1. Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people.
2. Thou shalt not interfere with other people's computer work.
3. Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's computer files.
4. Thou shalt not use a computer to steal.
5. Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness.
6. Thou shalt not copy or use proprietary software for which you have not paid.
7. Thou shalt not use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation.
8. Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output.
9. Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you are writing or the system you are designing.

10. Thou shalt always use a computer in ways that insure consideration and respect for your fellow humans.

The Bank will be sending a representative to future CEI seminars and conferences. For more information on CEI, write to Jerry F. Georgatos; PCMail ID:JERRYG. ■

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