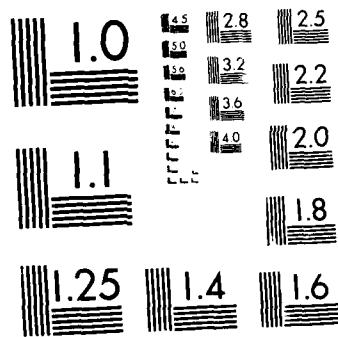AD-A195 688   ACQUISITION OF MULTIPLE LISP WORKSTATIONS TO FACILITATE   1/1
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This grant was issued under the Department of Defense (DOD) - University Research Instrumentation Program (URIP) (FY 1986/FY 1987) for the purpose of acquiring LISP workstations of the same manufacture and model for each of the eight universities that comprise the Artificial Intelligence Consortium in the Northeast U.S. The technical tasks being performed by the Consortium are funded by AFOSR and RADC and the common type of workstation acquired is intended to facilitate software exchange with the aid of a communications network.

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FINAL REPORT

Acquisition of Multiple LISP Workstations

Grant No. AFOSR-86-0265

This award was made for the purpose of funding the acquisition of a number of LISP workstations. Sufficiently many LISP workstations were to be purchased so that each member of the Northeast Artificial Intelligence Consortium (NAIC) could be provided with at least one workstation. That goal has been met and all systems have been delivered and subsequently updated.

The NAIC selected Texas Instruments, Inc., as the vendor which would supply the LISP machines. The selection of a vendor was made after an exhaustive search of companies that could supply the type of equipment desired. Other companies whose products were considered are Symbolics, Sperry (marketing the TI Explorer), and Sun Microsystems. The amount of $250,000 awarded by AFOSR was supplemented by an amount of $156,250 contributed by the member institutions, for a total expenditure of $406,250. A purchase order was issued on August 26, 1986, for 17 Texas Instruments Explorer Systems, complete with software and the forthcoming next generation processor when it should become available in exchange for a Beta test site arrangement. Included in the 17 systems was a grant of 4 machines by Texas Instruments. The grant provided for the acquisition of additional systems and components at significantly reduced cost. Maintenance was provided at no charge for the first year of ownership. All but two Explorer systems were delivered in September of 1986; the final two systems were delivered in the first quarter of 1987, as per agreement.

The Explorer systems delivered were placed as follows:

SUNY at Buffalo	3 systems
University of Rochester	3 systems
University of Massachusetts	3 systems
Colgate University	1 systems
Clarkson University	2 systems
Rochester Institute of Technology	2 systems
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	2 systems
Syracuse University	1 systems

The upgrade to Explorer II systems has taken place and all the systems have performed according to expectations.

The objective of having the same type of LISP machine in operation at all Consortium locations has been achieved and, in addition, all locations now are able to communicate software and other traffic via MILNET or DARPANET. It is notable that two sabbatical arrangements between two pairs of universities have been implemented and that a joint task has been undertaken by SUNY Buffalo and the University of Rochester. A second joint task is being arranged between Clarkson University and the University of Massachusetts. Further, separate contracts and added tasks have been arranged.

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In conclusion, there is a firm basis for the belief that the NAIC, through this grant and other joint efforts, has succeeded in realizing the objectives set for it. This grant played a vital role in enabling this result and all members of the Consortium are grateful for the assistance that has been rendered.

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