

Open systems

New user alliance to promote Australian action

THE AUSTRALIAN User Alliance for Open Systems (AUAOS) held a public meeting in Canberra recently to present the findings of its Australian survey on Barriers to Open Systems. The survey endorsed the barriers and actions identified by the US User Alliance, and identified further challenges specific to the Australian scene.

The Australian barriers included Australia's being remote and only a 'consumer' of IT, there are no open systems perceived on the desktop, users are locked into existing environments, the fear of change, the perception that the government is not promoting OS, the feeling that 'UNIX is open systems'.

A report has been issued, and further information is available from Kevin Kitch, tel: (06) 253 1445; FAX: (06) 251 4438. ■

New library and information standards planned

THE STANDARDS Association of Australia has agreed to sponsor a committee to look at standards relevant to the library and information industry. The proposed terms of reference for the new committee (Committee IT/19 Computer Applications - Information and Documentation) are as follows:

- (a) To produce standards to address the use of computers in information and documentation.
- (b) To provide input to international standardisation through the work of ISO TC46 - Information and Documentation, Subcommittee 4. Computer Applications in Information and Documentation.

The Chair of the Committee will be Neil McLean, Associate Librarian, Macquarie University.

Ten organisations associated with the library and information industry have been invited to nominate representatives to the Committee and it is anticipated that the first meeting will be held in September 1992. The committee has been constituted at the request of the Working Group on Library Systems Interconnection.

Neil McLean ■

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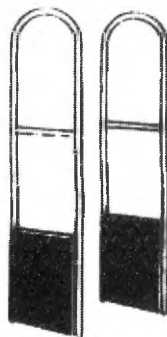
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