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ROSS SYSTEMS, INC.

MAPS
Computerized Planning and Reporting For Financial Management

Where MAPS Is Used

Budget Preparation

MAPS is commonly used for the preparation of periodic detailed budgets and is capable of performing allocations as well as hierarchical consolidations.

Actual Versus Budget Reporting

MAPS can be used to prepare various types of financial statements. These statements typically show actual versus budget, and variance for the current period, as well as the current quarter and year to date. Divisional comparisons and ratio analyses are also easily compiled.

Five Year Forecasts

MAPS is invaluable in preparing long-range strategic business plans. It offers the capability of easily changing parameters and assumptions to evaluate the impact of the changes on overall performance.

Short-term Cash Forecasts

MAPS models can be developed either alone or in conjunction with other models to give an accurate picture of short-term cash requirements.

Statement Consolidations

MAPS can be used to prepare complex consolidations and reports of subsidiary financial statements. It provides the flexibility to quickly and accurately re-consolidate figures if information on a subsidiary report must be changed.

Project Evaluation

The analysis of a specific report in terms of profitability, cash flow and return on investment can be performed by MAPS quickly and easily.

What MAPS Does

MAPS (Management Aid for Planning Strategies) is a computerized planning and reporting system offered by Ross Systems, Inc. It was developed to assist individuals in preparing planning reports, budgets, financial analyses, expense reports, financial statements, cash flow projections — and numerous other reports that utilize a tabular reporting format to present and analyze data.

MAPS is easy to use. An individual needs no prior experience with computers or computer programming to achieve results with MAPS. Typically, after only two hours of instruction, a new user is preparing

useful reports, formatted in a professional manner and suitable for review by top management.

MAPS is convenient. An individual uses MAPS via a terminal in his own office. The system is operated over telephone lines between the user terminal and Ross Systems' DEC PDP 11/70 time sharing computers. Reports can be developed and printed directly at the user terminal 24 hours/day.

MAPS is a technique that aids management in four important ways:

Examines Alternatives — MAPS quickly examines the effect of many different alternatives and assumptions. It eliminates the time-consuming, error-prone clerical work associated with the preparation of these alternatives.

Improves Decisions — MAPS improves the decision-making capability by providing a more comprehensive analysis of a greater number of alternatives.

Communicates Results —

MAPS immediately provides reports suitable for use by top management, reflecting the latest available data, results or planning assumptions. MAPS allows the user complete freedom over the selection of titles, column headings, annotation of data lines and report format. Thus reports can be prepared in a company's own format using its own specialized terms.

Adapts to Change — MAPS makes the modification of existing reports and the preparation of new reports an easy task. New or revised data can be entered on the terminal, and all requested reports are automatically produced. Either type of change can be done in minutes by inexperienced personnel.

MAPS is offered as a Ross Systems' timesharing service, but can also be purchased as a package to be run on an in-house computer. Several *Fortune 500* companies and medium-sized firms have saved considerable dollars by implementing MAPS in this manner.



