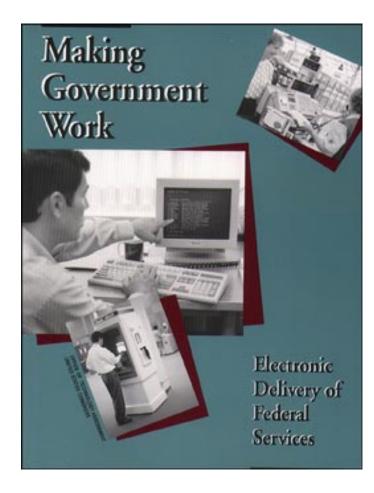
Making Government Work: Electronic Delivery of Federal Services

September 1993

OTA-TCT-578 NTIS order #PB94-107067 GPO stock #052-003-01346-1



Recommended Citation:

U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *Making Government Work: Electronic Delivery of Federal Services*, **OTA-TCT-578** (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, September 1993).

For sale by the US (-lovernmentPrinting Office Super intendent of Documents, MailStop: SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-9328 ISBN 0-16 -042080-6

Foreword

ederal, State, and local governments face the challenge of delivering better services faster and at less cost at a time when demand is growing and budgets are tighter. Computer and telecommunication technologies offer a number of near-term opportunities for delivering Federal services electronically in partnership with State/local agencies and the private sector. To assure that these technologies benefit all citizens—not just the affluent and highly educated—will require Congress to pay special attention to policy and oversight. It will also require agencies to be innovative and skillful in introducing new electronic delivery systems.

OTA's assessment of electronic service delivery was requested by Senator John Glenn, Chairman, Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. This report provides Congress with alternative strategies for improving the performance of government by using modern information technologies. The report offers new perspectives to Congress as it considers reauthorizing the Paperwork Reduction Act and responds to the administration's "National Performance Review' and "National Information Infrastructure' initiatives. More broadly, the report will contribute to the public debate over the role of information technology in reinventing government.

OTA appreciates the assistance of the project advisory panelists and the interested Federal and State/local government, consumer, public advocacy, library, business, and other private sector groups and individuals who participated in the study. OTA values their perspectives and comments; the report is, however, solely the responsibility of OTA.

Roger C. Herdman, Director

Advisory Panel

Donald A. Marchand Chairperson Dean, School of Information Studies Syracuse University

Raza A. Babar Director, Global Research and Intelligence Detroit Edison Co.

Thomas B. Beard Chairman Florida Public Utilities Commission

Ying-Chung Annie Chen Director, Strategic Analysis Pacific Telesis

William H. Dutton Professor, Annenberg School for Communication University of Southern California

Francis Dummer Fisher Research Fellow, LBJ School of Public Affairs University of Texas at Austin

Carol Fukunaga Member Hawaii State Senate

Charles H. Geisler formerly Director, Technical Computing 3M Co.

Thomas H. Grundner President National Public Telecomputing Network **Glenn P. Haney** formerly Director Office of Information Resources Management U.S. Department of Agriculture

Alexander H. Hills Distinguished Service Professor Carnegie Mellon University

Edwin A. Levine formerly Regional Director, Government Affairs EDS Corp.

Alvin E. Nashman formerly President, Systems Group Computer Science Corp.

Diana Roose Research Director 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women

Jorge Reina Schement Professor, School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies Rutgers University

Alan F. Westin Professor of Public Law and Government Columbia University

Joseph Terrence Williams Manager, Women, Infants, and Children program Wyoming Department of Public Health

NOTE: OTA appreciates and is **gra** for the valuable assistance and **thoughtful** critiques provided by the advisory panel members. The panel does not, however, necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse this report. OTA assumes full responsibility for the report and the accuracy of its contents.

Preject Staff

Peter Blair['] Assistant Director OTA Science, Information, and Natural Resources Division

John Andelin² Assistant Director OTA Science, Information, and Natural Resources Division

James W. Curl in Program Manager OTA Telecommunication and Information Technologies Program

CONTRACTORS

Steve Arnold Consultant

Richard Civille Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility

William H. Dutton and K. Kendall Guthrie University of Southern California

Stephen Frantzich Congressional Data Associates

John C. Gale Information Workstation Group

Gary L. Glickman Phoenix Planning & Evaluation, Ltd.

I Since July 1993, ²Until July 1993.

PRINCIPAL STAFF

FRED B. WOOD Project Director

Emilio Gonzalez Analyst

Tom Hausken Analyst

Jean E. Smith Analyst

Thomas M. Grundner National Public Telecomputing Network

Susan G. Hadden and W. James Hadden, Jr. Intelligent Advisors, Ltd.

John Harris, Alan F. West in, and Anne L. Finger Reference Point Foundation

J. Scott Hauger Virginia Technology Associates, Ltd.

Charles R. McClure, Rolf T. Wigand, et al. School of Information Studies, Syracuse University

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Liz Emanuel Office Administrator

Karolyn St. Clair PC Specialist

Michelle Smith Secretary

Jack M. Nines Consultant

Frank Odasz Big Sky Telegraph

Alan Porter and Scott Cunningham Georgia Institute of Technology

Priscilla Regan George Mason University