



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Technology Excellence Award to Archives Project Leader

SYSTEMS THAT PRESERVE THE NATION'S ELECTRONIC RECORDS

WASHINGTON, JUNE 11, 1996 -- One of the federal government's highest honors for technological achievement was presented today to Ms. Fynette Eaton, NSXT Section Chief at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). From the award notification letter:

"The Interagency Committee on Information Resources Management (IAC/IRM) [part of the General Services Administration] has selected you for its 1996 Technology Excellence Award for designing and implementing the *Archival Preservation System*, an innovative and successful use of technology in the preservation of historically valuable electronic records of the Federal government."

NSXT is part of NARA's Center for Electronic Records, which is responsible for the preservation of valuable government data that might otherwise be lost due to physical deterioration, obsolescence or incompatible equipment. Computer tapes containing White House backup copies of electronic messages from the Iran-Contra era and tapes containing transcripts from the Warren Commission are just some of the many fascinating holdings currently being preserved at the Center.

Concern over preservation of electronic records has reached new heights as court rulings emphasized the government's responsibility to retain e-mail and other computer files. The problems involved in preserving these records have also received increased congressional interest. The *APS* project was launched to amplify NARA's ability to meet these needs. Under Ms. Eaton's leadership, highly detailed and demanding requirements were spelled out, and Requests for Proposals were issued to nearly two hundred firms.

In September 1992, Ms. Eaton and her advisors selected Muller Media Conversions to develop the complex suite of custom software and hardware. The *Archival Preservation Systems* are being used to transfer millions of the nation's important electronic records in the form of government computer tapes and disks to more stable and standardized storage media. According to Chris Muller, president of Muller Media, "*APS* was specially designed with the ability to recover partly damaged files, maintain a catalog of all preserved data, create copies of that data on demand, and even track the movement of media by bar-code scanning." MMC's contract has recently been extended; the firm will provide more systems, networking services, Oracle integration, and ongoing support and enhancement.

A pioneer and market leader in the conversion and migration field, Muller Media Conversions has been providing solutions for the most formidable data transfer challenges since 1978. For further information, check their website at www.mullermedia.com, call (212)344-0474, or email at info@mullermedia.com.