

**MINISIS USERS' GROUP  
MEETING 1991**

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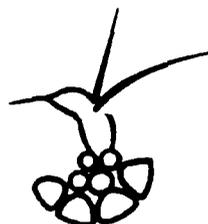
La présente série est réservée aux documents issus de colloques, aux rapports internes et aux documents techniques susceptibles d'être publiés plus tard dans une série de publications plus soignées. D'un tirage restreint, le rapport manuscrit est destiné à un public très spécialisé.

Esta serie incluye ponencias de reuniones, informes internos y documentos técnicos que pueden posteriormente conformar la base de una publicación formal. El informe recibe distribución limitada entre una audiencia altamente especializada.

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**Compte rendu**  
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du Groupe des Utilisateurs de MINISIS



MUG '91

**United Nations Economic Council for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC)**  
**and the University of the West Indies (UWI)**

**le Conseil économique des Nations Unies pour l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes**  
**(UN-CEPALC)**  
**et la University of the West Indies (UWI)**

**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**  
**April 29 – May 3, 1991**

**Port of Spain, Trinité et Tobago**  
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# On-line Document Delivery using MINISIS

*Marcia Y. Barretto and Abel L. Packer*

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## 1. Introduction

BIREME coordinates a decentralized network called Brazilian Health Sciences Information Network with about 250 libraries that transact approximated 100000 (one hundred thousand) photocopies of documents per year.

The Interlibrary Loan has worked, since 1968, as a manual system in which the request of a photocopy is made by filling in a paper form (1).

In order to speed up this system, we designed an automated system to store and help the request of photocopy process. The system is based on MINISIS (2)

A pilot project was implemented in 1988 and nowadays it is in full operation integrating a total of 28 libraries, that corresponds to about 30000 (thirty thousand) photocopies annually.

---

## 2. System Overview

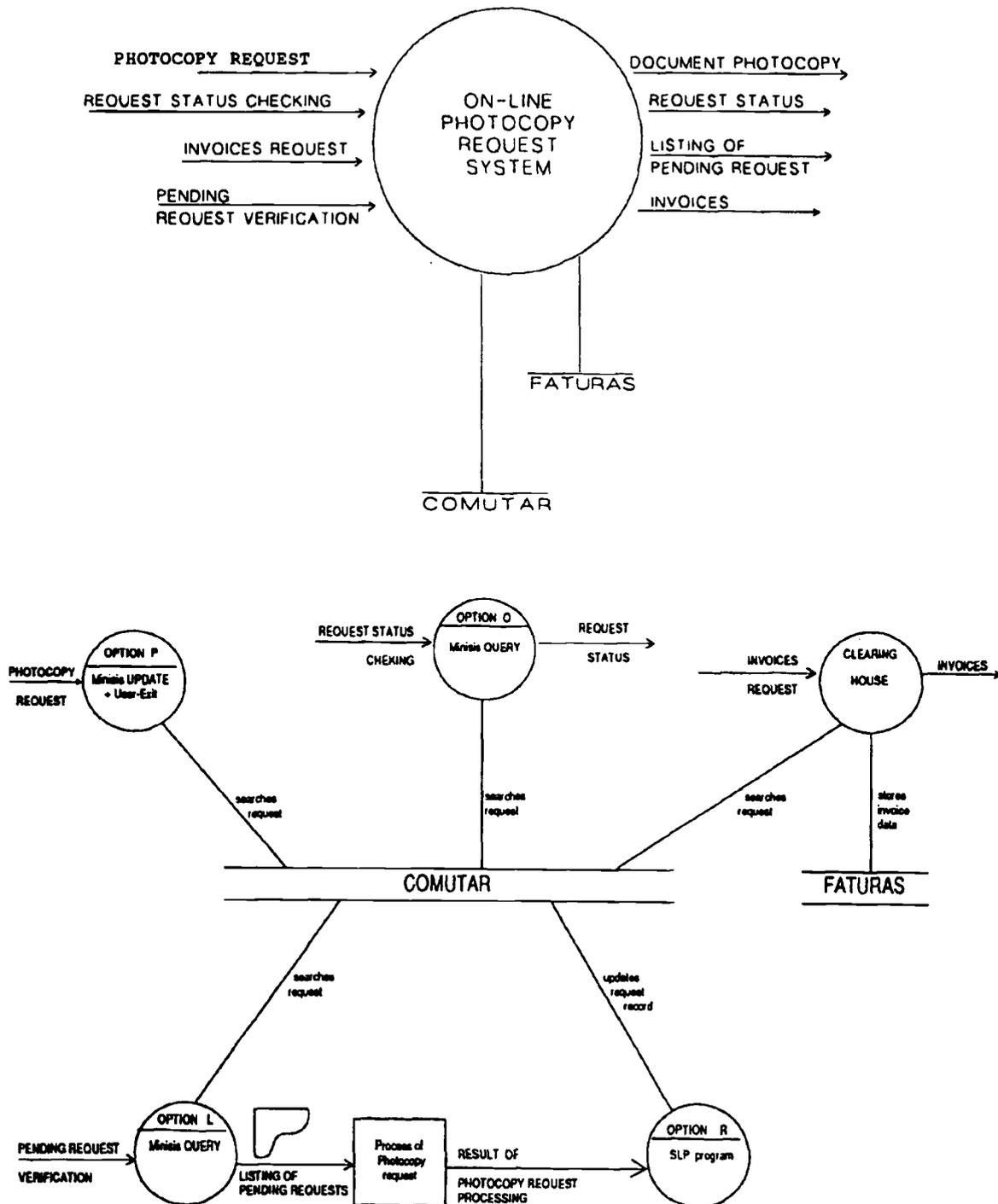
Photocopy request can be seen as an electronic mail message that is stored in a MINISIS data base record. They are identified by the automatically generated MINISIS ISN. The record format was developed in a joint project with IBICT to create the common photocopy request format record for Brazil. The record format is depicted in the Data Definition Table shown in Fig. 1.

The system is operated from local or remote terminals. All the requests are stored in an unique data base, but user access is restricted to the records with their photocopy requests or with photocopies requested of them. When user logs in the system, a projected subset data base, restricted to these records, is opened. The data base name of this projection corresponds to the user login code. This brings simplicity to the operation and assures data privacy.

Record input and update is done, via MINISIS UPDATE processor and a special System Programming Language (SPL) program, with the following restrictions:



Figure 2



- any user can input requests;
- requestors can only cancel their own pending requests;
- a requested library can only update the status of the request, i.e., enter the result of the request processing.

All users can retrieve requests related to them at any time. Nobody is authorized to delete records.

BIREME, as the system coordinator, has access to the entire data base in order to monitor the system operation, to maintain the data base, to produce statistics, to make end of month clearing-house and to produce invoices. Payments are restricted between BIREME and each user. Documents are delivered by mail or facsimile.

### 3. System Operation

The operation of this system is very simple: it is driven by menus, uses MINISIS processors and one special program. When users subscribe to the on-line service, they get the Operation Manual with record fields definition and the procedures to input a photocopy request (3,4).

When the library connects to BIREME computer, receives the first menu (fig. 3), in which can be

**Figure 3**

Select an option:

- Q - Information Retrieval
- P - Photocopy Request - Data Entry
- R - Photocopy Request Updating
- L - Photocopy Request Listing
- X - Exit

?

chosen the action to be performed.

#### 3.1. Option Q - Information Retrieval

Using the option Q, users can search its projection data base using Minisis QUERY processor as well as search any bibliographic data base that is available on-line at BIREME's installation.

Typical searches involve the field status and dates. For example:

a. Which is the status of the request identified by ISN 296804:

b. which requests are positive, i.e., the

```
>=isn 296804
P=
T=
-----
Q> B
-----
In process:      Date: 1991-04-22      Local: UNB...      Isn: 296804
Id: BR1.1      Request Date: 1991-04-22      Pedido: NC296804
USER: ALMEIDA, JOAO ANTONIO
JOURNAL PEDIATRIC 115(16)1991 1989 / CLAMP, DANIEL...
Subject: CURRENT CONTENTS 1991(1)16, 1990 (1)
```

corresponding photocopies were delivered:

```
>=status POS
P=
T=
```

where POS means "document photocopied"

c. which requests are pending since April 15, 1991:

```
>=status PRO and date > '1991-04-15'
P=
T=
```

where PRO means "request in process".

#### 3.2. Option P - Photocopy Request - Data Entry

The option P is used to input a request for a photocopy. Minisis UPDATE processor, with a user-exit to control the filling of some default fields,

Figure 4

```

:hello marcia,bripl.biremebr
ENTER USER PASSWORD:

HP3000 RELEASE: A.30.00 USER VERSION: A.30.00 MON, APR 22, 1991, 1:21 PM
MPE XL HP31900 A.23.18 Copyright Hewlett-Packard 1987. All Rights Reserved.

Select an option:

Q - Information Retrieval
P - Photocopy Request - Data Entry
R - Photocopy Request Processing
L - Photocopy Request Listing
X - Exit

? p

P - Photocopy Request - Data Entry

UPDATE VERSION G.01.00 MON, APR 22, 1991, 1:21 PM

*SELECT DATA BASE OR EXIT - bripl
TYPE 'HELP' FOR VALID COMMANDS

PLEASE ENTER FUNCTION TO SELECT RECORD
?new
ISSN=296804
To where (option 1):
?b010
?BR66.1
b020 - to where (option 2)
?BR25.1
b030 - to where (option 3)
?
Document Title:
?JOURNAL PEDIATRIC
Year of publication:
?1989
Volume
?115
Issue number or month:
?6
Initial page of article, chapter:
?973
Final page of article, chapter:
?
ISSN or ISBN
?
Author of the article, chapter, etc.
?CLAPP, D.W.
Title of the article, chapter, etc.
?
Authorization to send the request to exterior:
?S
Reference source:
?CURRENT CONTENTS 33(2):236, 1990
User name:
?ALMEIDA, JOAO ANTONIO
PLEASE SELECT FUNCTION
?L ALL
-----
Date: Local: BR66.1 ISSN: 296804
Id.: Request Date: Request:
USER: ALMEIDA, JOAO ANTONIO
JOURNAL PEDIATRIC 115(6):973 1989 / CLAPP, D.W.
Source: CURRENT CONTENTS 33(2):236, 1990 (S)
-----
PLEASE SELECT FUNCTION
?E
PLEASE ENTER FUNCTION TO SELECT RECORD
?EXIT

Select an option:

Q - Information Retrieval
P - Photocopy Request - Data Entry
R - Photocopy Request Updating
L - Photocopy Request Listing
X - Exit

? X

X - Exit

END OF PROGRAM
CPU-6. CONNECT-2. MON, APR 22, 1991, 1:23 PM.

```

is used. The Fig.4 shows a corresponding dialog.

When user inputs the photocopy request, three possible centers where the document could be photocopied can be chosen. In the option R (Photocopy Request Updating) if the document requested is not found, the request is automatically addressed to the next library.

### 3.3. Option R - Photocopy Request Updating

The option R is selected to update the status of requests processed by the library. The operation is driven by a program using MINISIS intrinsics(5) . The status field is updated according to the result of the request processing. Before choosing this option, it is recommended that request forms be piled up according the request processing result as shown in the Option R processing menu (Fig.5)

Figure 5

```
Select:
1. positive
2. return, because user not have it
3. return, because user is not interested
4. cancel
5. end
```

All options follow the same sequence: ask for the request identification, show the corresponding request form, ask for confirmation and then update the status of photocopy request.

Option 1 is used to indicate that the photocopy

Figure 6

```
input the request identification: 296EC4
-----
in process. Date: 92-04-22 LOCAL: HR65... ID: 296EC4
ID: BR1.1 Request date: 92-04-22 Request: MC736304
USER: ALBERTO, JOAO ANTONIO
JOURNAL: PEDIATRIC 113(6):370-1989 / CLAPP, D.M....
Source: CURRENT CONTENTS 11(2):236, 1990 ISI
-----
is it ok (y, n or obs) y
input the request identification:
```

requested was delivered. Fig. 6 shows a typical dialog for any of the above options.

The option 2 is used to update the status of requests when the library does not have the corresponding document.

Option 3 is used to update requests which data are not consistent, for example, the document author's name does not correspond to that indicated on the request, or the volume/issue indicated is out of range in a given year of publication, etc.

Option 4 can be used to cancel the pending requests. Cancel means to change the status of the record to "canceled" . The corresponding record is not deleted from the data base.

### 3.4. Option L - Photocopy Request Listing

The option L uses Minisis QUERY processor to list all the pending requests addressed to the library, in alphabetical order by journal title. The output is usually downloaded to a hard disk and then hard-copied for journal location in shelves and photocopies production. It lists the pending photocopy requests in a standard form so that the library can use them to make all local processing.

BIREME uses the same request form to process the requests. Each request is output twice so that while the photocopy is being produced, a copy of the request marks the journal issue place at the shelves.

## 4. Data Base Maintenance and Clearing-house

Data base maintenance includes typical MINISIS processing such as data base back-up, garbage collection, inverted files maintenance, etc.

At the end of the month, the system computes, for each library, the difference between number of documents requested and delivered, and issues the compensated invoices. This computation is done using MINISIS INDEX and COMPUTE processor. The resulting data for the invoices are entered in an INVOICE data base, using PRINT and BATCHIN processors. In the reverse of each invoice there is a listing of all related requests.

---

## 5. Conclusions

The system is being used intensively by different institutional and individual users: from January, 1990 until January, 1991 the number of libraries that participate in interlibrary loan doubled (from 15 to 28) and the number of photocopy requests increased four times (approximately, from 2000 to 8000, monthly)

The operation of the system has resulted not complex at all if we consider that only 0.50% of the

requests are not correctly entered.

---

## Bibliographic Reference:

- (1) Serviço de comutação Bibliográfica: Manual de Operações. São Paulo, BIREME, Janeiro 1988. 23p.
- (2) MINISIS Terminal operator's Guide. IDRC, 1988.
- (3) Manual de Descrição dos campos da Base de Pedidos de Fotocopias. São Paulo, BIREME, Setembro 1990. 24p.
- (4) Manual de comutacao Bibliografica on-line. São Paulo, BIREME, Setembro 1990. 29p.
- (5) MINISIS Application Programmers' Guide. IDRC, 1988.

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M030

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**FACULDADE DE MEDICINA**  
**UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE MINAS GERAIS**  
**AVENIDA ALFREDO BALENA 190**  
**30130 BELO HORIZONTE MG**

NÚMERO DA FATURA	BR21.1/199103
DATA DE EMISSÃO	1991-04-09
DATA DE VALIDADE	1991-04-29

ITEM	DESCRIÇÃO	QUANT.	PREÇO UNIT.	PREÇO TOTAL
1	Documentos Fotocopiados - Brasil	464	84.00	38976.00
2	Documentos Fotocopiados - Exterior	2	2640.00	5280.00
	<b>Total</b>			<b>44256.00</b>

**Notas:**

1. Os preços acima são em Cruzeiros(Cr\$).
2. Para o cálculo de documentos fotocopiados no Brasil, foi considerada a diferença entre o número de pedidos feitos à Rede e o de atendidos pelo Centro.
3. As fotocópias feitas no Exterior tem preço equivalente a Us\$12.00 por documento.
4. A fatura deve ser paga dentro do prazo de validade.

**Pedidos Solicitados:** 312071 315579 318218 319648 323097 323099 324386 324392 324442 326158 326171 326180 326211 326217 326678 326883 326706  
 326707 326718 328299 328300 328316 328325 329210 329264 329288 329362 329366 329368 329405 329406 329434 329436 329439 329441 329454 329459  
 330649 330664 330748 330768 331104 332157 332211 332244 335848 335850 335852 335854 335856 335858 335865 335867 335868 335869 335876 335880 335890  
 335905 335909 335911 335915 335917 335919 335921 335924 335927 335928 335929 335932 335934 335936 335937 335940 335941 335945 335947 335949 335952  
 335957 335989 335992 335994 335997 336250 336252 336254 336255 336258 336263 336267 336273 336277 336288 336294 336304 336308 336315 336318 336322  
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 338557 338559 338562 338565 338568 338568 338569 338573 338577 338579 338584 338590 338591 338593 338594 338597 338599 338600 338603 338607 338608  
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 338656 338659 338661 338666 338667 338654 338655 338657 338659 338683 338667 338671 338675 338682 338687 338682 338697 338700 338701 338705 338708  
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 341068 341064 341070 341074 341079 341083 341085 341088 341094 341098 341100 341105 341110 341114 341119 341123 341125 341129 341135 341138 341143  
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 347888 347894 347898 347901 347906 347910 347913 347917 347923 347926 347929 347932 347936 347939 347941 347943 347945 347947 347950 347953 347955  
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