RECOMMENDATION, MOBIUS CLUSTER ORDER AND IMPLEMENTATION TIME FRAME

Central East	**July – December, 1999**
St. Louis Red & Southwest	**January – June, 2000**
Northeast & Western	**July - December, 2000**
St. Louis Teal	**January – June, 2001**
Southeast & Central West	**July – December, 2001**
Northwest	**January – June, 2002**

This grid indicates, for each cluster, a six-month span of time during which an implementation date will be established for that cluster. The implementation date is the date on which one or more of the institutions in the cluster will begin to use the cluster's INNOPAC for cataloging and circulation. It is possible that not all members of the cluster will come up in this period. It does mean that all cluster members must have made the necessary collective decisions by the beginning of the implementation period.

The implementation process for a cluster will begin when the MOBIUS Consortium Office (MCO) sends written Notice to Proceed to Innovative Interfaces for that cluster. Prior to issuing this notice, MCO will consult with the institutions in the cluster to agree on an implementation date and to learn which institutions in the cluster will commit to begin using the system on that date. Once the implementation date is established (and for which institutions), MCO will prepare a detailed implementation calendar for that cluster. At that point MCO will issue the written notice to proceed to III. III will then order the hardware and put the cluster into its implementation schedule. It is important to note that data conversion planning and even some data conversion work may very well begin for a given institution well in advance of the "official" beginning of implementation for a cluster.

The cluster order and time frame recommendation shown in the grid above were determined in consultation with Joseph Ford and Associates (JFA) using the results from the survey of MOBIUS members conducted by JFA and the JFA-developed methodology for scoring those results. The MOBIUS Executive Committee, at its meeting on March 24, decided that the scoring should consider only the institutions with the top three scores in each cluster to make cluster comparisons consistent. Before calculating the cluster scores, MCO updated survey information concerning MARC records and barcodes by consulting with MOBIUS member institutions directly. The chart below shows cluster scores.

Note that, although the Central East cluster is third in the list based on score, MCO recommends that it be the first cluster implemented. This recommendation is based on a desire to begin the implementation with a cluster that is relatively easy, involves institutions that are physically near to the MCO and provides an opportunity to demonstrate concrete results quickly. While the Central East implementation is underway, work will begin on the subsequent clusters.

Cluster	Cluster Point Score (Sum of top three institutions)	Average Percent of Collection in MARC for Entire Cluster
Southwest	235	95.17
St. Louis Red	215	98.75
Central East	195	89
St. Louis Teal	195	79.22
Northeast	195	75
Western	190	98.33
Southeast	175	93
Central West	175	66.5
Northwest	155	97.5