

MEMORANDUM FOR IS DIRECT REPORTS

DATE: June 13, 1997

FROM: /s/ Arthur A. Gross
Associate Commissioner for Modernization/Chief Information Officer
IS

SUBJECT: Century Date Change Federal Data Exchange Standard

The Chief Information Officer of the Department of the Treasury has issued a memorandum mandating data formats for the exchange of data with external agencies and private businesses. Included as Attachment 1, the Treasury memorandum dictates an eight-position, fixed-format for Gregorian dates (YYYYMMDD) and four-position year for all other date formats, contiguous with those other date designations.

This new requirement does not change the internal data representations or programming solutions which have been implemented at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This memorandum is addressing exclusively the format of data as it leaves the IRS or the format of data as it is received into the IRS from an external data exchange source. Existing data standards (update March 14, 1997) outline the requirements for internal IRS implementation. A reissue of that standard to include this new requirement is included as Attachment 2.

It is recognized that some applications have already been converted, generating output for other agencies or receiving input from outside sources. Where agreements have already been made with external organizations or solutions already implemented, copies of those agreements or descriptions of those solutions should accompany a waiver request submitted to the IRS Year 2000 Project Office, which will be forwarded to Treasury for review, as described in the accompanying memorandum.

Please provide the widest possible distribution for this memo to all appropriate audiences in your management chain. Coordinate your questions with the , Year 2000 Project Director, at (202) 283-5330 or on CC:Mail.