Detaince Management System: Modernizing the Chinese Judiciary System

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ABSTRACT

Two objectives of adult and juvenile detention centers and penitentiaries of the Chinese judiciary system have been to correct prisoners and detainees their anti-social behavior by education and provide a means upon which they are capable of rebuilding their lives when returning to society by skill training. In order to efficiently and effectively achieve these objectives, modernization of the detainee management is a must. The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of China initiated the modernization project of the jail administration system in 1988. The Control Data Taiwan won the project in 1990 and completed the installation of the DETAINEE Management System (DEMS) within two years. The productivity of the jail administration has improved five times after adopting the system. There are more than forty detention centers and penitentiaries in Taiwan. Of which eighteen have adopted the DETAINEE Management System.

DETAINEE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The DETAINEE Management System (DEMS) currently consists of eight modules: detainee personal profile management, detainee evaluation management, detainee property management, detainee training & operation management, detainee training funds accounting management, detainee safety and security management, detainee psychological profile management, and files management.

DETAINEE Personal Profile Management

This module facilitates the processing of recording an incoming detainee's personal profile. The detainee personal profile includes his personal data, criminal data, and judicial data.

Upon the registration at a penitentiary, a detainee's personal data, such as name, resident identification number, birthday, sex, occupation, address, phone number, and registration date are collected and entered into the system. In addition, a clerk also needs to enter a detainee's criminal and judicial data, including type(s) of crime committed, length of jail time, the number of committing crimes, the reason(s) of committing the crime, judicial papers, and judicial warrant.

Sentence reduction, maintenance and archives of released prisoners' data, inquiry and audit of current prisoners' data, and listing of penitentiary daily operations are part of functions of this module.

DETAINEE Evaluation Management

It is important to motivate detainees modifying their behavior during their time in the penitentiary. A progressive evaluation system is, therefore, established to encourage such good behavior.

By using the subsystem, a clerk records detainee's performance and their credits will be automatically cumulated and updated. A detainee will be evaluated each month based on his accumulated credits. A detainee whose accumulated credits meet some basic requirement will be carefully examined and may be promoted to the next level of treatment. The process of evaluation will be continued until a possible parole is suggested for a detainee or he is released.

DETAINEE Property Management

The subsystem records, manages, and discharges the property of the detainee. Properties of detainees are required to be monitored if 1) they were brought-in by detainee at the time when he was booked; 2) there were brought-in by friends or relatives during the jail visitation to detainee; and 3) they were earned by detainee at different training programs during his penitentiary time.

Detainees are not allowed to possess hard currency which will be recorded and deposited into his account. It will be a credit in his account if there is new money whether is brought-in or or earned by detainee. By the same token, it will be a debt if detainee request for making a purchase. All properties belonging to a detainee will be returned to him when he is discharged and released from the penitentiary. The detainee's property data is then stored in the archives.

DETAINEE Training & Operation Management

There are usually several types of processing factories in a penitentiary. The facilities are used not only for the training purposes, but also for producing products for merchants in exchange of monetary returns for detainees.

Managing these facilities inside a penitentiary is nothing different from managing a company outside the penitentiary. Functions such as marketing and sales, inventory, production, accounts receivables, salaries, and job assignments are all included in this subsystem.
Maintenance Management

It maintains the integrity of codes that represent agents, issuing organizations of incoming documents, internal departments, and incoming documents.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

There are currently three platforms available for the DMS installations: 1) CDC Cyber; 2) CDC 4000; and 3) CDC DDE. The Cyber platform requires 64 MB of primary memory in order to support twenty or less user and 128MB if the number of users is more than twenty. With the CDC 4000 platform, the ratio of the quantity of primary memory and the number of users are 1) 32 MB for 10 or less users; 2) 64 MB for 16 or more to 30 users; and 3) 96 MB for 31 or more users. For the CDC DDE platform, the ratio would be: 1) 32 MB for 10 or less users; 2) 48 MB for 11 or more to 20 users; and 3) 64 MB for 21 or more users.

The DMS is developed in the CDC NOS/VE and UNIX operating system environment and ORACLE V6.0 database management system environment. The DMS also incorportates the DDE as its Chinese user interface. The SQL* FORM V2.3 and SQL* REPORT were primary development tools.

DISCUSSIONS

The Document Management System offers three immediate benefits to its users. First, it provides each office with a means to orderly and efficiently manage all incoming and outgoing documents. Second, it provides the office with a means to monitor and evaluate the process of each document or case and initiate appropriate actions if there is need. Last, it reduced the waiting time for the agent at each stop of a document route (charts 1, 2, and 3).

The Control Data Taiwan also incorporates the wordprocessing function into the DMS. The new feature will eliminate the duplicated data entry for outgoing documents when they are to be stored in the computer archives. In addition, the Control Data Taiwan is currently developing a multi-media version of the DMS.