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CIO Panel

Description of CIO Panel on the Year 2000 Problem

Moderator:  Thomas W. Lauer, Oakland University

Participants:  John Ricketts, IBM Corporation, Executive Consultant, Year 2000 Center of Competency and IBM Global Services
              Bob Kresky, GM Powertrain Year 2000 Manager
              Dean Mesterharm, Deputy Commissioner for Systems, Social Security Administration

As the passage of time proceeds in its petty pace, inexorably toward the millenium, this panel will address the following issues pertaining to the Year 2000 problem. First, the participants will give their descriptions and assessments of the problem from the front lines of their organizations, thus providing three different and significant viewpoints: a vendor perspective, a manufacturing perspective, and a government perspective. Next, the panel will discuss the problems of managing Y2K corrective programs in terms of complexity, risk management, and eliciting organizational understanding and support. Finally, the panel will speculate on whether the Y2K issue can be used as a beneficial lever for increasing organizational awareness of the long term strategic implications of IT architectural decisions.