

**Subject: A Y2K message from R. Milner and A. Bridle**

**Date:** Tue, 22 Jun 1999 08:42:37 -0400

**From:** brodrigu <brodrigu@nrao.edu>

**To:** pnapier <pnapier@nrao.edu>, jwrobel <jwrobel@nrao.edu>, gvanmoor <gvanmoor@nrao.edu>, julvesta <julvesta@nrao.edu>, rperley <rperley@nrao.edu>, awootten <awootten@nrao.edu>, ghunt <ghunt@nrao.edu>, lking <lking@nrao.edu>, jpayne <jpayne@nrao.edu>, rsimon <rsimon@nrao.edu>, bglenden <bglenden@nrao.edu>, cbignell <cbignell@nrao.edu>, mholstin <mholstin@nrao.edu>, jford <jford@nrao.edu>, dwebb <dwebb@nrao.edu>, lbeno <lbeno@nrao.edu>, jlagoyda <jlagoyda@nrao.edu>, cjanes <cjanes@nrao.edu>, bporter <bporter@nrao.edu>, jgibb <jgibb@nrao.edu>, pmurphy <pmurphy@nrao.edu>, grunion <grunion@nrao.edu>, ehardy <ehardy@nrao.edu>, rlacasse <rlacasse@nrao.edu>, dparker <dparker@nrao.edu>, rnorrod <rnorrod@nrao.edu>, bgarwood <bgarwood@nrao.edu>, tfolkers <tfolkers@nrao.edu>

To: All NRAO Division Heads

From: Ruth Milner (Y2K Co-ordinator; Asst to the Director - Computing)  
Alan Bridle (Chair, Computing Council)

Subject: Y2K and Operational Supplies

Many supplies that are basic to the ongoing operation of the NRAO rely on "just-in-time" supply chains which will temporarily be at unusually high risk of disruption at the Y2K rollover. While reports of successful Y2K compliance demonstrations are increasing, it is still impossible to assess the true readiness of many key supply and transportation systems around the world, including airports, marine and port systems, and suppliers of key materiel and fuels.

It is difficult to predict how serious any disruptions might be, or how long they might last, but transportation problems lasting even a few days could result in supply shortages. The Computer Council believes that it is time to take out some insurance against possible Y2K-related supply interruptions by doing a moderate level of overstocking of essential supplies. All site computer heads recently agreed that a three-month overstocking of essential computing-related items would be prudent in the face of continuing uncertainty about Y2K.

Each computer division determined the essential supplies and parts that they would requisition for a 3-month period. We then reallocated funds within the Observatory-wide computing budget on this basis to allow them to overstock and store these items (mainly magnetic media and printer supplies) as contingency against Y2K-related supply problems. We plan to begin this overstocking soon, anticipating that costs may rise later in the year as other organizations also make contingency plans.

We encourage all divisions of the Observatory to consider plans for overstocking easily-storable supplies that are essential to their everyday operations, such as those used for FAX machines and copiers, electronic components, etc.