The purpose of this contract was to provide a shared computing resource—the acoustics local area network (ALAN)—to support ocean acoustic and related oceanographic research at RSMAS, University of Miami. Co-PI's on this contract, and principal ALAN users, were Drs. M. Brown, H. DeFerrari, H. Nguyen, F. Tappert, J. Willemsen and T. Yamamoto. The ALAN is built around a Unix-based client/server architecture locally. The ALAN is tied via ethernet to the rest of RSMAS and is on the internet.

The major hardware components of ALAN are a Sun 4/470 file server, ten Sun workstations and two DEC alpha workstations, two laser printers and a postscript color thermal printer. All workstations have 1GB or larger hard drives. Software which is installed and available to all users is of three types: general purpose utilities (GMT and gnuplot plotting routines, LaTex document processor, etc.); general purpose scientific software (FORTRAN and C compilers, debuggers, MATLAB, etc.); and special purpose scientific software including acoustic propagation models (SAFARI, SNAP, UMPE, MEDUSA, MaCh1) and signal processing software. In addition, the Levitus climatological data base and DBDB5 bathymetric data base have been installed.

Funds from this contract were used to purchase almost all of the aforementioned hardware, provide system administration support on a part time basis, and pay for both hardware and software maintenance contracts.
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