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Group Benefit Projects

During the 1989 RPG we should not only review the projects currently funded by the central pool but consider whether there are other activities in the six R&D centres, that are either in their early stages or at the proposal stage, that could equally be viewed as "for Group Benefit". Clearly in 1987 we identified Greendot and Airbus as in this category.

In order to save spending an undue amount of time on this topic at the RPG, Dirk Pangritz (BATCF) suggested that proposals to the RPG could be made following a meeting of the CAC information Group Specialists to consider the subject.

I support this idea, but now wish to elicit your views.

Such a meeting would have to:

1. agree definition of a Group Benefit Project.
2. agree how far the centrally funded project should go before splitting into individual company steered projects.
3. how such projects can reflect wishes of the funding bodies and yet be essentially managed by the company in which it is located.
4. recommend a formula for funding that reflects the interests of the CACs. (Perhaps we can no longer work on the basis that all companies will participate in all projects?)

*EPCOT ?
any others ?*

A further aim of the meeting would be to reassess the value of the Group Research Projects database and all its current capabilities.

Richard Baker has agreed to set this meeting up with the Information Specialists if you all agree. Timing must be such that we have proposals for the EPG; thus May or June seems appropriate.

Please let me know your views by 21st February.

ALH
A L Heard

ALH/LES

7th February 1989

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