

Technical Design Document	Page 2
IDA-MS-TD	
Issue 1	

0.3 OVERVIEW

- #1 This preface is for information only.
- #2 This preface will therefore not be retained in the project-specific document.
- #3 The remaining sections (numbered 1, 2, 3,...) constitute a template that should be used to construct the project-specific document.
 - Text in normal case is in the most part “boilerplate” that can be retained, amended or deleted in the document.
 - Text in italics provides instructions on how to complete a section and should be removed once the section is written.
 - Text in blue italics includes discussion and specific recommendations on the approach to Technical Design in the IDA context.
- #4 The template should be used pragmatically, that is - where a section is not relevant it should be omitted. Conversely, the material contained in this document is not necessarily exhaustive; if there is a subject that is relevant to the project, but is not included in this document, it should still be included.

0.4 BASIS OF THIS DOCUMENT

- #1 This following introductory sections set out an approach to designing systems that may be developed under IDA. It attempts to set standards and create a consistent approach to the design and development of systems across the IDA Programme. It will enable the Programme to benefit from ‘economies of scale’ and a consistency in the approach to building and deploying systems. Important issues that need to be considered include the architecture of systems, links to legacy systems, contemporary approaches to design (Object Oriented Design), aims for code re-use and the need to develop systems that will work on an operational basis over many years and the associated desire to make such systems easily supportable and affordable.
- #2 A key point will be to build on the work already carried out in IDA and its predecessor programmes, where a large number of specific ‘technical’ developments were undertaken looking at, for example, standards for data exchange, such as GESMES, and the introduction of contemporary technologies and infrastructures.
- #3 The concept of a **Reference Architecture** is also introduced as part of the process of creating an interoperable environment which facilitates the exchange of information between administrations through setting out a number of standard building blocks around which solutions can be assembled. These building blocks or ‘components’ reflect the emerging technologies that should form the technical basis of the IDA developments. These include the Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), Remote Method Invocation (RMI) and Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB) technologies that highlight code re-use, scalability and the creation of interoperable architectures around legacy environments.