Software House, Waltham, Massachusetts manufactures physical security systems for a wide range of government and business users (below). These systems include many types of security devices, such as card validation, alarm monitoring, closed circuit TV, video badging and biometric identification systems.

Software House's primary security management system is the C•CURESystem 1 Plus™; The photo at right shows the C•CURESystem 1 Plus family of products. The software based system may be used with a variety of access control hardware at installations ranging from individual or remote locations to multiple integrated networks around the world. Advanced software programs enable C•CURESystem 1 Plus users to manage large amounts of information and to solve unique security problems; they also provide power over access control with time schedules, authorization levels, door entry with card validation, and extensive reporting capabilities.

In addition, C•CURESystem 1 Plus provides access to other information management tools, such as the NASA expert development tool named CLIPS. Using CLIPS, Software House integrates software and hardware to solve problems that might arise with the various access control systems. The expert system software prototype asks a series of questions about what the hardware is doing or not doing; from the given answers, the program makes recommendations on possible routes to check and what might be causing the problem. CLIPS enabled Software House to develop new generations of hardware that allow problem solution by a non-expert person with fast response.

CLIPS was developed by Johnson Space Center and was supplied to Software House by the Computer Software Management and Information Center (COSMIC)®, a NASA-sponsored mechanism for making available at nominal cost government-developed computer programs that have secondary applicability (see page 140).

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