

Minneapolis--James E. Thornton has been named Vice President of Control Data's Computing Development Laboratories. In making the announcement, William C. Norris, Chairman and President of Control Data, said that Thornton also would serve as technical consultant to R. C. Hall, Group Vice President of the Company's Computer Systems Group.

The three laboratories which Thornton will direct include the Chippewa Falls Laboratory at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin; the Advanced Design Laboratory at Arden Hills, Minnesota; and the Communications Laboratory at Santa Ana, California.

Norris said that the areas of work these laboratories are engaged in include basic circuitry and memory technology, computer design and architecture, and communications techniques. The research and development, as well as special technical programs being done in these laboratories will continue forward as planned, he said.

Thornton has devoted his entire professional career of 22 years to computer design and development, starting in 1950 when he joined Engineering Research Associates, Inc. {ERA}

He came to Control Data in 1958 and participated in the development of the Company's first large-scale computer, the CDC 1604. Thornton then became Chief Engineer of the Chippewa Falls Laboratory during the development of Control Data's first super-scale computer system, the CDC 6600. He was primarily responsible for the development of the CDC 6400 and participated in the development of other computers in the Company's 6000 series family of computer systems.

Thornton is also the developer of the CDC STAR-100 super scale computer system. Prior to this announcement, he served as the Director of Control Data's Advanced Computer Laboratory at Arden Hills.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a B.S.E.E. degree, Thornton holds several patents in the field of computer technology. He is the author of the book Design of a Computer--the Control Data 6600 {published by Scott Foresman & Co.}.