

1 **Article 44**

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3 **Technology**

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5 **The parties recognize that improving technology within the Agency will be more**
6 **efficient and effective for the organization and that we will better serve the needs**
7 **of our customers. As such, the parties agree to establish a committee which**
8 **involves open sharing of technology information at the earliest pre-decisional**
9 **stage, thereby engendering mutual trust and respect to better serve the mission**
10 **of the Agency.**

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12 **Section 1. Purpose of Committee**

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14 **The major purpose of the Committee is to discuss and provide recommendations**
15 **to the Agency regarding technological changes, options and solutions which will**
16 **improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the operation. The Committee will**
17 **gather, analyze and share information regarding technological changes and how**
18 **such changes could be utilized to better serve the needs of our customers.**

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20 **Section 2. Committee**

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22 **The Committee will be established at the National level and meet quarterly for one**
23 **(1) work day at SSA headquarters. These National level meetings will be**

24 **scheduled on mutually agreed upon dates for each quarter and may be attended**
25 **by a Union representative from each of the six (6) components and the General**
26 **Committee Spokesperson.**

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28 **These meetings shall be to discuss and provide recommendations to the Agency**
29 **regarding exchange of information and to discuss technological changes,**
30 **options and solutions which will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the**
31 **SSA operation. These one (1) day meetings will be held during duty hours. The**
32 **Agency will pay travel and per diem for six (6) Union representatives to attend**
33 **each meeting. All seven (7) Union representatives, who would otherwise be in**
34 **duty status, will be granted official time in accordance with the National**
35 **Agreement.**

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37 **Matters proposed for discussion by either party will be forwarded to the other**
38 **party at least fifteen (15) working days prior to these meetings.**

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40 **Section 3. Boards**

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42 **The Agency will invite the Union to name employees to serve as full participants**
43 **and all existing and future Board/Group activities. This shall include, but not be**
44 **limited to:**

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46 **1. Architectural Review Board**

47 **2. 508 Compliance Workgroup**

48 **3. Technology Infusion Board**

49 **4. Technology Advisory Board**

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51 **The employees will participate in such activities as an assignment of work and**
52 **entitled to travel and per diem as appropriate.**