SOME THINGS REMAIN.

But whatever happens, what people want the hardware to do will somehow have to be translated into something like executing the right programmes to do the job, and providing the resources they need. That's what operating systems have been doing for a long time now; it looks as if they'll still be doing it for some time to come.

Standard	Subject	Scope	Status
1003.1	System application program interface (kernel)	Basic operating system services such as file I/O and process control	Complete; became ISO Standard 9945.1 in December 1990
1003.2	Shell and utilities	Command language and utilities that can be used in shell scripts or command procedures	Nearing completion
1003.2a	User portability extension	Utilities for time-sharing systems	Nearing completion
1003.4	Real-time extensions	Real-time programming features such as process locking and synchronization	Nearing completion
1003.4a	Threads extension	Real-time features useful for supporting transaction processing	Nearing completion
1003.5	Ada language binding	1003.1 function calls for the Ada language	Nearing completion
1003.6	Security extensions	Security features such as access control lists and multilevel security	Nearing completion
1003.7	System administration	System management features for such tasks as adding users and checking device status	In progress
1003.8	Transparent (network) file access	Functions for making files on several machines appear to reside on a single machine	In progress
1003.9	Fortran interface	1003.1 function calls for the Fortran language	Nearing completion
1003.12	Protocol-independent network interface	Communication services independent of protocol	In progress
1003.15	Batch scheduling	Functions for batch (noninteractive) processing	In progress
1003.17	Name space and directory service	Distributed systems directory functions	In progress

REFERENCES.

HIS6 : I. Hugo : "Talking heads", *Computing* (19 May 1994).

HIS7 : J. Boykin, D. Cheriton : "Operating systems : a vision of the year 2000", *IEEE Computer* **24#9**, 108 (September, 1991).

HIS8 : D.R. Kuhn : "IEEE's Posix : making progress", *IEEE Spectrum* **28#12**, 36 (December 1991).

QUESTIONS.

What do *you* think is likely to happen in the next two years ? ten years ? fifty years ?