

APPENDIX D

Software Copyright Law

Copyright law concerning software copying and usage is described in the Copyright Law of the United States of America, revised to March 1, 1989, contained in Title 17 of the United States Code, Section 117.

Faculty should be aware that there are various types of restrictions on the copying and use of software. Software may be copyrighted as a single copy, site license, or shareware while public domain software has no copyright restrictions. Each is described below:

Single copy license - Software may be used on one single machine at a time. Some software is restricted to be used on one specific machine.

Site license - Software is purchased under an agreement that allows a specific number of copies to be made of the software. The restrictions on the copying of software sold under a site license agreement should be understood before copying.

Shareware - User-supported software that is copyrighted but the developer encourages individuals to make copies and distribute to others. The developer generally asks for a small donation or registration fee if the user plans to use the software.

Public domain - Software that is not subject to any copyright restrictions and may be copied and shared freely.