1    19.    The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said first
software entity comprises an operating system of said
computer system and said second software entity comprises
a microcoded special purpose processor of said computer
5    system.


20.    The apparatus of Claim 15 wherein each said
hardcoded list comprises a plurality of said bit masks,
each said bit mask being identified by a word number,
10              said means for transferring from said first
software entity being operative for transferring, from
said first software entity to said second software entity,
a particular bit mask with a predetermined word number
from said list associated with said first software entity,
15              said means for transferring from said second
software entity being operative for transferring, from
said second software entity to said first software entity,
a bit mask corresponding to said particular bit mask
having said predetermined word number from said list
20   associated with said second software entity.


21.    The apparatus of Claim 20 wherein a new required
feature is introduced in one of said first or second
software entities, said one software entity being
25   operative for setting a bit in an associated bit mask
corresponding to said new required feature.


22.    The apparatus of Claim 15 further including a
list of indications of features supported by both said
30   first and second software entities maintained by at least
one of said first and second software entities.


23.    The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein said indications
of features supported by said first software entity and
35   said indications of features supported by said second
software entity comprise feature indication storage
arrangements.