Section II – Core Principles

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The foundation of the NX information flow model rests on a set of core principles. These principles are not abstract ideals — they are practical rules for how data, equipment, and compliance interconnect. Each principle drives behaviors across IMS, COs, Material Handling, and customer shops, ensuring accountability and eliminating blind spots.

# Principle 1: Control the Information, Control the Inventory, Satisfy Compliance

Every action taken with an NX asset must generate a data record. This turns accountability from an afterthought into a built-in safeguard. By locking control to information flow, we ensure that compliance is a natural byproduct of operations — not a separate, manual task.

# Principle 2: Every Physical Action Produces a Data Event

From receipt at Material Handling to deployment by IMS, to relocation requests from COs, to final disposition — each step must be logged. This ensures the asset lifecycle is transparent and auditable, closing the gaps that OIG identified in past audits.

# Principle 3: Transparency Without Chasing Files

Stakeholders should never have to chase information. Whether through a dashboard, a report, or a filtered view, data must be available on demand. This principle builds trust across leadership, auditors, and operational staff.

# Principle 4: Compliance Embedded in Operations

VA Handbook 7002, Directive 1761, and VISN QCR expectations are not external checklists. They are embedded directly into workflows. Inventories occur annually without exception. ROS cases close in 60 days. Custodial Officers validate all requests. Compliance is enforced by structure, not preference.

# Principle 5: Platform-Agnostic, System-First Design

SharePoint, Power Automate, or any future tool is just a user interface. The enforced flow of information is the true system. This ensures longevity and flexibility — the structure survives even as platforms change.

# Principle 6: Clear Roles and Accountability

IMS, COs, Material Handling, and customer shops all carry defined responsibilities. IMS manage records and locations, COs initiate changes, shops provide Bills of Health, and Material Handling ensures custody is documented. This clarity prevents overlap, excuses, and gaps in accountability.

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Core principles drive discipline. Discipline drives compliance.