What I am saying here sounds like motherhood and apple pie. Of course you know not to modify, or if you must modify to isolate the changes or to make changes at the level of your system that has the smallest effect on future extensibility. But believe me when I tell you that I have seen application-specific (not just system-specific or environment-specific) modifications embedded in the hearts of standards packages.

I have seen applications with modules that independently and continually issue functions to set primitive and/or segment attributes that were never changed. I have seen situations where application modules called functions with incorrectly typed parameters, error logs were never perused, and the application programmers never noticed (because the default action was what they wanted anyway). And then the package was blamed for poor performance (partly because of the inordinate amount of error handling).

Development managers beware. Besides choosing the right standard, finding a good vendor and package, and developing a good design for your system, you have to make sure that your programmers are educated and trained for the selected standard and the package acquired. No amount of vendor effort can overcome poor usage practice.