



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20590

July 20, 2005

The Honorable Mark V. Rosenker
Acting Chairman
National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Acting Chairman Rosenker:

The Office of Inspector General plans to perform an audit of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Information Security Program, as required by the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA). NTSB and other small agencies have become subject to annual FISMA reporting requirements since FY 2004.

Last year, we reported NTSB's information security program as a material internal control weakness. NTSB management has agreed to take corrective actions. However, most of the planned actions have not yet been implemented. Accordingly, we will only perform a limited review to compile this year's independent report. In addition to answering OMB questions on FISMA progress, we will evaluate whether NTSB (1) network connections to outside entities, including the Internet, are adequately protected to prevent cyber attacks; and (2) internal network computers are properly configured to reduce the risks of unauthorized access.

We will coordinate the audit with the offices of the Chief Information Officer and Chief Financial Officer. We plan to start this project immediately. The project manager for the audit is Dr. Ping Sun. If you have any questions, please call Rebecca Leng, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Information Technology and Computer Security, at (202) 366-1488, or Ed Densmore, Program Director, at (202) 366-4350.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Alves".

Theodore P. Alves
Principal Assistant Inspector General
for Auditing and Evaluation