



Memorandum

Date: May 1, 2019

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement | FAA's Roles and Responsibilities on the Aviation Cybersecurity Initiative | Project No. 19A3005A000
Federal Aviation Administration

From: Matthew E. Hampton 
Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits

To: Director, Audit and Evaluation

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) oversees the safety of civil aviation by managing our Nation's air traffic system through a complex network of information systems and various air traffic control facilities. Cyber-based threats from both internal and external sources are rapidly evolving. At the same time, FAA's air traffic control system is becoming more interconnected as the Agency introduces a range of new communication, navigation, and surveillance capabilities.

In December 2018, the Chairman of the U. S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure requested that we initiate an audit focusing on the activities of the *Aviation Cybersecurity Initiative (ACI)* and FAA's role and responsibilities as a member. ACI is an interagency task force made up of FAA and the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS) and Defense (DOD). The Agencies work together to identify and mitigate cybersecurity vulnerabilities in systems affecting the aviation industry and the public. Furthermore, Section 2111 of the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016 directed FAA to develop a comprehensive and strategic framework of principles and policies to reduce cybersecurity risks to the air traffic system.

Accordingly, our audit objective is to examine FAA's roles, responsibilities, and actions as an ACI member, especially those that pertain to its authority over civil aviation and air traffic management.

We plan to begin our audit this month, and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct our interviews with officials at FAA Headquarters and at DOD and DHS. If you have any questions, please

contact me at 202-366-0500, or Nathan Custer, Program Director, at 202-366-5540.

cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1
FAA Audit Liaison, AAE