




Memorandum

Date: February 27, 2019

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement | Security Controls of FAA's Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) Audit | Project No. 19F3001F000
Federal Aviation Administration

From: Louis C. King 
Assistant Inspector General for Financial and Information Technology Audits

To: Director, Audit and Evaluation, FAA

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) facilities guide aircraft approaching and departing from airports within a 40-mile radius and up to 10,000 feet. Air traffic controllers in these facilities rely heavily on computer systems to keep aircraft separate and communicate with pilots about radar, weather, and flight plans. Because thousands of aircraft fly through TRACON airspace daily, FAA must maintain an information program that sustains the integrity and availability of TRACON systems and data.

The Office of Inspector General will perform a self-initiated audit of FAA's information technology security controls for large consolidated TRACON facilities. Our objectives for this audit are to (1) assess FAA's identification and mitigation of security risks in STARS and (2) determine whether FAA's contingency planning limits the effects caused by the loss of STARS operations at large TRACON facilities during emergencies.

We plan to begin this audit in February 2019 and will conduct it at FAA Headquarters offices in Washington, DC, as well as the William J. Hughes Technical Center (WJHTC) in Atlantic City, NJ, and other large TRACONs. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (202) 366-1407 or Abdil Salah, Program Director, at (202) 366-8543.

cc: FAA Chief Information Officer
FAA Audit Liaison, AAE-001
DOT Audit Liaison, M-1