




Memorandum

Date: February 21, 2023

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement | NextGen Status Update | Project No. 23A3004A000
Federal Aviation Administration

From: Nelda Z. Smith 
Assistant Inspector General for Aviation Audits

To: Director, Audit and Evaluation

The Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen)¹ is a multibillion-dollar, multi-year infrastructure effort aimed at modernizing our Nation's aging air traffic system to provide safer and more efficient air traffic management. As a complex undertaking, NextGen encompasses multiple programs, procedures, and systems at differing levels of maturity. Section 502 of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018² (the act) mandates that FAA report on the Agency's progress on implementing NextGen programs and the risks to implementing these programs, as well as program funding, milestones, benefits, oversight, and lessons learned. FAA submitted this report to Congress on December 21, 2021.

The act also requires that the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Office of Inspector General (OIG) review the accuracy of FAA's report on its implementation of NextGen, describe any concerns with the information, summarize prior concerns and pertinent OIG recommendations, and provide any other information that OIG determines appropriate. Accordingly, our audit objectives are to (1) assess FAA's report on its implementation of NextGen and (2) report the status of OIG's NextGen recommendations.

We will conduct our work at FAA Headquarters. If you have any questions, please contact me or Jaydeep Borwankar, Program Director.

cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1
FAA Audit Liaison, AAE-100

¹ NextGen is a collection of new programs and capabilities, including new air traffic management technologies and procedures; airport infrastructure improvements; and environmental, safety, and security-related enhancements.

² FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, Public Law No. 115-254.