



Memorandum

**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Audit Announcement –
Effectiveness of DOT’s Cyber Security Incident
Handling and Response
Department of Transportation
Project No.15F3001F000

Date: January 22, 2015

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

Reply to
Attn. of: JA-20

To: DOT Chief Information Officer
Federal Aviation Administration Chief Information Officer

Computer security incidents range from computer viruses to attempted intrusions into networks. Incidents can result in system malfunctions, and the loss, theft or alteration of agency data, including personally identifiable information. In fiscal year 2014, the Department of Transportation reported over 2,200 cybersecurity incidents. Due to the risks posed by this high volume of incidents, we are initiating an audit of DOT’s computer security incident response program. This audit will also support our annual Federal Information Security Management Act audit.

Our audit objectives are to determine if DOT has (1) effective cyber security monitoring in place for its networks and information systems; (2) an effective process to detect cyber incidents affecting agency systems; and (3) established management practices that reasonably contain, eradicate and report those cyber incidents.

We plan to start this audit in January and will conduct it at DOT’s Headquarters in Washington, DC, the Cyber Security Management Center, and other locations. 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 Nathan Custer, Program Director, at (202) 366-5540.

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