




Memorandum

U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement - Review
of FAA's Air Traffic Controller Optimum Training
Solution Program
Federal Aviation Administration
Project No. 09A3005A000

Date: March 24, 2009

From: 
Lou E. Dixon
Acting Assistant Inspector General
for Aviation and Special Program Audits

Reply to: JA-10
Attn. of:

To: Assistant Administrator for Financial Services
and Chief Financial Officer

On September 9, 2008, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded a 10-year, nearly \$900 million contract to Raytheon Corporation to support the Agency's training program for air traffic controllers. The training program and contract, known as the Air Traffic Controller Optimum Training Solution (ATCOTS), call for Raytheon to provide training support at the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and at air traffic facilities nationwide.

On January 29, 2009, Representative Jerry Costello, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Aviation, requested that we review the ATCOTS program. He stated that while the program has the opportunity to bring positive changes to FAA's training program, given its importance, a better understanding of the financial and contractual aspects of the program is needed.

Accordingly, we plan to begin this audit in March 2009. Consistent with the Chairman's request, our audit objectives are to review the ATCOTS program to determine (1) whether effective controls are in place to ensure that the training and financial goals of the program are met and (2) how the training program will differ from what is currently provided to the controller workforce. Our audit will include visits to the FAA Academy and to various air traffic facilities.

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dan Raville, Program Director, at (202) 366-1405 or Frank Danielski, Project Manager, at (202) 366-1434.

#

cc: Acting FAA Deputy Administrator
Anthony Williams, ABU-100
Martin Gertel, M-1