



**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**


Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General

# Memorandum

Subject: INFORMATION: Notification of Audit of the Volpe  
National Transportation Systems Center  
Project No. 03B3010B000

Date: July 10, 2003

From: Alexis M. Stefani   
Principal Assistant Inspector General  
for Auditing and Evaluation

Reply to  
Attn of: JA-1:x61992

To: Research and Special Programs Administrator

At the request of the Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies, House Committee on Appropriations, we are initiating an audit of the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe). Specifically, we have been asked to determine: (1) how Volpe's role and functions have changed over the years, and whether current Volpe activities meet Department of Transportation (DOT) needs; (2) if Volpe has the necessary financial controls in place to ensure its service fees are appropriate; and (3) DOT's role in overseeing Volpe, and whether it is adequate to ensure that Volpe provides cost-effective services.

The audit will be conducted at the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts; the Research and Special Programs Administration in Washington, D.C.; and other selected DOT offices.

We plan to begin the audit the week of July 21, 2003. We will contact your audit liaison in the Office of Administration to arrange an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information prior to the entrance conference, please contact me at (202) 366-1992, or Ms. Robin K. Hunt, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Hazardous Materials, Security, and Special Programs, at (415) 744-3090.

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cc: Dr. Richard John, DTS-1  
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