



IT Program Assessment ICE – TECS Modernization

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) conducted a program review of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) –TECS Modernization. This assessment represents the program's status through March 2012.

Description and Background:

The TECS Modernization program is an effort to replace the legacy TECS, a primary border enforcement system supporting the screening of travelers entering the United States as well as screening requirements of other Federal agencies. TECS interfaces with several law enforcement systems and Federal agencies. TECS Modernization is a combined effort of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and ICE. Each agency is modernizing the parts of TECS that support their unique mission.

Programmatically, ICE TECS Modernization is in the Obtain (Development, Modernization, and Enhancement) life cycle phase. The Modernized TECS system will strengthen and unify DHS Operations and Management by increasing interoperability and improving operations, resource utilization, and management decision making. The ICE TECS Modernization program will discontinue the use of the legacy CBP TECS mainframe by Fiscal Year (FY) 15 or earlier when CBP discontinues the use of its mainframe. The ICE TECS Modernization system is targeting to become the System of Record for Case Management data by the end of FY15. This will allow ICE to target a Core Case Management system that supports its mission and avoids incurring an annual \$23.6M legacy TECS O&M cost. TECS Modernization has been migrated to DHS Data Center-2, and the new system will be hosted from the DHS primary data center.

The TECS program awarded its software design and development contract at the end of FY11 and has baselined its release structure, release schedule, and costs. TECS Modernization has locked down its requirements and gained approval for its Systems Requirements Document and Acquisition Program Baseline (APB). The program is utilizing the agile development methodology and has already broken the requirements down into multiple releases to get off the legacy system and avoid legacy O&M costs.

Risks and Issues:

The TECS program's automation modernization, out-year funding has been diminished which could delay the deployment of TECS capabilities. In addition, the program has identified the following risks:

- If ICE and CBP are not coordinated after production, there may be data consistency issues between the systems.
- If the Design/Development Team does not have adequate access to a Performance Testing environment at the appropriate times, there will be schedule delays of two or more weeks per release.



Mitigation Strategy:

TECS Modernization is taking preventative measures such as requesting funds through the Resource Allocation Plan/Decision process, identifying internal ICE funding alternatives, and leveraging vendor solicitations to negotiate the best value for the Government in case it does not receive out-year funding. The program has also identified the following ways to mitigate the risks noted above:

- ICE will work closely with CBP to coordinate pilot programs and coordinate the scope of each release for phasing out of Legacy TECS and leverage the ICE/CBP Integrated Governance Committee to ensure regular updates between programs. In addition, the program will continue to identify the Legacy Business Rules to determine interactions between systems.
- TECS Modernization is working with Architecture and Engineering to determine a solution based on two options – Raytheon to provide a performance testing environment or negotiate agreement with ICE to schedule and guarantee adequate Performance Testing environment access.

Assessment:

ICE TECS Modernization is in the Obtain Phase of its life cycle and has so far had success with gaining approval for key documents. The program is currently on schedule, but carries a risk of delays due to its reliance on the availability of the performance testing environment. It has, however, taken the proper precautions and planned alternate options in case the environment is not available. While TECS Modernization relies on integration with CBP's TECS program to fully succeed, the program has taken measures to ensure the two programs provide consistent data. Since the CIO's last assessment of the program, the Program Management Office has made great strides towards working against its APB. In addition, the program is properly managing all risks and reporting to the ICE Homeland Security Investigations Executive Steering Committee on a bi-monthly basis. The CIO assesses the ICE – TECS Modernization program as **Moderately Low Risk**.

Score: 4