



## IT Program Assessment

### TSA – Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Threat Assessment Program (2010)

#### Review Assessment

The DHS Chief Information Officer conducted a comprehensive program review of the TSA Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Threat Assessment Program on January 8, 2010. The HTAP program was chartered in by Congress under the USA PATRIOT Act to prohibit states from issuing a license to any individual for transport of hazardous materials in commerce without a determination that the individual does not pose a security risk. TSA requires drivers seeking a Hazardous Materials Endorsement on their driver's license to undergo a security threat assessment (STA) that includes checks for criminal history, immigration status, and terrorism ties. States provide information on individuals to TSA to conduct the STAs as part of the state commercial driver's license issuance process. The HAZMAT Threat Assessment Program is funded by fees paid by applicants rather than by appropriated funds, and has started conducting STAs on applicants in 2005.

Major findings during the DHS CIO IT Program Review of the HAZMAT Threat Assessment Program include the following.

- Program is in O&M Phase, and will be supported in the future by the TSA TTAC IT Modernization Program. The HAZMAT Threat Assessment Program is working closely and effectively with the TSA TTAC IT Modernization Program to ensure program needs will be met going forward.
- Current enrollment trends support anticipated program cost through FY 2012 and beyond.
- TSA, working with the DHS Screening Coordination Office, is pursuing a rulemaking for a Universal Fee Rule that will provide necessary flexibility for TSA to provide common screening, vetting, and IT support capabilities to the universe of programs supported by TTAC. Implementation of the Universal Fee Rule will help mitigate any funding issues the HAZMAT Threat Assessment Program might otherwise face as a stand-alone fee-funded program.
- No significant program shortcomings or risks were identified.

#### Mitigation Strategy

Findings and issues from the DHS CIO IT Program Review of the HAZMAT Security Threat Assessment program are being effectively addressed by program and TTAC management, and will be mitigated by the Universal Fee Rule and the implementation of the TSA TTAC IT Modernization Program.

**Score: 4**