



IT Program Assessment

A&O – Homeland Secure Information Network (HSIN) (2010)

Review

HSIN is a viable program directly supporting DHS information sharing and common operating picture goals and objectives. The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of HSIN. The principal focus areas of the program review were 1) HSIN's interoperability and 2) the migration of other DHS portals into HSIN. The DHS CIO has identified several technical areas to be addressed to further improve the contribution of the HSIN program to the DHS mission.

- HSIN is a complex mission program supporting many stakeholders (internal and external to DHS) as an information sharing and collaboration portal. It has been identified as an enterprise solution.
- The CIO directed that additional focus to be given to technology enhancements regarding system interfaces and requirements management.
- Currently this program provides a free service for state and local government stakeholders. The CIO was concerned about the migration schedules and the ability of the program to support additional users.
- Currently, each community of interest is an individual portal that sits on the HSIN platform. An additional concern is the need for HSIN to have the capability for a federated search across user portals that is not supported by its current technical architecture.

Mitigation Strategy

- OPS CIO to develop a draft portal consolidation strategy and work with OCIO to refine the plan
- HSIN Program Manager will develop a new revised LCCE to include the portal consolidation model and the interoperability model
- HSIN Program Manager will continue working with the White House Information Standards and Architecture Sub-Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) on an interoperability strategy
- HSIN Program Manager will work with contracting officer to verify the ability to report across option years that have not been awarded.
- HSIN Program Manager will work with OCIO/EBMO on incorporating best practices into OPS CIO Earned Value reporting
- HSIN Program Manager will provide the CIO with HSIN testing environment requirements
- OCIO will provide the HSIN Program Manager with a Section 508 strategy for performing HSIN upgrades
- OPS CIO to work with OCIO to clearly define HSIN's multi-layered/tiered security strategy
- HSIN Program Manager will provide OCIO with a date for the back-up system and a date for retiring Legacy HSIN components
- HSIN Program Manager will provide OCIO with a strategy to migrate HSIN users to the new platform
- HSIN Program Manager will work with OCIO/ESDO regarding program support tool options, and potentially the use of the Rational tool set

Assessment

HSIN is a viable program directly supporting DHS information sharing. Additional focus will be given to technology enhancements regarding system interfaces and requirements management. A strategy to migrate HSIN users to the new platform is essential to further ensure success.

Score: 2