



IT Program Assessment CBP – Northern Border – Remote Video Surveillance System (NB-RVSS)

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) conducted a program health review of the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Northern Border – Remote Video Surveillance System (NB-RVSS) program. This assessment represents the program's status through March 2012.

Description and Background:

As part of the cancelled Secure Border Initiative – network (SBI_{net}), remote video surveillance systems, consisting of day and night cameras with remote pointing control from a Border patrol station, were deployed to the Buffalo and Detroit Sectors on the northern border. These systems enable the Border Patrol to survey large areas without having to commit hundreds of agents in vehicles to perform the same function, thus improving the safety of agents as they detect, identify, and classify incursions at the border and resolve the incursions with the appropriate level of response.

The NB-RVSS program is the current investment that manages the operations and maintenance of these deployments. The program established integrated product teams (IPT) to support the various aspects of the program. The IPTs were chartered and consist of both permanent and temporary subject matter experts as required by the project's life cycle. The IPTs include participation from various functional disciplines: environmental, land acquisition, facilities, logistics, systems engineering, network communications, as well as representatives from the Office of the Border Patrol, the US Coast Guard, Air and Marine, Boeing, and the Office of Field Operations.

Assessment:

The focus of the CBP NB-RVSS program is the operations and maintenance of the RVSS capability deployed to the Buffalo and Detroit sectors as part of the Secure Border Initiative – network (SBI_{net}) program before it was cancelled. The program is operating smoothly and is actively managing the risks, such as lightning protection on the poles and transitioning the field service support, with solid mitigation plans in place. They plan to conduct and update operational analysis (OA) in FY2012 to include deployments made since the last OA was conducted under the SBI_{net} program. Therefore, at this time, the CIO assesses the CBP NB-RVSS program as **Moderately Low Risk**.

Score: 4