

## **IT Program Assessment ICE – Traveler Enforcement Compliance System (TECS) Modernization**

### **Review**

The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of the ICE TECS Modernization Program during September 2011. Program observations include the following:

The TECS Modernization program is an effort to replace the legacy TECS, which is 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 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Each agency is modernizing the parts of TECS that support their unique mission.

Programmatically, ICE TECS Modernization is in the Obtain (DME) lifecycle 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 FY15 or earlier when CBP discontinues the use of its mainframe. Any existing legacy TECS functionality that is not part of Core Case Management (CCM) will become a system of record. This will allow ICE to target a CCM system that supports its mission and avoids incurring an annual \$23.6M legacy TECS O&M cost. The program's release structure, release schedule and costs will be baselined after the award of the software design and development contract.

Program risks and issues include:

- The ICE TECS program has experienced additional costs due to the increased time and challenges in defining and locking down the complete set of requirements needed for the modernization effort.
- If the system specifications and the design of the TECS legacy system cannot be well documented by current efforts to do, then challenges for decomposing certain functional logic and business rules for TECS modernization will continue.
- Schedule risks exist related to the acquisition process. It is not clear that vendors will be able to meet the ambitious timeline of achieving the core capabilities of TECS MOD by FY 2015. If funding limitations arise that further impact this schedule, then additional costs may be experienced to continue mainframe operations at a cost of about \$15 million per year.

- If the Data Center-2 production environment is not available by October 2011, the TECS Data Migration effort may be postponed.

### **Mitigation Strategy**

The ICE TECS Modernization program will focus on implementing Case Management functionality in incremental phases. Phase-1 will consist of Core Case Management functionality and discontinuing the use of the legacy TECS mainframe by FY15. Phase-2 will consist of non-core Case Management functionality or other deferred scope that will be in subsequent releases after FY15. It is important to note that while functionality may be categorized as deferred, it is still needed to support the overall ICE mission and case management capability. Deferred functionality may be accelerated prior to FY16 depending on the selected system solution. A draft Interagency Agreement (IAA) with CBP is in place to document business rules from legacy TECS. TECS is working with CBP to target an increase in resources to support development activities. ICE plans on leveraging limited CBP resources for Legacy TECS documentation and support, as well as data migration activities. TECS will adjust the Data Sync schedule to align with the development and test environment creation schedules. To mitigate risk to development testing TECS will Work with ISSO to create a "Real Data for Testing" application.

### **Assessment**

TECS Modernization is in the early obtain phase of its life cycle. The program's Acquisition Program baseline (APB) is currently being routed for approval and signature and is based on the current planned program funding. So far, the program is on-schedule according to the milestones in the APB. Given the issues that have been experienced, system dependencies and associated risks, the CIO assesses the ICE TECS Modernization program as a Level 3 - Medium Risk.

**Score: 3**