

IT Program Assessment TSA - Air Cargo Security

Review

The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of the TSA – Air Cargo Security program during September 2011. Program observations include the following:

Air Cargo Security Mission is complex and includes systems within the program that were previously reported separately, but are now consolidated into one investment starting with the 2012 budget cycle. Intake and workflow capabilities accept, review, and approve applications to be an Indirect Air Carrier (IAC) or Certified Cargo Screening Facility (CCSF). The business entity vetting capability vets shippers as part of the Known Shipper Management System (KSMS). The system identifies high-risk shipments and items for additional screening, processes Security Threat Assessments, and provides analysis capability to identify, quantify, analyze, and share vulnerability and risk assessment information. The program is currently performing well but some risk exists.

There are three risks identified:

- If new business requires vetting then changes to KSMS will be required.
- If an Independent Test Environment (ITE) with external connectivity is not made available then the Indirect Air Carrier Management System IACMS system cannot implement the universal fee rule
- If Oracle EBS (e-Business Suite) is discontinued by TSA then the system will require significant modification

Assessment

Although the program has some risks, they are being managed and overall the program is performing well. The program must develop a methodology for vetting new vendor(s), which would require changes to KSMS. If the use of the Universal Fee Rule is mandated the program will have to address the current lack of ITE external connectivity. If TSA opts to discontinue Oracle EBS then action will be required to address the functionality of IACMS and KSMS as both systems use elements of EBS and a development effort will be required. Include this development effort in planning for a replacement for Oracle EBS. The program is in O&M, stable and meets both TSA and stakeholder requirements. The program office must continue to monitor and respond to program risks. The CIO assesses the Air Cargo Security program as Level 4 – Moderately Low Risk.

Score: 4