



Homeland Security

IT Program Assessment USCG- Ports and Waterway Safety System (PAWSS) (2010)

Review

The DHS Chief Information Officer conducted a review of the USCG - Ports and Waterways Safety System (PAWSS) program on January 22, 2010. Key findings resulting from the review included:

- Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) information is used in combination with aids to navigation (AtoN), Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREGS) and other waterways regulatory management tools.
- Part of the VTS program, PAWSS automates several processes to allow authorities to focus on evaluating the traffic picture while also supplying the Unclassified Common Operating Picture (U-COP) through OneNet.
- Operating Requirements will require minor modifications to account for identified gaps due to maturing technology, user needs, and interface changes.

Mitigation Strategy

To address the associated operational gaps, the DHS CIO recommended a review of the TSA Transformation Architecture to assist in addressing interface requirements as PAWSS maintains operational sustainment. PAWSS leadership will provide the DHS OCIO with a more detailed diagram illustrating interface dependencies.

Assessment

The Program is currently sustaining Operations & Maintenance and will require periodic system architecture updates to continue to ensure that sponsor needs are met and that the system continues to perform according to specifications. This program will continuously need to perform routine hardware and software maintenance and upgrades to ensure effective system operations.

Score: 4