

OIG Information Technology Executive Summary

The OIG has had several major information technology (IT) accomplishments in Fiscal Year (FY) 2000. The OIG continued to invest in IT to accomplish the goals and objectives of the OIG. The OIG purchased new IT hardware and software to ensure continued efficient and effective operation for the present and future. The following is a brief summary of the OIG's accomplishments for FY 2000 and initiatives for FY 2001.

The OIG continued to upgrade the standard OIG workstation with new and enhanced hardware and software. The OIG standard desktop operating system was upgraded from Windows NT (4.0)SP5 to Windows NT (4.0)SP6. The OIG standard desktop office suite continues to be Microsoft Office Professional 97. The OIG purchased new IBM 450 MHz Pentium and IBM 500 MHz desktop machines to replace outdated Pentium machines. Older desktop computers will continue to be replaced as needed. In addition the OIG has replaced slower Lexmark printers with high-speed printers and added additional color printers to support expanded use of color charts and graphs in reports.

The OIG purchased and installed new portable computers for the OIG investigators and OIG auditors. The OIG investigation standard portable computer is a Dell Pentium running Windows NT with a docking station for local area network (LAN) access. The OIG audit standard portable computer is an IBM Pentium running Windows 95 with CD-ROM and dial-up networking access.

In FY 2000, the OIG also enhanced its wide area network (WAN) infrastructure and LAN infrastructure. To support increased network traffic the OIG wide area network was upgraded. The frame relay circuits are now fractional T1 lines with a port speed of 384K. The OIG is migrating from FTS2000 to FTS2001, and should complete the migration in September of this year. FTS2001 will add more bandwidth and capacity to the OIG WAN.

Operational enhancements were made to the Transportation Inspector General Reporting (TIGR) during FY 2000. Audit and investigative reports were written and added to the production system. The TIGR training module was written and implemented. The TIGR training module will allow the OIG to plan and track training for all OIG employees. The TIGR system will continue to be enhanced and tuned to meet the future data requirements of the OIG.

In FY 2001 the OIG does not anticipate any major IT software or hardware procurements. The IT emphasis for FY 2001 will be to continue to standardize and upgrade the hardware and software platforms. The OIG is planning on converting its E-mail system from Microsoft Mail to Microsoft Exchange or a system that is compatible with the "One DOT concept". The OIG is also committed to improving its web site to make it easier to use and to provide the public with more essential information.

In FY 2001, the OIG will consider Windows 2000 and the latest office automation suites from Microsoft and plan for an implementation in FY 2002. The OIG will also look at VPN and PKI as a solution to remote access for all OIG employees. Additionally in FY 2001 the OIG will evaluate document management software for audit and investigative operations. If the evaluation proves successful the OIG will purchase document management software and begin implementation in FY 2002.