

# ASSESSMENT REPORT

**REDACTED VERSION**

Assessment of NRC's Wireless Devices

OIG-10-A-18 September 17, 2010



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## **SUMMARY**

### **ASSESSMENT OF NRC'S WIRELESS DEVICES**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Wireless devices, services, and technologies are commonplace in all aspects of our lives and offer potential cost-savings and convenience over wired solutions. Wireless devices include any electronic device that can communicate with other devices without being physically attached to those devices. Most wireless devices communicate through radio frequencies. A wireless service provides access to services such as telephone, e-mail, calendaring, and messaging using wireless devices. Wireless technologies include mobile equipment, such as cellular telephones, Blackberries, and wireless networking.

#### **PURPOSE**

The objective of this assessment was to determine if NRC's wireless devices met required operational capabilities and security requirements. Southwest Research Institute's assessment focused on two wireless systems. In addition, a top-level overview of Bluetooth communication was conducted.

#### **AUDIT RESULTS**

The assessment found that the overall policy framework that supports both wireless devices should be reviewed and revised. The existing policy framework is complex and confusing, and both gaps and overlaps exist. The use of wireless devices at NRC is a recent occurrence, but the Management Directives and other policies and procedures need to be updated to reflect the current use of wireless devices.

In addition, the assessment identified other technical and procedural changes needed to both wireless systems. Because these changes could provide adversaries with an attack plan, specifics cannot be presented in this publicly released document.

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