



Memorandum

U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: **INFORMATION**: Audit Announcement –
FAA’s Progress on Addressing ATCOTS
Recommendations
Project No. 15Z3005Z000

Date: March 3, 2015

From: Mary Kay Langan-Feirson
Assistant Inspector General Acquisition and
Procurement Audits

Reply to
Attn. of: JA-60

To: Director, Audit and Evaluation

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) plans to hire more than 11,000 air traffic controllers through fiscal year 2021 to replace the large number of controllers eligible to retire. To help train the influx of new controllers, in 2008, FAA awarded the \$859 million Air Traffic Control Optimum Training Solution (ATCOTS) contract, intended to provide up to 10 years of training support.

Our prior reports on ATCOTS have identified problems such as poor contract management practices and ineffective performance measures.¹ Our December 2013 report made 10 recommendations for improving FAA’s oversight of the ATCOTS contract. The Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 directed our office to submit an update to that report.² Accordingly, our audit objective is to assess FAA’s progress on addressing the recommendations from our December 2013 report.

¹ *FAA’s Air Traffic Controller Optimum Training Solution Program: Sound Contract Management Practices Are Needed To Achieve Program Outcomes* (OIG Report Number AV-2010-126), Sept. 30, 2010. *FAA Needs To Improve ATCOTS Contract Management To Achieve Its Air Traffic Controller Training Goals* (OIG Report Number ZA-2014-018), Dec. 18, 2013.

² Pub. L. No. 113-235, December 16, 2014.

We plan to begin this audit immediately and will coordinate with your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct this audit at FAA Headquarters, the FAA Academy, and selected air traffic control facilities. If you have any questions concerning this audit, please call me at (202) 366-5225, or Tony Wysocki, Program Director, at (202) 493-0223.

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cc: FAA Audit Liaison, AAE-001
DOT Audit Liaison, M-1