Memorandum

Subject:	<u>INFORMATION</u>: Audit Announcement–Review of USMMA Technical Security Controls Project Number: 11F3007F000	Date: February 3, 2011
From:	*Earl C. Hedges* Earl C. Hedges Acting Assistant Inspector General for Financial and Information Technology Audits	Reply to Attn. of: JA-20
To:	Administrator, Maritime Administration	

We are initiating an audit of the United States Merchant Marine Academy's (USMMA) technical security controls for its Local Area Network (LAN) and website. USMMA's LAN provides the data communication services and resources that support the Academy's operations. USMMA's website provides information to the public about the Academy, and accepts student applications, which contain significant personally identifiable information (PII), including social security numbers and medical histories. Strong technical controls are needed to protect PII and other sensitive data residing on the LAN and transmitted through the website.

Our audit objectives are to: (1) evaluate the implementation of USMMA's LAN and website technical security controls intended to prevent intrusion and protect PII; and, (2) identify security vulnerabilities and weaknesses.

We will begin our audit this month, and will conduct it at USMMA in Kings Point, NY, and from Maritime Administration headquarters in Washington, DC. We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference to discuss the audit. The Program Director is Louis C. King, and the Project Manager is Gerald Steere. If you have any questions, please call me at 410-962-1729, or Louis King at 202-366-4350.

cc: Martin Gertel, M-1
     Audit Liaison, MARAD
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