



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**


Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General

Memorandum

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement—FAA's
Controller-in-Charge Program
Project No. 05A3007A000

Date: June 21, 2005

From: David A. Dobbs 
Assistant Inspector General
for Aviation and Special Program Audits

Reply to
Attn of: JA-10

To: Ramesh K. Punwani
Assistant Administrator
for Financial Services/CFO

The Office of Inspector General plans to conduct an audit of the Agency's Controller-in-Charge (CIC) program. CICs are bargaining unit employees who act as temporary first-line supervisors when permanent supervisors are unavailable. FAA has used CICs for years to supplement its supervisory workforce, particularly at smaller facilities and during off-peak hours.

In 1998, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Air Traffic Controllers Association entered into a 5-year collective bargaining agreement. Along with instituting a new pay system for controllers, the agreement included several work rule changes intended to reduce the overall cost of the agreement. One of these changes was to expand the CIC program in order to reduce the number of first-line supervisors.

As a result, between fiscal year (FY) 1999 and FY 2003, FAA reduced the number of first-line supervisors by 390 positions or about 20 percent of the workforce. However, in response to concerns regarding the expanded CIC program, Congress included language in the Agency's FY 2004 and FY 2005 Appropriation Conference Report directing FAA to increase the number of supervisors at its air traffic facilities.

The objectives of this audit are to determine whether FAA (1) has increased the number of first-line supervisors as required by Congress, and (2) made corresponding reductions to the CIC program. We plan to begin our audit the week of June 27, 2005 and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dan Raville, Program Director, at (202) 366-1405 or Susan Bader, Project Manager, at (202) 366-1989.

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cc: FAA Chief of Staff
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