IT Program Assessment
ICE IT Infrastructure (Atlas)

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) conducted a program review of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure Atlas program in March 2012.

Description and Background:

The ICE IT Infrastructure program comprises multiple projects such as Network Services, E-mail Services, and Data Center Services that will enhance ICE's technology foundation, maximize workforce productivity, secure the IT environment, and improve information sharing across the Department. The program's various projects support the following Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR) strategic missions: #1 Preventing Terrorism and Enhancing Security; #4 Safeguarding and Securing Cyberspace; and #5 Ensuring Resilience to Disasters. More specifically, it provides support for the Department's wide-area, local-area, and wireless networks (WAN, LAN, and radio), voice communications systems, video conferencing systems, web-hosting environment, data center infrastructure, database management, tactical communications, and all associated infrastructure to provide end-to-end support to the ICE user community.

Risks and Issues:

- Proper installation and configuration remains a high risk and could jeopardize the implementation schedule.

- Critical IT Infrastructure upgrades will be cancelled or delayed due to the termination of funding for the new IT investment initiatives in FY12 and FY13, and a reduction in Operations and Maintenance funding for technical refresh initiatives.

Mitigation Strategy:

Due to the budget reduction, DHS has been working with the program to provide an Acquisition Decision Memorandum to establish new expectations for this program. The program will develop a new Life Cycle Cost Estimate (LCCE) to help prioritize projects and to adjust the scope to reflect fiscal realities.

Assessment:

In fiscal year 2012, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) consolidated Atlas and Tactical Communications into the ICE IT Infrastructure (Atlas) program for reporting purposes. Due to the budget reduction, the program was forced to redefine its scope and priorities. Technology updates may experience delays, but the program has mitigation strategies in place to minimize operational impact. Therefore, the CIO assesses the ICE IT Infrastructure program as a **Medium Risk** investment.

Score: 3