OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

EVALUATION OF THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION'S FISCAL YEAR 2004 INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM AND PRACTICES

AUDIT REPORT
OIG-AR-01-05

October 6, 2004

INSPECTOR GENERAL

IG-BB-020

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20436

October 6, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: THE COMMISSION

We hereby submit Audit Report No. OIG-AR-01-05, *Evaluation of the U.S. International Trade Commission's Fiscal Year 2004 Information Security Program and Practices*. We conducted an independent evaluation of the Commission's information security program and practices to determine if the Commission: (1) implemented appropriate actions to address recommendations made in OIG-AR-03-03 (September 22, 2003); and (2) met Federal Information Security Management Act criteria.

The Commission has made significant progress in strengthening its information security program plan during the 2004 fiscal year (FY). The most commendable accomplishments include:

- ✓ Designing and implementing System Security Plans for Commission-owned major applications, notably: EDIS, ITC Net, Publishing Network, Custom Net Import File, Core WebServices and Data Web Cluster;

- ✓ Working towards completing a Commission-wide risk assessment as well as application-specific risk assessments; and

- ✓ Installing and implementing a new local area network infrastructure (ITC-Net) that was designed to address most of the FY 2003 access control related recommendations.

The Commission must however take further action in order to achieve consistency with U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-130, Appendix III *Security of Federal Automated Information Resources* (February, 1996). We made 14 recommendations to improve the Commission's IT security. In addition to the 13 recommendations from OIG-AR-03-03 (September 22, 2003), this report identifies 1 new weakness. The Commission concurred with our findings and recommendations.

Due to the sensitive nature of the information contained in our report, we have limited distribution of the report.

Kenneth F. Clarke
Inspector General