

NSAA IT Conference
Open Forum
Wednesday, September 30, 1:10 – 2:25 p.m.

Moderators: Karen Helderman, Audit Director, Office of the Auditor of Public Accounts (VA)
Michael A. Billo, Assistant Director, IT Audits, Department of the Auditor General (PA)

Discussion Topics:

Virtual Servers – Have any states audited these servers, what has been the audit approach? How much are other state auditors seeing these arrangements and to what degree have other state audit organizations audited such systems, and, what factors have limited your efforts to audit such systems?

Systems Outsourcing – What responsibilities do state agencies have for ensuring that systems are secure when those agencies utilize contractors to host the servers/databases and related network?

ARRA Tracking – What is the auditor's role in ARRA tracking? Has your office been active in this effort or is the controller's office primarily leading this for your state?

Mapping Agency Networks and Capturing Network Topology – Have any state audit groups adopted the use of such tools to assist with network audit planning and risk assessment, and how do you rate the value of network information produced? Question basis – state agencies often do not have detailed and current network mapping documentation.

Integrating Auditors and Staff Retention – How are states doing in regards to integrating their auditors? What are they doing to ensure their IT auditors understand the financial side of auditing and vice versa? Are their auditors truly integrated auditors and if not, is this even a goal of the state? How do you train the IT auditors to effectively communicate complex IT findings to non-technical stakeholders? How are states doing in recruiting and retaining IT staff or is this not a challenge given the economy and unavailability of jobs?

Systems Development Auditing – Is your state office following systems as they are being developed or do you wait until it goes live? What type of work do you do?

Encryption Solutions – What encryption solutions are people finding and are they being successfully deployed? Are all devices encrypted?

Emerging Technologies – Is there anything new on the horizon that states should know about?

Other Topics (as time permits):

- Systems segregation of duties issues
- Use of application layer firewalls
- Web 2.0 communication, if it has been used in state government audit shops, and its security
- Legal ramifications of ethical hacking
- Accreditation and certification framework for planned systems
- Governance models relating to enterprise security and their effectiveness (perspectives from other states)
- Experiences auditing Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS). We have an audit coming up for Oregon's newly developed/implemented system, developed by EDS.