



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20230

June 14, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: Teresa Stanek Rea
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property
and Acting Director of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office

FROM:

Allen Crawley

Assistant Inspector General for Systems Acquisition
and IT Security

SUBJECT: Audit of USPTO IT Modernization Projects

As part of our fiscal year (FY) 2013 work plan, we are initiating an audit of USPTO's IT modernization projects.

Our audit objectives are to:

- Assess the impact of IT contract termination decisions made as a result of the \$110 million IT budget reduction, as well as the appropriateness of project funding in the reduced budget environment
- Review the progress USPTO has made in implementing the recommendations from the FY 2011 Patent End-to-End (PE2E) audit—specifically, the technical progress it has achieved to date, its use of the Agile methodology, and its plans for future PE2E development
- Assess the project management and technical progress USPTO has made in its development and implementation of the Trademark Next Generation project, including its use of the Agile methodology

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding our review, please contact me at (202) 482-1855 or Angela Hoffman, Director, Systems Acquisition and Development, at (202) 482-5337. We greatly appreciate your staff's cooperation during this audit.

cc: Margaret A. Focarino, Commissioner for Patents, USPTO
Deborah Cohn, Commissioner for Trademarks, USPTO
John B. Owens III, Chief Information Officer, USPTO
Anthony P. Scardino, Chief Financial Officer, USPTO
Welton Lloyd, Audit Liaison, USPTO