

JAY INSLEE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

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September 12, 2018

The Honorable Pat McCarthy
Washington State Auditor
P.O. Box 40021
Olympia, WA 98504-0021

Dear Auditor McCarthy:

On behalf of the audited agencies, thank you for the opportunity to review and respond to the State Auditor's Office (SAO) performance audit report, "IT Interface Controls."

We agree that effective interface controls are essential to ensure systems pass accurate and secure information and continually strive to improve our IT infrastructure.

We appreciate the report acknowledging that overall most interfaces reviewed have adequate controls. We also appreciate the suggestions provided by your staff for continued improvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vikki Smith".

Vikki Smith
Acting Director and State CIO

cc: David Postman, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Kelly Wicker, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Keith Phillips, Director of Policy, Office of the Governor
Scott Frank, Director of Performance Audit, Washington State Auditors' Office
Inger Brinck, Director, Results Washington, Office of the Governor
Tammy Firkins, Performance Audit Liaison, Results Washington, Office of the Governor
Scott Bream, Chief Information Security Officer, Washington Technology Solutions

OFFICIAL STATE CABINET AGENCY RESPONSE TO PERFORMANCE AUDIT ON IT INTERFACE CONTROLS – SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

This management response to the State Auditor's Office (SAO) performance audit report received August 22, 2018, is provided by the Office of the Chief Information Officer on behalf of the audited agencies.

SAO PERFORMANCE AUDIT OBJECTIVES:

The SAO sought to answer this question:

1. Do the selected state agencies' information systems have interface controls that effectively ensure the completeness, accuracy, and security of the state's data during transfer and at rest?
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The report states that most interfaces reviewed had controls in place, for those that did not, we make the following recommendations.

SAO Recommendation 1: To address issues with completeness, Agency 5 should:

- Design and implement effective controls over the completeness of data transfers, such as reconciliations between sending and receiving systems.

STATE RESPONSE:

We have designed and implemented a delta difference comparison which compares data differences for the system identified in the audit. We will continue to analyze our systems and identify and implement additional controls as necessary to ensure completeness of data transfers.

Action Steps and Time Frame

- Design and implement controls for completeness of data transfers. *Completed.*
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SAO Recommendation 2: To address issues with security, Agency 2 should:

- Limit access to the interface data to only those whose job duties specifically require access to the data.
- Develop and employ a process to periodically evaluate who has access to the interface files and remove access when it is no longer needed.
- Develop procedures for review, testing and approval of changes made by developers.

STATE RESPONSE: We value the review of our interface controls and have already implemented corrective actions to ensure our data at rest is only accessed by those whose job duties specifically require access to the data. We will continue to monitor this access on an ongoing basis.

Action Steps and Time Frame

- Developed and implemented a process to limit access to interface files. *Completed April 20, 2018*
 - Develop procedures to document, track and approve changes made by developers. *By March 31, 2019*
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