

November 19, 2002

Mr. Joel C. Willemsen, Managing Director  
Information Technology Issues  
United States General Accounting Office  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Willemsen:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review and submit comments on the draft report, "Homeland Security: Information Technology Funding and Associated Management Challenges" (GAO-03-250)." We have no comments on the content of the report.

We are dedicated to meeting the obligation to protect the public health and safety and the common defense and security from threats of all kinds. We recognize the critical role information technology (IT) plays in our nation's homeland security efforts, and continue to focus on improving and enhancing the security posture of our enterprise.

Should you have any questions about this response, please contact Ms. Melinda Malloy of my staff at (301) 415-1785.

Sincerely,

**/RA by Carl J. Paperiello Acting For/**

William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

cc: Dwyane E. Weigel, GAO  
Eric D. Winter, GAO

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