

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

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Why This Matters

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) operates three warehouses in Texas, collectively known as the TSA Logistics Center. The warehouses store various types of Government equipment used at airports. As of May 31, 2012, TSA had more than 17,000 items in its warehouse inventory, with an estimated cost of \$185.7 million.

The annual lease cost for the warehouses was \$1.8 million. TSA spends an additional \$1.4 million annually on a contract to operate the warehouses and provide inventory support services.

DHS Response

TSA concurred with one recommendation and partially concurred with the other.

The component adopted and implemented a revised inventory management policy. Although TSA agreed to assess its warehouse space annually, the component identified constraints that could make annual adjustments to leased space infeasible.

For Further Information:

Contact our Office of Public Affairs at (202)254-4100, or email us at DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@oig.dhs.gov

Transportation Security Administration Logistics Center- Inventory Management

What We Determined

We performed this audit as a result of a May 2012 congressional hearing on TSA procurement, deployment, and storage of airport security-related equipment.

TSA has improved accountability of screening equipment at the Logistics Center; however, its plans and procedures for inventory management need additional improvements. Specifically, TSA stored unusable or obsolete equipment, maintained inappropriate safety stock levels, and did not develop an inventory management process that systematically deploys screening equipment. Additionally, TSA did not use all storage space within the Logistics Center. As a result, TSA may be losing utility of equipment as it ages and annually funding approximately \$800,000 of unneeded warehouse space.

What We Recommend

Transportation Security Administration's Deputy Administrator:

- 1) Implement detailed inventory management procedures for equipment at the Transportation Security Administration Logistics Center.
- 2) Develop and implement procedures to assess and adjust warehouse space on an annual basis.