

**Presentation to:
ISACA – Information Systems and Control
Association**

**Report on IT Security
Auditor General of Canada**

**By:
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March 8, 2005

Objective

- To provide you with an insider's perspective to the IT security report tabled in Parliament on February 15, 2005
- Answer any questions you may have about the chapter, tests performed, methodology used, etc.



Agenda

- Background/personal notes
- Findings of the 2002 report
- Main points
- Message from the AG
- Press/media reaction
- Questions



Background/personal notes

- 1) This report is a follow-up on our 2002 report
- 2) I am not an IT security expert
- 3) Not a horror story
- 4) Original plan was not to do an IT security 101 audit
- 5) Audit approach



Findings of the 2002 report

1. 2002 revised GSP was an improvement
2. Updated the roles and responsibilities of TBS and 10 lead entities
3. Operational standards did not exist or were outdated
4. Little baseline information on the state of IT security across government



Main points

1. Despite encouraging signs of improvement:
 - « The government has made unsatisfactory progress »



Main points

- 1. Despite encouraging signs of improvement:**
 - = « The government has made unsatisfactory progress »
- 2. Senior management is often not aware of IT security risks**



Main points

- 1. Despite encouraging signs of improvement:**
 - = « The government has made unsatisfactory progress »
- 2. Senior management is often not aware of IT security risks**
- 3. TBS has not completely fulfilled its oversight role**



Message from the AG

- Overall, she was disappointed with the lack of progress
- Purpose is not to point fingers and issue stern rebukes
- She recognizes the difficulty and complexity of the task
- Personally, she will continue to use online services



Press/media reaction

1. We spend lots of efforts to ensure accurate coverage
2. Significant coverage
3. Except for titles, reporting was generally accurate
4. Constant attempts to find details
5. There is a continuing interest in the chapter
6. We are expecting to be called at the Public Accounts Committee



Examples of Newspaper titles

- *Security lapses open public data to hackers*
- *Security gaps in federal computers leave personal data vulnerable*
- ***FEDS 'VULNERABLE' TO CYBER-ATTACKS: AG***
- ***FEDS' COMPUTER SYSTEM IN PERIL***
- ***FEDS ARE TARGET OF HACKERS***
- *Hacker heaven*
- ***LAX COMPUTER SECURITY NO SURPRISE: HACKER***
- *Government not protecting data*



Questions?

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