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PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(Rev 2/2026 – All Previous Editions Obsolete)

Please submit your responses to your Liaison Privacy Official.

All entries must be Times New Roman, 12pt, and start on the next line.

If you need further assistance, contact your LPO. A listing of the LPOs can be found here:

https://usepa.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/oei_Community/OISP/Privacy/LPODoc/LPO Roster.docx

System Name: Auto Audit for Windows (AAW)		System Owner: Brendon Windmeyer	
Preparer: Alexander Stone		Office: OIG-ODAT-ITD	
Date: 03/17/2026		Phone: 202-815-9867	
Reason for Submittal: Annual Review (FY26)			
New: <input type="checkbox"/>	Revised: <input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Review: X	Rescindment: <input type="checkbox"/>
System Lifecycle Stage(s):			
Definition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Development/Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Implementation: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Operation & Maintenance: X	Rescindment/Decommission: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Note: New and Existing Systems require a PIA annually, when there is a significant modification to the system or where privacy risk has increased to the system. For examples of significant modifications, see OMB Circular A-130, Appendix I, Section (c) (1) (a-f) .			
The PIA must describe the risk associated with that action. For assistance in applying privacy risk see OMB Circular No. A-123, Section VII (A) (pgs. 44-45) .			

Provide a general description/overview and purpose of the system:

AutoAudit for Windows (AAW) is a COTS application that provides the ability to manage the audit activities required as part of the EPA OIG business processes. The application supports nationwide audit work at EPA OIG for headquarters and regional offices. It is accessed via government furnished equipment (GFE) laptops and desktops. The OIG uses AAW for performance, financial-related, financial statement audits and reviews, and evaluations.

Section 1. Authorities and Other Requirements

1.1 What specific legal authorities and/or Executive Order(s) permit and define the collection of information by the system in question?

EPA Office of Inspector General (OIG) mission and goals pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. app.

1.2 Has a system security plan been completed for the information system(s) supporting the system? Does the system have, or will the system be issued an Authorization-to-Operate? When does the ATO expire?

Yes, AAW does have an SSP. The current ATO was approved and expires on September 30, 2027.

1.3 If the information is covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), provide the OMB Control number and the agency number for the collection. If there are multiple forms, include a list in an appendix.

No ICR Required.

1.4 Will the data be maintained or stored in a Cloud? If so, is the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) FEDRAMP approved? What type of service (PaaS, IaaS, SaaS, etc.) will the CSP provide?

No.

Section 2. Characterization of the Information

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information requested and/or collected, as well as reasons for its collection.

2.1 Identify the information the system collects, uses, disseminates, or maintains (e.g., data elements, including name, address, DOB, SSN).

The EPA OIG uses AAW to report on the efficiency of EPA programs and operations. The OIG provides independent audit, evaluation, investigative and advisory services that promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness; and help to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse to add value in EPA programs and operations. The OIG has further interpreted this statutory mission through its strategic and annual performance goals for contributing to environmental quality, human health and good government to inspire public confidence in the integrity of EPA operations.

OIG auditors and evaluators use AAW to create, update, review and store documents related to their specific job assignment. These documents consist of working papers, manager comment sheets, audit reports and other documents used during the audit process. AAW categorizes these documents for retrieval and storage. Examples of the data elements captures in the workpapers include names, work phone, date of birth, email, cell phone number, and Audit Documents

Awards.

2.2 What are the sources of the information and how is the information collected for the system?

The EPA Program Offices, EPA Employees, and EPA Contractors/Agents are the sources of information. The information is collected from interviews and research performed. The auditors or evaluators input the data into stored electronic fields and forms in the AAW application.

2.3 Does the system use information from commercial sources or publicly available data? If so, explain why and how this information is used.

No, not directly. The auditors, evaluators, and investigators may store information from commercial sources or publicly available data during their audit or investigation. The information is used as supporting documents as part of their audit or evaluation.

2.4 Discuss how accuracy of the data is ensured.

AAW is programmed with input field validation. A text field must contain text data and date fields must contain date data. In addition, the managers review the data for accuracy prior to making decisions.

The OIG has a data quality policy (OIG Policy 004) that ensures proper management responsibilities are in place to comply with the EPA's Information Quality Guidelines (OMB Section 515).

Annually, the OIG Deputy Inspector General certifies as a part of the OIG Annual Performance Report that all data reported through OIG information systems meet the EPA data quality standards.

OIG ensures that information is relevant, accurate, timely and complete.

2.5 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Characterization of the Information

Discuss the privacy risks identified for the specific data elements and for each risk explain how it was mitigated. Specific risks may be inherent in the sources or methods of collection, or the quality or quantity of information included

Privacy Risk:

There are risks associated with unauthorized access or disclosure of information or inaccurate data.

Mitigation:

AAW is an internal application used by EPA OIG employees only. Only staff with a need to use the system are provided with access.

Users must read an AAW Rules of Behavior document and return a signed Security Awareness form prior to gaining access to the system.

Users must have an AUDITOR SETUP record created and configured in the application to gain access to the system. In addition, there are separate requests to increase the user's privileges with different levels of

access and permissions implemented inside AAW.

Authentication to the system occurs through the agency's Active Directory Domain Controller. A user must have a strong password (combination of alpha-numeric-symbolic of at least 12 characters in length) that is changed to a minimum of every 60 days. Also, all devices that connect to the system use a screen lock; both (screen lock and password) are enforced by agency policy.

Additionally, all users must take annual mandatory Security Awareness and Privacy training as provided by the agency.

Security controls are implemented and reviewed annually.

Continuous Monitoring Assessments (CMAs) are conducted annually

Section 3. Access and Data Retention by the System

The following questions are intended to outline the access controls for the system and how long the system retains the information after the initial collection

3.1 Do the systems have access control levels within the system to prevent authorized users from accessing information they don't have a need to know? If so, what control levels have been put in place? If no controls are in place, why have they been omitted?

Yes, the AAW system has access control levels implemented. Only individuals requiring access to the system in the performance of their assigned job duties are provided access. The AAW application will only allow access to individuals for the purpose of conducting their assigned duties.

Additionally, there is a 'Confidential' feature within the AAW application. Any audit designated as 'Confidential' is restricted to only those staff members provided access that specific audit.

3.2 In what policy/procedure are the access controls identified in 3.1, documented?

Access controls are documented in the CIO policy and procedures CIO 2150-P-01.2. The specific procedures are documented in the AAW System Security Plan (SSP) for the AC-6 controls. Requests to access the system must be submitted via a ticket system by the user's supervisor or higher-level manager in the directorate chain to annotate approval to access the system. Additionally, requests to increase the user's privileges must be submitted via a ticket system by the user's supervisor or higher-level manager.

3.3 Are there other components with assigned roles and responsibilities within the system?

Yes, each ASSIGNMENT in the AAW application has its own access control levels to further restrict and manage the security of the system.

3.4 Who (internal and external parties) will have access to the data/information in the

system? If contractors, are the appropriate Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clauses included in the contract?

Only OIG employees, designated contractors, and grantees will have access to the information system; no external parties or non-OIG personnel have access to the system.

Contractors who work for OIG through SAIC have their own onboarding process which includes non-disclosure agreements as well as agency FAR clauses.

3.5 Explain how long and for what reasons the information is retained. Does the system have an EPA Records Control Schedule? If so, provide the schedule number.

Information is retained based on legal and federal requirements as described under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, U.S.C. app. The AAW application uses the EPA Record Retention Schedule 1016 (audits, evaluations, and investigations).

3.6 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Retention

Discuss the risks associated with the length of time data is retained. How were those risks mitigated? The schedule should align the stated purpose and mission of the system

Privacy Risk:

There are risks of storing data past the retention schedule if reviews are not performed to identify data to be retained or destroyed.

Mitigation:

An annual review of the information against the applicable RECORD SCHEDULE of the audits maintained in the system is performed. Audits past their authorized retention date are deleted from the system. A review is then performed to confirm that the information has been removed.

Section 4. Information Sharing

The following questions are intended to describe the scope of the system information sharing external to the Agency. External sharing encompasses sharing with other federal, state and local governments, and third-party private sector entities.

4.1 Is information shared outside of EPA as part of the normal agency operations? If so, identify the organization(s), how the information is accessed and how it is to be used, and any agreements that apply.

No information is shared outside of the EPA OIG.

4.2 Describe how the external sharing is compatible with the original purposes of the collection.

Not applicable (N/A)

4.3 How does the system review and approve information sharing agreements, MOUs,

new uses of the information, new access to the system by organizations within EPA and outside?

Not applicable (N/A)

4.4 Does the agreement place limitations on re-dissemination?

Not applicable (N/A)

4.5 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Information Sharing

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information outside of the agency. How were those risks mitigated?

Privacy Risk:

None. Information is not shared externally.

Mitigation:

None.

Section 5. Auditing and Accountability

The following questions are intended to describe technical and policy-based safeguards and security measures.

5.1 How does the system ensure that the information is used as stated in Section 6.1?

As documented in the AAW System Security Plan (SSP) for the Monitoring and Auditing (AR) controls, the OIG Program Office utilizes the Risk Management Framework strategy and process to comply with privacy protection requirements and minimize the privacy risk to individuals. AAW is subject to annual third-party security assessments conducted by independent assessors. AAW team members perform regular reviews of login auditing to monitor access. It is also the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) responsibility for monitoring and auditing privacy controls and internal privacy policies on a continuous basis to ensure effective implementation of this procedure.

The agency Privacy Office conducts annual reviews to evaluate the PII data collected and inquires whether PII data is still required. OIG responds to these annual FIS data calls for the purpose of determining if the collection of PII is relevant and necessary to accomplish the mission. These data calls assist in ensuring data collected and retained is for the specific documented purpose. In response to the FIS data call, the OIG re-evaluates the information collected and validates the need for that information.

5.2 Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the system/collection.

All EPA OIG staff take mandatory annual Information Security and Privacy Awareness Training. Additionally, when working in AAW, if a specific document contains PII, teams have been directed to label the electronic file as containing PII. Staff have been instructed to

include a statement at the beginning of the working paper in large letter “Contains PII”. (Exact wording varies by team). The policy and procedure that staff follow regarding labelling of PII is IG Directive 413.

5.3 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Auditing and Accountability

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the technical and policy-based safeguards and security measures. How were those risks mitigated?

Privacy Risk:

There is minimal risk related to changes to the auditing and accountability of the AAW system.

Mitigation:

The agency Privacy Office conducts a review (Privacy Impact Analysis) to evaluate the PII data collected and reviews whether certain data are still required.

OIG responds to the annual FIS data call that only PII relevant and necessary to accomplish the mission is collected. Data is only collected and retained for specific purposes. The AAW system is restricted to only EPA OIG government employees. Only authorized OIG administrators can effect changes to the configuration of the system.

Section 6. Uses of the Information

The following questions require a clear description of the system’s use of information.

6.1 Describe how and why the system uses the information

List each use (internal and external to the Department) of the information collected or maintained. Provide a detailed response that states how and why the different data elements will be used. If Social Security numbers are collected, state why the SSN is necessary and how it was used.

Pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, the OIG conducts independent audits, evaluations, investigations, and advisory services that promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness; to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in EPA programs. AAW is the application the auditors and evaluators use to store and report on the data they collected.

6.2 How is the system designed to retrieve information by the user? Will it be retrieved by personal identifier? Yes: No: If yes, what identifier(s) will be used.

A personal identifier is a name, social security number or other identifying symbol assigned to an individual, i.e. any identifier unique to an individual. Or any identifier that can be linked or is linkable to an individual.

The information controlled by the AAW application is primarily accessed and retrieved by an assignment audit number.

6.3 What type of evaluation has been conducted on the probable or potential effect of the privacy of individuals whose information is maintained in the system of

records?

The goal here is to look at the data collected, how you plan to use it, and to ensure that you have limited the access to the people who have a need to know in the performance of their official duties. What controls have you erected around the data, so that privacy is not invaded? ex. administrative control, physical control, technical control.

N/A.

6.4 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to the Uses of Information

Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is handled in accordance with the uses described above.

Privacy Risk:

There are risks associated with unauthorized access, uses, or disclosure of information.

Mitigation:

OIG employees are required to acknowledge the EPA standard login warning banner when logging into their system, which notifies the user that access to the system is governed by federal laws, directives, and other federal guidance for accessing Government systems. This banner specifies the following inclusions: (1) this computer network, (2) all computers connected to this network, and (3) all devices and storage media attached to this network or to a computer on this network. The banner also specifies the system is provided for Government-authorized use only. If a user declines to acknowledge the login banner, they will not gain access to the EPA network nor OIG resources, including the AAW system. In addition, each time the user accesses the AAW application the user is presented the OIG Systems Warning Notice that communicates system monitoring each time a user accesses the system (see below). The user is then prompted to either Agree or Decline.

OIG Systems Warning Notice:

In proceeding and accessing U.S. Government information and information systems, you acknowledge that you fully understand and consent to all of the following:

1. you are accessing U.S. Government information and information systems that are provided for official U.S. Government purposes only.

2. unauthorized access to or unauthorized use of U.S. Government information or information systems is subject to criminal, civil, administrative, or other lawful action.

3. the term U.S. Government information system includes systems operated on behalf of the U.S. Government.

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4. you have no reasonable expectation of privacy regarding any communications or information used, transmitted, or stored on U.S. Government information systems.
 5. at any time, the U.S. Government may for any lawful government purpose, without notice, monitor, intercept, search, and seize any authorized or unauthorized communication to or from U.S. Government information systems or information used or stored on U.S. Government information systems.
 6. at any time, the U.S. Government may for any lawful government purpose, search and seize any authorized or unauthorized device, to include non-U.S. Government owned devices, that stores U.S. Government information.
 7. any communications or information used, transmitted, or stored on U.S. Government information systems may be used or disclosed for any lawful government purpose, including but not limited to, administrative purposes, penetration testing, communication security monitoring, personnel misconduct measures, law enforcement, and counterintelligence inquiries; and
8. you may not process or store classified national security information on this computer system.

OIG users also take annual security training for those with significant security responsibilities and require at least two role-based security training courses per year. All OIG users are required to annually sign off on the Rules of Behavior on the OIG intranet page. AAW users with privileged access also complete the Privileged User Rules of Behavior document.

If no SORN is required, STOP HERE.

The National Privacy Program (NPP) will determine if a System of Records Notice (SORN) is required. If so, the following additional sections will be required.

Section 7. Notice

The following questions seek information about the system's notice to the individual about the information collected, the right to consent to uses of information, and the right to decline to provide information.

7.1 How does the system provide individuals notice prior to the collection of information? If notice is not provided, explain why not.

Any individual who wants to know whether this system of records contains a record about him or her, should make a written request to the Attn: Agency Privacy Officer, MC 2831T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20460, privacy@epa.gov.

7.2 What opportunities are available for individuals to consent to uses, decline to provide information, or opt-out of the collection or sharing of their information?

Click or tap here to enter text.

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7.3 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Notice

Discuss how the notice provided corresponds to the purpose of the project and the stated uses. Discuss how the notice given for the initial collection is consistent with the stated use(s) of the information.

Describe how the project has mitigated the risks associated with potentially insufficient notice and opportunity to decline or consent.

Privacy Risk:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Mitigation:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 8. Redress

The following questions seek information about processes in place for individuals to seek redress which may include access to records about themselves, ensuring the accuracy of the information collected about them, and/or filing complaints.

8.1 What are the procedures that allow individuals to access their information?

Individuals seeking access to information in this system of records about themselves are required to provide adequate identification (e.g., driver's license, military identification card, employee badge or identification card). Additional identity verification procedures may be required, as warranted.

Requests must meet the requirements of EPA regulations that implement the Privacy Act of 1974, at 40 CFR part 16.

8.2 What procedures are in place to allow the subject individual to correct inaccurate or erroneous information?

Requests for correction or amendment must identify the record to be changed and the corrective action sought. Complete EPA Privacy Act procedures are described in EPA's Privacy Act regulations at 40 CFR part 16.

8.3 Privacy Impact Analysis: Related to Redress

Discuss what, if any, redress program the project provides beyond the access and correction afforded under the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Privacy Risk:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Mitigation:

Click or tap here to enter text.

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I attest as the Agency Privacy Officer that **Auto Audit for Windows (AAW)** Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) has been reviewed. The privacy implications have been adequately identified with appropriate mitigation statements included for implementation in the development or use of information technology systems.

Respectfully,

Lee Kelly
Agency Privacy Officer
Cybersecurity Planning & Risk Mgmt Branch
EPA/OFA