CALIFORNIA TECHNOLOGY AGENCY # TECHNOLOGY LETTER	NUMBER: TL 12-11	DATE ISSUED: **AUGUST 8, 2012**
SUBJECT: **IMPROVED SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL** Improve and automate the *Information Security Assessment Tool for State Agencies*	REFERENCES: Government Code 11549.3.(6)	

BACKGROUND

In April 2008, the California Office of Information Security (OIS) published an *Information Security Assessment Tool for State Agencies*. The assessment tool was built in Microsoft Word and is part of a Risk Assessment Toolkit on the OIS website used by state agencies to assess the maturity of their information security program functions.

PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this Technology Letter (TL) is to communicate an update of the *Information Security Assessment Tool for State Agencies*. The upgraded tool improves the ease with which security assessments are documented and scored by using a Microsoft Excel workbook with added formulas to automatically calculate a risk score for assessed information security functional areas.

PROCESS

Agencies and departments are encouraged to use this improved assessment tool when performing a self-assessment of their organization's information security posture. The categories and descriptions within the tool are the same as the 2008 version, therefore, those that have used it will be familiar with the content. For assistance using this tool, please contact Marianne Chick at (916) 431-5584 or Marianne.Chick@state.ca.gov.

QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this TL may be directed to Michele Robinson, Chief Deputy Director, Office of Information Security, at (916) 445-5239 or Michele.Robinson@state.ca.gov.

SIGNATURE

_____ /s/ _____ _____ _____ _ _____

Carlos Ramos, Secretary
California Technology Agency