

## Trusted Traveler Systems for Improved Security

Globally, more than one billion passengers travel on commercial airliners every day. Likewise, over one billion pieces of luggage are also transported daily. Increased screening procedures, longlines and harried personnel all combine to contribute to security vulnerabilities in a high-volume industry. Experts agree that improvements must be made in detecting and isolating the potentially dangerous passenger from the bulk of travelers. However, security enhancements to passenger screening must also result in fewer bottlenecks and delays to the traveling populace.

The most immediate need is the creation of a voluntary 'trusted traveler system' that enables airlines to screen out the known passenger from one that may pose a threat. Passengers who register in a trusted traveler program give their permission to be pre-screened by the airlines, having set criteria in their profiles checked against a number of state and federal databases. Upon arrival at the airport, passenger information may then be cross-referenced to resources such as the FBI watch list or the existing federal passenger identification system known as the computer-assisted passenger pre-screening system (CAPPSS).



Passengers who chose to participate in a trusted traveler program are rewarded with a speedier check-in, baggage screening and boarding process in addition to making a firm contribution to improved overall security in airports.

### PDF417: Intelligent Identification and Authentication of Trusted Travelers

Improving the procedures for the intelligent evaluation, authentication and identification of trusted travelers is grounded in biometric technology. Although there is no fail-safe solution, biometrics identification presents an added layer with a higher level of authentication than existing methods. For identity verification, the process begins when a passenger's fingerprint is scanned during the check-in process. The traveler's fingerprint could also be read from a smart card or other form of ID, which saves time because there's no need to scan the card twice each time he or she travels. The airlines' ticketing system then prints out a boarding pass that includes a high capacity, error-correcting two-dimensional portable data file (PDF417) token that includes the fingerprint or other biometric identification.

Pioneered by Symbol, PDF417 is already a global 2D bar code standard used on identification documents around the world. PDF417 is actually a robust local database (instantly readable with Symbol mobile devices) that delivers fail-safe access to as much as 1 kilobytes of data without the need to connect to a network. Information contained in the PDF417 bar code is unalterable, encrypted data, which guards against forgery and ensures document authenticity. In practical terms, the security keys can be easily and frequently changed by the airlines in conjunction with the binding of data specific to the passenger. With Symbol's handheld devices, screeners at any point in the airport can read, decode and confirm the identity of a passenger.

Biometrics and PDF417 enables security screeners at checkpoints throughout the airport to verify the identity of the passenger when necessary by using a handheld scanner. The information encoded on the PDF417 token can also be used for baggage reconciliation to make sure that the person boarding the plane is the same person who checked in for the flight. PDF417 enables airlines to easily and cost-effectively improve security by leveraging an existing, proven technology to help identify the travelers who may be potential threats to public safety.



### Intelligent Technology Tools are Available Today

Thirteen airlines already employ Symbol's wireless handheld computers at 50 major airports, including New York's John F. Kennedy international airport, London's Heathrow, as well as several airports in Paris, San Francisco and Hong Kong. Used for a variety of applications including passenger/baggage reconciliation, cargo holding, kiosks and aircraft maintenance, Symbol devices can easily be modified to screen passengers after check-in. At the gate (or at any security check), screeners can easily use one of Symbol's handheld mobile devices to scan the boarding pass of the trusted traveler.

From making reservations to the check-in counter, through the concourses and to the gate, Symbol delivers superior technology and practical solutions to meet the needs of many air travel security initiatives. For more information on these and other relevant security solutions, call 1-800-722-6234.

