



Homeland
Security

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Contact: Media Relations (202) 298-5200

DHS AWARDS ORDERS FOR 10-FINGERPRINT SCANNERS

Awards mark progress toward summer 2007 pilot programs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) competitively awarded two task orders last week in support of its 10-fingerprint standard. The awards were to Technica, who will supply the IDENTIX Touch Print 4100 Enhanced Definition Device, and to CounterTrade Products, Inc., who will provide Crossmatch L Scan Guardian scanners. These awards mark the next step in the transition from a two-fingerprint collection standard to a 10-fingerprint standard, which will provide officials with more comprehensive, biometrics-based information by increasing the accuracy level of matching records.

The department is initially purchasing a total of 50 scanners between the two task orders, which will be used to support development of the 10-fingerprint capability. Each task order will include options for the purchase of up to 3,000 additional scanners, which may be ordered to support a series of pilot programs scheduled to begin at U.S. airports late this summer. Options may also be used to support part or all of the national deployment of 10-fingerprint collection. The approximate value of the Technica task order is \$7.6 million, including all options. The approximate value of the CounterTrade Order totals \$7.2 million, also including all options.

US-VISIT currently collects biographic and biometric data using two digital, inkless fingerprints and a digital photograph from most international travelers applying to enter the United States. US-VISIT will begin requiring 10 fingerprints from international travelers at some U.S. airports later this year. The move to collecting 10 fingerprints is one of the department's highest priorities.

US-VISIT's innovative, biometrics-based technological solutions provide decision-makers with accurate information when and where they need it. Whether it is visa adjudications at U.S. consulates overseas, inspections at U.S. ports of entry, immigration enforcement or determining the immigration status of a international traveler, biometrics form the foundation of this reliable and proven identity management system.

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