



## Innovation Task Force Fly By

### Hello!

Welcome back to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Innovation Task Force (ITF) newsletter! As we enter into the busy travel season, we wanted to provide an update on the latest innovations and updates that ITF is employing to enhance the efficiency and security of summer travel.

Not only does ITF have a new leadership team, but over the last quarter, ITF engaged with our industry and academic partners by presenting at both the TSA-CAOE Symposium and the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual AAAE Conference. We also took our HALO demonstration live, reopened our innovation checkpoint at Las Vegas McCarran International Airport, and assessed the efficacy of two UV-C light models in disinfecting for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). Our exciting future plans include attending the FTE Global 2021 in December in Las Vegas and releasing our next Broad Agency Announcement (BAA).

Read about our most notable accomplishments from last quarter below!

### NEW ITF LEADERSHIP

ITF is excited to announce our new leadership team! This team brings diverse experience and drive to executing our mission of fostering innovation by integrating key stakeholders to identify and demonstrate emerging solutions that increase security effectiveness and efficiency, improve passenger experience and the flow of commerce, and deliver solutions that secure the freedom of movement throughout the nation's transportation system.



#### **Christina Peach**

*Branch Manager, Demonstration, Management, and Execution (DMx)*

Christina has held many roles within TSA from the field to Training & Development (T&D) and Requirements & Capabilities Analysis (RCA), providing a wealth of knowledge to bring to driving solutions that improve passenger experience and secure the freedom of movement throughout the nation's transportation system.



#### **Anca Alexandrescu**

*Branch Manager, Solutions, Methods & Engagement (SME)*

Anca has been an integral member of ITF since 2019. During her career at TSA she has provided support in various sectors, to include emerging technologies, acquisition and contracting, business management and training. Prior to joining TSA in 2014, Anca worked in the private sector building up her expertise in program management, supply chain management, and process improvement. Anca is currently pursuing her MBA in Security Technology Transition at George Washington University.

## ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

### ***Requirements and Capabilities Analysis Participates at TSA-CAOE Symposium***

From June 8-9, 2021, TSA hosted the TSA - Center for Accelerating Operational Efficiency (CAOE) virtual symposium. The CAO, led by Arizona State University, develops and applies advanced analytical tools and technologies to enhance planning, information sharing and real-time decision making in homeland security operations. CAO's research helps DHS improve efficiency and security at national borders, ports of entry, and airports by improving prediction and emergency response capabilities. This event focused on a wide range of topics, including the importance of diversity and inclusion within TSA and the aviation community, as well as critical capability needs as the aviation sector continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This event included key note addresses and panel discussions from various leaders in TSA and industry, including both the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Administrator and the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Deputy Administrator, in addition to the Vice President of the American Association of Airport Executives as well as the Senior Vice President – Security for Airports Council International – North America.

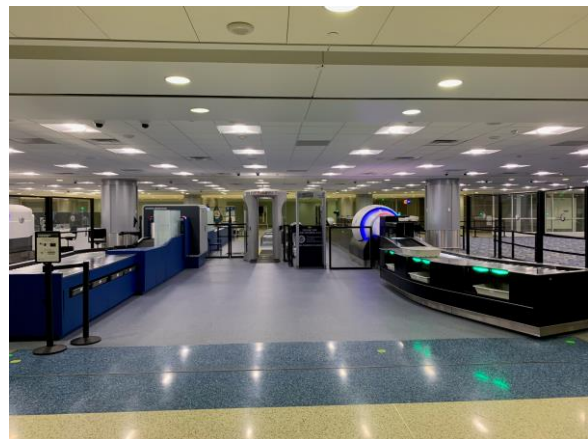
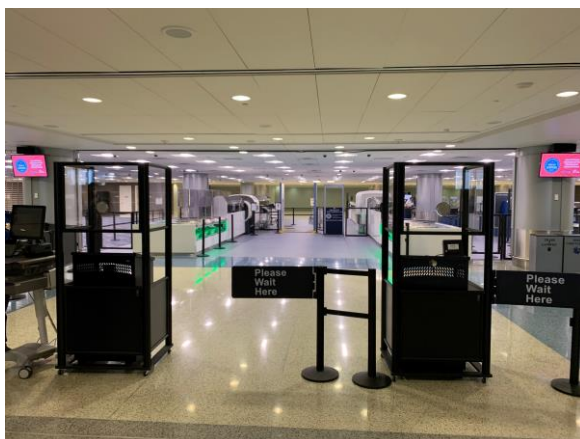


### ***ITF Participated in 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual AAE Conference***

From July 13-14, ITF attended and participated in the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. This year's conference emphasized resiliency, reinvention, and results, providing an opportunity for airports, the public sector, and industry to network and share issues, experiences, and successes over the past year. ITF leadership successfully provided walk-throughs of the Innovation Checkpoint and answered questions from AAAE attendees (photos below).

Founded in 1928, AAAE is the world's largest professional organization for airport executives, representing thousands of airport management personnel at public-use commercial and general aviation airports. AAAE's members represent nearly 875 airports and authorities, in addition to hundreds of companies and organizations that support airports.

The AAAE Conference provided a platform for industry partners to share their latest innovative solutions to the airline industry's most pressing problems. This type of collaboration enhances preparedness, mitigation, and resilience among participating entities.



Starting from the top left and moving clockwise:

TSA's Innovation Checkpoint at Las Vegas McCarran International Airport is seen from the front of the passenger screening checkpoint.

Once past the Travel Document Check position, passengers are greeted with Automated Screening Lanes to help divest their property in a streamlined and efficient manner.

Once their person is screened, passengers can recompose with ample space as they await to retrieve their property after completing screening by Computed Tomography X-Ray systems.



## Upcoming: Future Travel Experience Global Industry Gathering



From December 7-9, 2021, ITF will be attending the [FTE Global Industry Gathering](#) in Las Vegas. This 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary show will provide an opportunity for the most forward-thinking air transport industry professionals to learn from and collaborate with other industry experts to transform their organizations' passenger experience and business performance strategies. This year's theme is "New Approaches for a New World" and will feature transformative vendors and inspirational speakers from the industry to deliver ideas, insights and inspiration from their peers around the world. [Click here to subscribe to event updates.](#)

### DEMONSTRATIONS GO LIVE

## ITF HALO X-Ray Diffraction Alarm Resolution Unit Demo Underway

In 2020, ITF released its fifth BAA, through which ITF selected to demonstrate the HALO X-ray Diffraction Alarm Resolution unit that is currently being demoed at Miami International Airport.

### Demonstration Intent

The intended impact of the HALO X-ray Diffraction Alarm Resolution is to demonstrate a single system for the resolution of all secondary alarms at the checkpoint and checked baggage resolution area, and reduce the burden on a TSO to conduct sampling and trace detection.

### Solution Overview

HALO's X-ray Diffraction Alarm Resolution solution replaces all secondary alarm resolution systems currently deployed at the checkpoint as it performs alarm resolution on a variety of containment materials via X-ray diffraction to execute fixed point or raster scans without the need to directly collect a trace or particulate sample.



Figure 1: HALO HXT264 ML Unit to Scale



## Slowing the Spread of COVID-19 Through UV-C light

ITF launched an assessment of a new technology that uses ultraviolet (UV-C) light to disinfect airport checkpoint bins, as part of its efforts to provide safer checkpoint experiences amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The standalone conveyor belt systems expose bins directly to UV-C light as the rollers advance them through the system. The initial assessment of two different models took place in two checkpoints at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). The assessment sought to determine efficacy in creating a more hygienic security checkpoint, while maintaining operational efficiency and balancing space and staff requirements.



PrimeFlightUV



PrescientX

### PrimeFlightUV

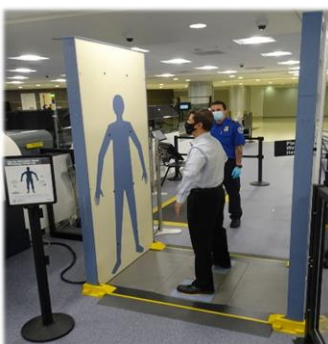
The PrimeFlightUV **horizontal bin disinfection unit** is a standalone solution that allows enough germicidal UV-C exposure to disinfect the items passing through it. The system is intended to provide a **sanitary security checkpoint experience** and prevent both passengers and TSOs from being exposed to harmful viruses and bacteria.

### PrescientX

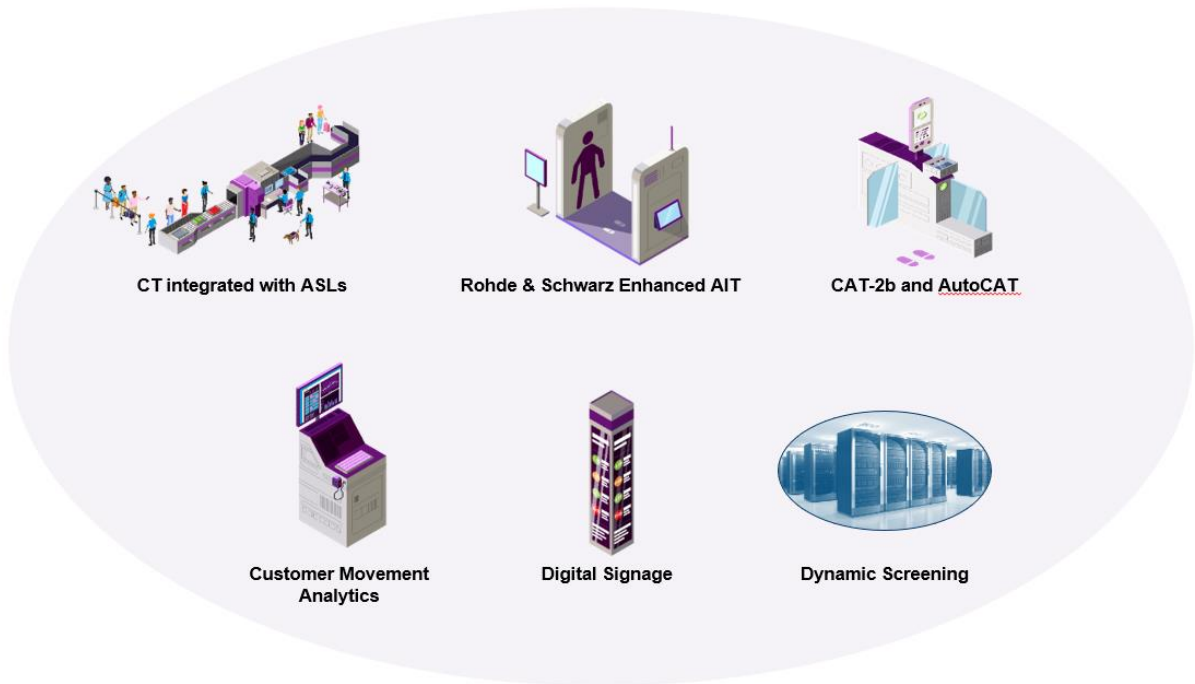
The PrescientX Terminator CoV solution is a **tunnel-style conveyor belt system** that uses a high dose of UV-C light to decontaminate the surfaces of items that pass through it for **360-degree surface disinfection**. The system is intended to provide a **sanitary checkpoint experience** and prevent both passengers and TSOs from being exposed to harmful viruses and bacteria.

## ADVANCING THE CHECKPOINT ENVIRONMENT EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

### **LAS Innovation Checkpoint Has Reopened!**



After months of remodeling during the pandemic, TSA's Innovation Checkpoint at Las Vegas McCarran International Airport (LAS) reopened on June 7, 2021. TSA's ITF is utilizing this site for side-by-side testing and evaluation of emerging security technologies from a variety of vendors in a live checkpoint environment. Several innovative technologies are now being demonstrated at the Innovation Checkpoint, including Computed Tomography (CT) integrated with Automated Screening Lanes (ASL), Rohde & Schwarz Enhanced Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT), Customer Movement Analytics, and Digital Signage. Future planned demonstrations include Credential Authentication Technology-2b (CAT-2b), AutoCAT, and Dynamic Screening.



#### UPCOMING SOLICITATIONS

### ***Plans for Upcoming Release of ITF's Sixth BAA in Fall of 2021***

ITF is currently working with executive leadership from across TSA, industry partners, and the traveling public to develop problem statements for ITF's sixth BAA! ITF also plans to include problem statements for technology capabilities that can be characterized and assessed at the Future's Checkpoint, a unique 'mock' screening checkpoint located at TSA's Transportation Security Integration Facility, co-located at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. The potential to identify solutions in a lab environment will enable ITF and RCA to better understand what's around the corner for the future of aviation security – all in an effort to ensure a safer and more efficient traveler experience! ITF is currently working towards a Fall 2021 release date – stay tuned for updates!

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Please visit our website and social media accounts below to learn more information about how TSA is accelerating new technologies and solutions at checkpoints around the country.