ADVANCING THE CHECKPOINT ENVIRONMENT (ACE)

TSA’s mission with ACE is to provide an environment that allows new technologies and processes to be assessed concurrently, so that TSA can drive decision-making with data and be a true representation of the art of the possible.

ACE serves as the greenspace for TSA to demonstrate and gather data on new strategies that will ultimately increase security effectiveness, enhance the passenger experience, and improve the TSO workplace. The Innovation Checkpoint, the Innovation Test Bed and our key partnerships all play a critical role in the ACE mission.

INNOVATION CHECKPOINT

The Innovation Checkpoint (ICP) is located in Harry Reid International Airport (LAS) and serves as a sandbox for ITF to assess multiple people, process, and technology enhancements to the checkpoint environment. The ICP allows ITF to test an entire network of unique capabilities at the same time without interrupting airport operations and provides an enhanced experience for the transportation security officers (TSOs). The ICP enables ITF to assess the impact of innovative solutions on the ecosystem holistically, to ultimately inform requirements for future screening environments across TSA.

Several innovative technologies, including the ones shown below, are currently or soon will be demonstrated at the Innovation Checkpoint.

- Customer Movement Analytics
- Enhanced Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT)
- Credential Authentication Technology-2b (CAT-2b) and AutoCAT
- Computed Tomography (CT) integrated with Automated Screening Lanes (ASL)
- Digital Signage

INNOVATION TEST BED

The Innovation Test Bed at the TSA Systems Integration Facility (TSIF), located at the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, explores innovation initiatives and solution applications that impact the TSA mission space. It enables vendors to rapidly evaluate solutions or procedures in the full checkpoint system with limited preparation or requirements.

Equipment installation is set to continue over the next several months to support activities that will explore new technology to inform requirements, assess procedural change impacts, as well as address known capability gaps.

ACE AT A GLANCE

- The Innovation Checkpoint currently has 4 lanes, and plans for a 5th and 6th lane are in the works. The Innovation Test Bed has 2 lanes.
- 30+ tours of the Innovation Checkpoint since March 2021.
- Public-private partnership: Innovation Checkpoint has 11 vendors and the Innovation Test Bed has 5 vendors testing innovative solutions.