Innovation Task Force Fly By

Greetings,

Welcome to the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Innovation Task Force (ITF) inaugural newsletter. Within TSA, ITF falls under the Requirements and Capabilities Analysis (RCA) office. Our quarterly newsletter will serve as a resource to learn about recent ITF activities and needs moving forward. Have you ever wondered how your priorities align with ITF priorities, or what innovation means to TSA? We'll provide you with the information and updates you need for future solicitations and collaboration opportunities.

Who We Are

In support of the TSA's mission to protect the nation's transportation systems, ITF is focused on identifying and quickly demonstrating innovative security solutions in TSA's operational environment.

Our Stance

We look to utilize our greatest assets: our partners in industry, aviation stakeholders, our front-line resources, and the American public, to help us address the evolving transportation challenges of today—and prepare for the challenges of tomorrow. We want to work with organizations who will help us to advance capabilities, introduce new ways of thinking, and bring creative solutions to emerging travel challenges. ITF provides solution providers the opportunity to transform the future of transportation security.

Our Process

Our process follows these three steps:

1. We identify solutions by convening the aviation security ecosystem.
2. We establish the capability for TSA to quickly demonstrate innovative solutions.
3. We analyze effectiveness to achieve an optimized future state and provide solution providers with data that may enhance their system performance.

Our Impact Portfolio

At ITF, we are focused on accelerating smart solutions for secure and seamless travel. We do this by leveraging the solution provider community to find innovative technologies and creative new solutions that bring the future of aviation security to live-airport environments.

To date, ITF has closed out **23** demonstrations from **22** solution providers, enabling TSA to internally advance requirement development and provide industry partners valuable lessons learned. We believe in "failing fast" to learn quickly. Our fail-fast mentality and our innovative process have enabled us to:

- Inform **8** of TSA's requirements documents (ORD/IRD/CAR).
- Complete **30** enterprise process improvements for TSA.
- Inform **6** of TSA's acquisition/procurement decisions.
- Designate **12** solutions as needing further research.

Some of ITF's previous demonstrations have included Explosive Trace Detection technologies, Automated Screening Lanes, Computed Tomography, Identity Verification, and Passenger Communications.

Since its inception, ITF has been involved in the selection and demonstration of cutting-edge **Automated Screening Lane (ASL)** technology. ITF utilizes lessons learned to help inform the future development of requirements and procurement of advanced capabilities. To date, TSA, in partnership with airline and airport stakeholders, has deployed 172 ASLs to 16 airports, enabling TSA to provide industry partners valuable lessons learned to tailor solutions to TSA's needs.

Introductions to RCA & ITF Leadership

Austin Gould

Assistant Administrator for RCA

Mr. Austin Gould is the TSA's Assistant Administrator for RCA. Mr. Gould has served in this capacity since June of 2018 and is a member of the Senior Executive Service. Prior to joining TSA, Mr. Gould served as a Captain in the United States Coast Guard for 30 years, serving in a variety of operational and acquisition management positions.

Keith Goll

Deputy Assistant Administrator for RCA

Mr. Keith Goll is currently the Deputy Assistant Administrator for RCA. In this role, he leads efforts to grow capability analysis

expertise, centralize requirements for the agency, and demonstrate emerging technologies. In addition, he guides the activities for development of future technologies – a current focus is advancing computed technology (CT) capabilities and establishing the agency's strategy for implementation of biometrics.

Jose Bonilla

Division Director for ITF

Mr. Jose Bonilla leads ITF, which was established in 2016 to develop and demonstrate new people, process, and technology capabilities into checkpoint environments. ITF aims to foster next-generation aviation security capabilities by employing a strategic and collaborative approach to strengthening transportation security. Under Jose's leadership, ITF has deployed breakthrough strategies in industry engagement, solution identification, and capability demonstration.

Industry Engagement

ITF's third Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) yielded widespread interest from both the aviation industry and external industry partners. ITF released its third BAA, Innovative Demonstrations for Enterprise Advancement (IDEA), in August 2018 to identify emerging people, process, and technology solutions in the aviation security space.

ITF received **85** submissions from **104** unique solution providers, with multiple submissions across all nine problem statement categories. ITF continues to see a broad spectrum of vendors, with **63%** of submissions coming from small businesses and **72%** coming from solution providers who had never contracted with TSA before. There was broad participation from across TSA in this year's BAA review and evaluation process. Submitted solution proposals underwent technical and operational reviews by relevant stakeholders and this was the first time ITF introduced live solution provider pitches as part of the down-selection process.

We are excited to introduce you to our new cohort of selected solutions in the next edition of the ITF

Newsletter.

Prepare for Future Solicitations

Our hope is that this newsletter serves as a resource to better prepare you for our future solicitations. To this end, we want to provide you with the opportunity to read our third BAA. We suggest that you learn more about our problem areas indicated in our previous BAAs as well. These are listed in the documentation on Federal Business Opportunities linked above.

In the coming months, we also look forward to pursuing some new and innovation solicitation methods, so stay tuned for more information in a coming edition of this newsletter.

Innovation Sites

ITF has selected 15 airports across the country as **Innovation Sites**, establishing them as a hub for ITF experimentation in technologies like Automated Screening Lanes. Criteria for ITF Innovation Site selection include existing infrastructure, responsiveness, ability to install solutions, sufficient training and staffing, and the ability to collect robust data.

ITF has selected the following airports as Innovation Sites: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), Logan International Airport (BOS), Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG), Denver International Airport (DEN), Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Houston Airport (IAH), McCarran Las Vegas International Airport (LAS), Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Miami International Airport (MIA), Oakland International Airport (OAK), Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT), Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW), Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), and San Francisco International Airport (SFO).

Connect with ITF

We are excited to attend The Future Travel Experience (FTE) conference in September and hope to see you there! For more information on FTE, visit the FTE website.

For more information about TSA's Innovation Task Force and ways to collaborate with us visit our new website!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE