



**Hot Topics – Air
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Sensitive Security Information

- 49 C.F.R. 1520
- “SSI is information obtained or developed in the conduct of security activities, including research and development, the disclosure of which TSA has determined would...be detrimental to the security of transportation.” 49 C.F.R. § 1520.5(a)
- Only for “Covered Persons”
- Who have a “need to know”

9/11 Commission Act of 2007

AIR CARGO ON PASSENGER AIRCRAFT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 [i.e., August 2010], the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a system to screen 100 percent of cargo transported on passenger aircraft operated by an air carrier or foreign air carrier in air transportation or intrastate air transportation to ensure the security of all such passenger aircraft carrying cargo.”

Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-53, 121 Stat. 266, 478, Aug. 3, 2007) (49 U.S.C. § 44901(g))

Progress

- Domestic/outbound cargo on passenger aircraft: 100% screening, August 2010
 - Narrow-body amendment: October 2008
- Inbound cargo: ?
 - "High-risk" inbound cargo: December 2010

Continued Vulnerability in Air Cargo

- Yemen – October 2010



Continued Vulnerability in Air Cargo

- Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula - two HP laser printer cartridges
- FedEx and UPS aircraft
- Both bombs had already been transported on passenger aircraft and transferred to cargo aircraft
- Timed to explode over continental U.S.

TSA Response

- TSA immediately issued Security Directives and Emergency Amendments to tighten inbound air cargo security.
 - SDs are issued to order additional security measures in response to a threat assessment or a specific threat against civil aviation. 49 CFR § 1544.305.
 - EAs impose binding changes to TSA-issued security plan measures.
- TSA prohibited or restricted cargo from Yemen and Somalia.

TSA Response

- Identified types of “high risk” cargo for which additional screening measures are to be taken.
- Added procedures for handling/screening international mail.
- “High-risk” cargo forbidden on passenger aircraft; if transported on cargo aircraft it receives 100% screening.
- May 2011 – Emergency Amendment

Inbound Cargo

- TSA continues to face challenges in meeting 100% screening goal
- How to reach 100%?
 - National Cargo Security Plan (NCSP) Recognition
 - Enhancing screening procedures and technology

U.S.-Loaded Cargo

- Certified Cargo Screening Program
- Recent regulatory changes
 - Third-party valuers
 - Duplication for air carriers
- Security Threat Assessment Fees

Indirect Air Carrier (IAC – Air Forwarder) Screening Technology Pilot

- Opportunity to test screening technologies with IACs in “live” environment
- Help TSA quantify flowthrough
- Help TSA determine effectiveness of screening technology on different commodities

Air Cargo Advanced Screening Pilot Program

- Joint TSA/CBP initiative launched December 2010
- Built on CBP's Automated Targeting System
- Apparently still in early pilot phase



Thank you.

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