Since 2004, US-VISIT’s innovative use of biometrics has strengthened our Nation’s immigration and border management system to an unprecedented level. Today, our biometric identification services continue to transform how Government agencies protect our country from dangerous people by improving their ability to quickly and accurately identify the people they encounter and determine whether they pose a risk.

I’m proud of US-VISIT’s support to decisionmakers on the front lines of homeland security as a single source of biometric and biographic information on criminals, immigration violators, and known or suspected terrorists. We touch almost every agency whose mission affects homeland security, from U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at ports of entry, to the U.S. Coast Guard on the high seas, to local law enforcement agencies processing criminal aliens.

I’m pleased to report that in Fiscal Year 2010, with the support of Congress, US-VISIT contributed to key homeland security initiatives, including maturing our organization, advancing our interoperability capabilities with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Defense Biometric Identity Management Agency, investing in new technologies, and expanding collaboration with our domestic and international partners. I call it a “bridge year” that built on what we’ve achieved and sets a firm foundation for moving forward on ambitious goals.

Fiscal Year 2010’s groundwork will allow US-VISIT to optimize our accomplishments in the year ahead. We’ll significantly increase the size and accuracy of our US-VISIT biometric watchlist, keep pace with growing volumes of travelers, test new technologies in operational environments, and meet increasingly sophisticated threats. We’ll focus on maximizing managerial efficiencies, growing our workforce, and building out new office space in Arlington, Baltimore, and San Diego. So we’ll continue to grow and expand as an organization over time to meet the mission-critical needs of the Department.

This report highlights our achievements and outlines our priorities for Fiscal Year 2011 so that we can continue to deliver innovative identification and analysis services to help keep our Nation safe.

Cordially,

Robert A. Mocny
Director
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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SUSTAINED AND EXPANDED INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In collaboration with its global partners, US-VISIT developed common biometric standards and best practices to share information about criminals, immigration violators, and known or suspected terrorists.

US-VISIT deepened existing partnerships with the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada, and forged new partnerships with New Zealand, India, South Africa, the Republic of Korea, Germany, Spain, Greece, and the Dominican Republic to support their implementation of biometrics in border and immigration control.

In conjunction with Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries that have signed Preventing and Combating Serious Crime (PCSC) agreements with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice, US-VISIT developed a process for technical implementation. Working with Germany’s Ministry of the Interior, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, US-VISIT developed technical standards for implementing PCSC agreements with other VWP countries. Discussions are underway with Spain and the Republic of Korea to develop business processes and technical solutions for reciprocal biometric and biographic information exchanges.

US-VISIT provided technical assistance to Mexico’s National Institute for Migration to facilitate the incorporation of biometrics into its Integrated System for Migration Operations as envisioned under the Mérida Initiative. This project is a collaborative effort among the United States, Canada, and Mexico under the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America. The partnership focuses on combating transnational crime and confronting organizations whose illicit actions undermine public safety, erode the rule of law, and threaten national security. Sustained collaboration will facilitate the exchange of actionable biometric information between these countries.

Through the Five Country Conference, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom continued to build an automated information exchange capability to screen immigration-benefit seekers and violators in real time. US-VISIT seconded technical experts to Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom to assist in building and deploying biometric capabilities.

SUPPORTED SECURE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

US-VISIT supported the expansion of ICE’s Secure Communities. Interoperability of US-VISIT’s Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) and the FBI’s Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) is the cornerstone of ICE’s Secure Communities strategy to better identify and remove criminal aliens from the United States and to transform overall alien enforcement efforts. By the program’s second year, local law enforcement agencies in numerous jurisdictions nationwide were able to check fingerprints of arrestees against IDENT and IAFIS during the booking process. In FY 2010, US-VISIT supported the expansion of this capability to additional jurisdictions.
COLLABORATED WITH U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

In FY 2010, US-VISIT delivered a key component that supports the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) Program and the elimination of the paper arrival-departure form (Form I-94W). US-VISIT worked closely with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to ensure US-VISIT’s Arrival and Departure Information System (ADIS) could provide departure-matching information to CBP for ESTA-approved VWP travelers on carriers and at selected ports of entry (POEs). This enabled CBP to electronically validate the departure of VWP travelers, eliminating the need for a paper I-94W form. To date, ADIS has matched and sent information on 17,000 departures to CBP for this program.

EXPLORED NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN AN OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

In FY 2010, US-VISIT tested and evaluated iris and facial recognition capabilities in an operational environment. As iris and facial recognition technology matures, it is critical to understand its capabilities and limitations in operational settings and to evaluate what additional development may be required to reduce acquisition risk.

US-VISIT and the DHS Science and Technology Directorate co-sponsored an Iris-Face Technology Demonstration and Evaluation in McAllen, Texas, in October 2010. This was an operational test of prototype iris-face capture to assess the technology’s viability and potential effectiveness in supporting DHS operations.

The test analyzed data in multiple areas, including image quality, iris anomaly effects on matching, and the performance of cross-camera image matching. It also recorded instruction time, failure rates, and acquisition time for an operational DHS component. US-VISIT continued its biometric technology innovation by evaluating additional biometric modalities for incorporation into the existing fingerprint identification system. These modalities included iris, face, palm prints, scars, marks, tattoos, and DNA profiles.

The field trial was conducted at the McAllen Border Patrol Station in the Rio Grande Valley Sector. This site was selected for the test and for US-VISIT’s Multimodal Limited Production Pilot because a high volume of illegal immigrants from multiple countries are apprehended there. The pilot includes Border Patrol and Global Entry.

EXECUTIVE STAKEHOLDER BOARD

US-VISIT continued to improve its customer service with more direct collaboration at the strategic level through the Executive Stakeholder Board. This group provided a forum for discussing how US-VISIT’s services can or should be adapted to fit the needs of its partners and enables US-VISIT to better serve its customers at a strategic level.

BEHIND THE SCENES

In addition to reaching important milestones in FY 2010, US-VISIT accomplished many internal goals to ensure continued program success, including the following:

- Adhered to key performance targets relating to quality, timeliness, and systems availability to customers.
- Achieved cost and schedule efficiency targets, staying within the earned-value parameters established for the fiscal year.
- Increased the US-VISIT Federal workforce during FY 2010 by nearly 40 percent. In alignment with the DHS Balanced Workforce Initiative, US-VISIT hired 96 new Federal employees.
- Implemented a Biometric Education Strategic Plan in partnership with CBP. This plan resulted in training on US-VISIT biometric watchlist management and basic biometric issues for CBP officers to improve their ability to capture biometrics, while simultaneously enhancing the quality of biometric data for IDENT processing.
- Developed a technical reference document on biometric standards to which US-VISIT currently conforms or will implement in the near term to support new biometric technologies and services, and to enhance interoperability with its domestic and international partners.
- Received the highest security rating from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), based on Federal Information Security Management Act criteria.
US-VISIT’s biometric identification and analysis services help Federal, State, and local decisionmakers accurately identify the people they encounter and determine whether those people pose a risk to the United States.

Decisionmakers use these services to enhance:

- International traveler screening at ports of entry (POEs) and visa-issuing posts
- Immigration-benefit applicant screening
- Immigration enforcement at sea, along the land borders, and within the interior of the country
- Law enforcement and terrorism investigations

In FY 2010, US-VISIT processed 60 million biometric identification and verification transactions for customers, a 17 percent increase over FY 2009.

The average US-VISIT biometric watchlist search time to return a response about a traveler at any POE was six seconds in FY 2010.

The average search time to return a response about a visa applicant at any consular office was 3.14 minutes.

Biometric matches to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist in FY 2010 included 6.5 percent in enforcement encounters, 6.7 percent for immigration benefits, 9.4 percent for border crossing cards and visa applications, and 21.7 percent at CBP POEs. DOD and DOJ matches (55.7 percent) comprised the largest percentage of matches in FY 2010.

ADIS, US-VISIT’s biographic system, is the only information system in the Federal government that can provide visa overstay data. Its primary benefit is the identification of persons who are in-country or out-of-country overstays, either by providing recommended leads to ICE or by promoting individuals to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist. Overstay data can result in investigations and deportations by ICE, the denial of visas by the Department of State, or the denial of entry at POEs by CBP.

At the end of FY 2010, ADIS contained the travel histories of approximately 167 million alien travelers. From FY 2009 to FY 2010, ADIS unique-person identity records increased by approximately 22 million and are expected to grow at an annual rate of 25 million records.
The primary mission of **US-VISIT’s Biometric Support Center (BSC)** is to provide expert fingerprint verification in support of stakeholder operations when automated means are not sufficient. Every day—24 hours a day, seven days a week—highly trained fingerprint examiners perform urgent comparisons to quickly verify fingerprints that either match a US-VISIT biometric watchlist record or cannot be verified by US-VISIT’s automated matching system. DHS components use this information to facilitate admissibility and criminality determinations as well as benefit and credentialing eligibility decisions.

The BSC also provides expertise and support to Federal, State, local, tribal, and international law enforcement agencies, intelligence agencies, and foreign governments that submit latent or rolled fingerprints to US-VISIT for identification. The agencies then use this information to solve crimes, support terrorist investigations, and identify unknown deceased persons. BSC examiners have also served as expert witnesses in trials across the Nation.

**Did You Know?**

**FY 2010**

- BSC fingerprint examiners completed 185,866 urgent fingerprint comparisons, averaging just over four minutes per verification.

- As a result of 10-print upgrades, all 10-prints received by US-VISIT are run against the latent prints file. Latent print examiners completed over 5.1 million latent print comparisons, resulting in 149 identifications.

- The BSC identified 242 unknown deceased persons, amnesia victims, and others.
US-VISIT’s Mission Support Services (MSS) is a recognized source for timely, relevant, and credible information on entry, exit, and immigration overstay status. It strives to become the innovator and catalyst for the integrity of mission systems data in direct support of US-VISIT’s goals of enhancing security, facilitating legitimate trade and travel, ensuring the integrity of the immigration system, and protecting the privacy of our visitors. MSS analyzes ADIS-generated records of interest and provides validated overstay information to DHS operational units that use US-VISIT entry, exit, and status data to enforce immigration laws.

MSS identifies system- or human-generated data integrity issues to improve the quality of US-VISIT information in IDENT and ADIS. In addition, MSS reviews US-VISIT biometric watchlist encounters and adjudicates the promotion or demotion of persons to or from the US-VISIT biometric watchlist based on the most current information associated with an individual. Adjudications are conducted to ensure that the US-VISIT biometric watchlist continues to be accurate and actionable for all US-VISIT stakeholders. MSS also performs ad hoc compliance studies for internal DHS organizations and the Department of State.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

- MSS exceeded its goal of validating 50 percent of the one million records that comprised the previously unvetted population by validating 580,000 records.
- MSS nearly doubled the number of leads sent to ICE, from 16,379 in FY 2009 to 30,406 in FY 2010, resulting in 514 arrests of in-country overstay violators.
- MSS conducted over 205 validation studies for the Department of State’s Fraud Prevention Unit.
- US-VISIT biometric watchlist adjudications in FY 2010 totaled 94,575, exceeding FY 2009 production by more than 300 percent.
US-VISIT’s Reporting and Analysis Services (RAS) provides operational research and coordination on all current and future US-VISIT international and domestic biometric and biographic information-sharing initiatives, including Preventing and Combating Serious Crime agreements scheduled for implementation in 2011 and current sharing initiatives with the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. These efforts enable US-VISIT to collect, maintain, and share biometric and biographic information with international and domestic customers to identify mala fide aliens entering the United States or individuals who may pose a threat to the country.

RAS provides operational, identity management, and systems information in daily, weekly, quarterly, and annual reports to Congress, DHS, the National Protection and Programs Directorate, and US-VISIT senior management. RAS is developing the capability to provide the intelligence and law enforcement communities with Homeland Intelligence Reports on biometric, biographic, and identity fraud analyses of the vast amount of identity information in US-VISIT’s systems.

RAS also works with the law enforcement and intelligence communities to ensure that individuals who may pose a threat to United States national security or who may be inadmissible to the country are included in the US-VISIT biometric watchlist available to all customers.

**FY 2010**

- Coordinated with United Kingdom Border Agency on 164 US-VISIT biometric watchlist matches, providing shareable DHS information.

- Coordinated with Five Country Conference partners and shared data on over 68 asylum/refugee cases, resulting in the denial of five cases overseas and three in the United States, the identification of four overseas known or suspected terrorist cases, and the referral of six cases to the United States immigration judge for removal considerations.

- Compiled and analyzed over 100 data analysis reports for US-VISIT management and DHS components.

- Promoted 866 known or suspected terrorists to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist based on information received from the intelligence community and other partners.
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services uses US-VISIT’s services to establish and verify the identities of people applying for immigration benefits, including asylum or refugee status.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

- US-VISIT established or verified the identities of 2,040,000 applicants for immigration benefits—more than 5,500 a day.
- Immigration benefit applicants accounted for 6.7 percent of all US-VISIT biometric watchlist matches.
Based on existing threats in early 2010, the U.S. Coast Guard began to biometrically identify the crews of liquefied natural gas tankers being loaded in the port of Balhaf, Yemen, to ensure the crews on the tankers do not pose a security risk. In a collaborative effort among US-VISIT, the Department of State, Department of Defense, and the Coast Guard, biometric and biographic data is collected from and submitted to the appropriate Government databases. The crews’ fingerprints are also loaded into a mobile biometric device that the Coast Guard uses to verify each crew member’s identity once the vessel reaches U.S. waters.

The Coast Guard employs US-VISIT’s biometrically based services at sea to apprehend and prosecute illegal migrants and migrant smugglers. The Coast Guard relies on mobile biometric collection devices—handheld scanners and cameras—to collect and compare migrants’ biometric information against information in the US-VISIT database about criminals and immigration violators.

Did You Know?

Since the Coast Guard began collecting biometrics from illegal migrants at sea, illegal migration in the area where the technology is being used has dropped by at least 80 percent.
US VISIT supports CBP’s Office of Field Operations by verifying the identities of international travelers each day at ports of entry (POEs), helping them determine whether a non-U.S. citizen arriving at one of our ports should be admitted to the country. With the assistance of biometrics, US VISIT has helped stop thousands of people at POEs who were ineligible to enter the United States.

US VISIT also supports enforcement efforts by the CBP’s Office of Border Patrol to identify illegal immigrants apprehended along the borders between the POEs. Using an automated biometric system enables the rapid identification of known or suspected terrorists, criminal aliens, and repeat immigration violators, even if a person tries to conceal his or her true identity.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

When a foreign traveler provides fingerprints to a CBP officer at a POE, US VISIT’s automated systems provide identity verification and US VISIT biometric watchlist results within 10 seconds.
US-VISIT 2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

By analyzing data regarding international travelers’ entries and exits from the United States, US-VISIT identifies non-U.S. citizens who have remained in the United States beyond the amount of time for which they were admitted, known as overstays. US-VISIT’s analysis includes determining whether the person is still in the United States or has left the country.

US-VISIT provides U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with leads on suspected overstays who are still in the United States, while those who have already left the country are added to US-VISIT’s biometric watchlist to prevent re-entry.

Through the Secure Communities initiative, US-VISIT provides biometric information that enables ICE to identify criminal aliens when they are arrested by State and local law enforcement, supporting the DHS priority to identify and remove criminal aliens from the United States.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

- US-VISIT provided a total of 30,406 overstay leads to ICE. This included additional overstay reviews previously not performed by US-VISIT, such as 11,082 overstay leads of minors and 5,923 overstay leads for previous non-priority populations.

- US-VISIT supported the expansion of the Secure Communities initiative to include an additional 666 jurisdictions nationwide. Adding a biometric component to the process streamlined the way ICE identifies and removes immigration violators.

- Nearly 263,000 aliens have been identified through the Secure Communities initiative, resulting in the removal of over 34,600 aliens from the United States.
US-VISIT establishes and verifies the identities of visa applicants, helping U.S. Department of State consular officers determine whether a non-U.S. citizen is eligible to travel to the United States.

Using biometrics and the visa application process, US-VISIT has identified thousands of people with histories of criminal or immigration violations who might otherwise go undetected.

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**Did You Know?**

**FY 2010**

- US-VISIT established or verified the identities of 6.1 million applicants for visas or border crossing cards—more than 16,000 a day.

- US-VISIT averaged three minutes to return information to the Department of State about a visa applicant.

- US-VISIT’s analysis of entry and exit records enabled the denial of visas or entry to more than 2,500 visa overstays attempting to return to the United States.
US-VisIT provides the FBI and State and local law enforcement with identifying information stored in IDENT on persons in their custody or under investigation. US-VisIT also provides details on immigration encounters to FBI special agents and to agencies working through the FBI to conduct background investigations for individuals requesting Federal Government employment, including the Office of Personnel Management and the Department of State Office of Personnel Security and Suitability.

**Did You Know?**

US-VisIT continued to enhance biometric interoperability with the FBI, and expanded data sharing with State, local, and tribal law enforcement, employment and privilege-adjudicating organizations, and international stakeholders.

**FY 2010**
US-VISIT provides national security support to help the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) identify known or suspected terrorists by analyzing latent biometric information collected from locations where terrorists have been. In addition, in FY 2010, US-VISIT received 90,000 fingerprint records and loaded them into IDENT. The fingerprint records received are for known persons, as opposed to latent-print efforts. DOD has contributed a significant collection of prints to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist, including latent prints collected from improvised explosive devices and places where known or suspected terrorists have been.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

- US-VISIT collaborated with the DOD National Ground Intelligence Center to promote known or suspected terrorists to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist to ensure that IDENT’s customers have the most up-to-date information.

- US-VISIT standardized the business process by which it shares information with the Terrorist Screening Center to promote individuals to the US-VISIT biometric watchlist.
US-VISIT is involved in several global projects with foreign partners to detect and deter malicious aliens from entering the United States or receiving immigration benefits. Since the full implementation of data sharing with the UKvisas program in September 2009, US-VISIT has shared information that aids visa screening by the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA) with identity matches from the US-VISIT biometric watchlist.

By collaborating with foreign governments, US-VISIT is helping to increase the number of countries that use biometrics for identity screening for border and immigration management and to expand the US-VISIT data repositories—IDENT and ADIS—with actionable biometric and biographic information. Through the expanded use of biometrics for identity-screening purposes by foreign governments around the world, US-VISIT is fostering strategic opportunities for collaboration and enabling DHS to achieve its mission of protecting our Nation from those who seek to do us harm.

US-VISIT serves as the Department’s program for collecting biometrics along the travel continuum with foreign stakeholders. US-VISIT promotes the adoption of compatible standards to ensure interoperability with foreign partners and the foundation for potential biometric data sharing.

Did You Know?

FY 2010

- US-VISIT provided information to UKvisas. At the end of FY 2010, UKBA indicated that 33 of these visa applications had been withdrawn and the applicants refused entry based on the information shared by US-VISIT.

- US-VISIT operationalized a biometric data exchange with Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom through the High Value Data Sharing Protocol under the Five Country Conference. The protocol promotes the sharing of immigration information and asylum/refugee biometric information among the United States, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom.

- US-VISIT exchanged more than 170 records for the protocol. This number represents only individuals for whom US-VISIT has records in IDENT. As the project matures, the number of individual records could increase due to data sharing among the five countries.

- US-VISIT prepared for and initiated the pilot exchange of biometric prints with Germany.
US-VISIT, ICE, AND FBI TEAMS RECOGNIZED FOR WORK ON SECURE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

DHS, DOJ, and DOS have worked diligently in recent years to establish interoperability between the FBI’s IAFIS and US-VISIT’s IDENT. Collaborating with US-VISIT and the FBI’s Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, ICE’s Secure Communities initiative benefits from the interoperability established between IAFIS and IDENT to quickly and accurately identify aliens in custody by local law enforcement or arrested for crimes in the United States. Together ICE, US-VISIT, and CJIS have worked to deploy this new biometric information-sharing capability to hundreds of jurisdictions nationwide.

In recognition of their innovative solutions to align these automated fingerprint identification systems, members of US-VISIT, Secure Communities, and CJIS teams were recently honored with the ICE Assistant Secretary’s Protecting the Homeland Award.

US-VISIT AND FBI FINGERPRINT RECORDS TIE SUSPECTED SERIAL KILLER TO ARREST WARRANTS

In August 2010, CBP officers at Atlanta’s Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport arrested a man after fingerprint records confirmed there were outstanding warrants for his arrest in connection to a murder in Michigan. The interoperability between FBI and US-VISIT systems helped CBP obtain the information they needed in a timely fashion. The man, suspected of several murders and assaults in Michigan and Virginia, was arrested as he attempted to board a flight bound for Tel Aviv, Israel. CBP officers took the man into custody and turned him over to law enforcement authorities.

US-VISIT EXAMINER’S TESTIMONY IN DRUG SMUGGLING CASE CONTRIBUTES TO GUILTY VERDICT

In June 2010, the ICE office in Phoenix, Arizona, submitted two different sets of fingerprints for two different individuals to the BSC West for comparison as part of a weapons and drug investigation. A certified 10-print examiner from the BSC determined that each set of prints matched the subject. The examiner was later subpoenaed to testify in a Phoenix trial to confirm the match of fingerprints in the case, which helped secure guilty verdicts.

US-VISIT IDENTIFIES MURDER VICTIM AND LATENT PRINT TYING SUSPECT TO THE CRIME

In March 2010, the Maricopa County, Arizona, Sheriff’s Office sent the BSC fingerprints from an unknown person who had been found wrapped in a blanket after being shot and strangled to death. The BSC identified the victim after finding a match in IDENT. In April, the BSC analyzed a latent print left at the crime scene and determined it belonged to the sister of the murder suspect. The suspect’s sister has been placed on the US-VISIT biometric watchlist.
US-VISIT IDENTIFIES UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL KILLED IN HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE

After the earthquake that struck Haiti in January 2010, the Law Enforcement Liaison Officer of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations contacted the BSC for assistance in identifying deceased victims. Of the 13 sets of fingerprints submitted, the BSC identified three of the victims. The three were UN personnel who had been unaccounted for since the disaster. The BSC’s identity verification enabled the UN to notify victims’ families, who had waited over a month for news of their loved ones.

US-VISIT HELPS CBP IDENTIFY ILLEGAL ALIEN WITH OUTSTANDING HOMICIDE WARRANT AND CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

In August 2010, the Border Patrol in Yuma, Arizona apprehended a man who had entered the United States illegally. The BSC ran his fingerprints against IDENT and determined he had two outstanding warrants, including one for homicide, and was considered armed and dangerous. He was taken into custody and faces charges in the 2004 stabbing death of his girlfriend in Oregon.

US-VISIT ANALYZES LATENT FINGERPRINTS TO IDENTIFY FBI SUSPECT IN HEALTH CARE FRAUD CASE

In May 2010, the BSC identified a latent fingerprint for the FBI Cleveland Field Office related to a health care fraud case. Analysis of 34 latent prints identified the suspect as an Armenian citizen who last entered the United States in September 2009.

US-VISIT ASSISTS JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE BY IDENTIFYING COUNTERFEIT DOCUMENT

In November 2010, US-VISIT assisted in a case to determine the true identity and overstay status of a Turkish man attempting to gain employment at a nuclear power plant. It was determined that the subject was using a false document under a false identity to prove his legal status to reside and work in the United States. The subject was subsequently arrested by local DHS law enforcement authorities as an overstay and placed into Federal custody awaiting removal proceedings.
In FY 2011, US-VISIT will continue to improve its technology and services to be more efficient, accurate, and effective. It will also continue collaboration on biometric initiatives with other nations.

**MEETING DHS DATA CONSOLIDATION DIRECTIVES**

The Data Center Mirroring and Migration initiative will continue to progress toward the DHS data center consolidation goal by relocating US-VISIT systems and hosting services from the DOJ data centers to the two DHS data centers in FY 2011. When this initiative is completed in FY 2012, US-VISIT will have mirrored systems at the two DHS data centers, with redundant capabilities in the event of a system outage or a hardware failure. The project will support a high level of disaster recovery and availability for US-VISIT applications.

**ENHANCING IDENT/IAFIS/ABIS INTEROPERABILITY**

In FY 2011, US-VISIT will finalize, design, build, and begin testing the interface between IDENT and DOD’s Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS). This will permit communication between the two systems, allow each system to be searched for matches to stored biometric data, and enable the search results to be returned. A related effort will develop requirements for an automated capability to share latent prints for search results.

US-VISIT will also initiate a record-linking design to allow for the subsequent retrieval of information on an individual already “linked” in other biometric databases, minimizing the number of identification searches and improving operational efficiencies and response times.

**ADVANCING US-VISIT 1.0**

In FY 2011, US-VISIT will continue planning for the US-VISIT 1.0 initiative. The objective of the US-VIST 1.0 investment is to address gaps in availability, flexibility, scalability, and affordability posed by US-VISIT’s two major automated identification systems—IDENT and ADIS—in support of its mission. The US-VISIT 1.0 initiative will leverage new tools, technologies, and approaches to integrate US-VISIT’s biometric and biographic applications into a comprehensive set of automated services that will meet and exceed operational requirements well into the future, while reducing the overall cost per transaction.

**CONTINUING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION**

In FY 2011, US-VISIT will continue to build on the program’s success by creating and maintaining strategic coalitions with international partners as countries around the world recognize the power of biometric technology in their immigration and border management systems.
US-Visit will work to increase commonality in biometric standards and best practices, develop protocols for sharing critical information, provide technical assistance to countries implementing biometrics, and jointly test and deploy innovative biometric techniques.

Cooperation, collaboration, and appropriate information sharing are essential to achieving global security. Expanding international partnerships will create a robust and resilient 21st century immigration and border management system.

US-Visit will provide biometric intelligence reporting to DHS and the intelligence and law enforcement communities. And US-Visit will continue to provide research and coordination for all international and domestic programs that impact the US-Visit biometric watchlist.

SUPPORTING THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

In FY 2011, US-Visit will continue to provide research and coordination for all international and domestic programs that impact the US-Visit biometric watchlist. By the end of the fiscal year, US-Visit will be able to provide biometric intelligence reporting to DHS and the intelligence and law enforcement communities, while increasing US-Visit biometric watchlist reviews and adjudications by 25 percent over FY 2010 levels.

US-Visit will also continue to maintain full-time operational support at FY 2010 levels. This will consist of analysts capable of researching biometrically verified hits against IDENT data submitted by the FBI, DHS entities, security offices maintaining access control to critical infrastructure facilities, and other contributing agencies to leverage biometric and biographic capabilities.
Privacy Policy:
US-VISIT upholds the privacy of individuals while helping protect our national borders and immigration system. Personal information collected by US-VISIT will be used only for the purposes for which it was collected, unless specifically authorized or mandated by law. Questions or concerns relating to personal information and the US-VISIT program may be directed to the US-VISIT Privacy Officer, US-VISIT program, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C. 20528, or usvisitprivacy@dhs.gov.

Web Site:
For more information, visit the US-VISIT program Web site at www.dhs.gov/us-visit.