



## Homeland Security: Foreign Visitor Solutions

Security & Safety

(Patents Granted)

**Introducing a secure system to issue an electronic visa for a foreign visitor and periodically to validate the visa during the visitor's in-country stay, using smartcard and computer kiosk technologies.**

### News Headlines

**" 9/11 Hijackers Used Doctored' Passports"**

*United Press International, 01/27/04*

**"Some 9/11 Hijackers Got Into the U.S. With Fraudulent Visas"**

*Associated Press, 01/26/04*

**"U.S. Embassy Official Took Bribes for Saudi Visas"**

*Associated Press, 05/21/02*

**"House Panel Told Visa Demand Will Surge as Nations Miss Security Deadline"**

*The New York Times, 03/05/04*

**"U.S Wants to Place Its Own Inspectors at Airports Abroad"**

*The New York Times, 03/02/04*

**"Criminal Aliens At Large A 'Crisis'"**

*The Washington Times, 02/11/04*

**"U.S. Calls Release of JetBlue Data Improper"**

*The New York Times, 02/21/04*

**"Islamic Extremists Invade U.S., Join Sleeper Cells"**

*The Washington Times  
Headlines, February 10, 2003*

### DHS Challenges

**"Terrorism: Automated Lookout Systems and Border Security Options and Issues", CRS Report for Congress (RL31019), [June 18, 2001](#)**

1. **Increase difficulty to counterfeit and alter** international travel documents.
2. **Increase entry / exit control mechanisms** at international ports of entry.
3. **Increase staff and technology for consular services.**
4. **Track the visa status and whereabouts of foreign students** in the U.S.

**"BORDER SECURITY: Visa Process Should Be Strengthened as an Antiterrorism Tool", GAO Report (GAO-03-132NI), [October 2002](#)**

1. Ensure that **visa operations** are **effectively contributing to the national strategy for homeland security.**
2. Ensure that **law enforcement and intelligence agencies** are promptly **providing information to the State Department** on persons who may pose a security risk.

## Solution (Patents Pending)

The solution integrates with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) systems to **validate periodically a long-term visitor's authorized stay** within the country's borders.

**A smartcard is created and issued to the visitor prior to entry at a U.S. consulate, or at the visitor's Port of Entry.**

Pertinent **visa information**, including **biometrics** are **embedded in the smartcard**.

**Cryptographic technology is used** with the smartcard **to maintain privacy**, as well as to **reduce fraud** and other misuse.

The smartcard is used as the **visitor's official identification document** whilst in the country.

**At specified intervals the long-term visitor registers with ATM kiosks.** ATMs are placed at various locations within the country.

The ATM kiosks are securely integrated with the ICE database.

Other possible uses include **Fast-Track system for frequent travelers and business travelers.**

## Key Technology



## Advantages

This technology provides an implementable solution, **using available technology**, to answer many of the challenges facing Homeland Security today, abroad and at home.

**Prevents undesirables from entering the USA even before they board a flight.**

Feature	Benefit
Smartcard Visa and ID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Greatly reduces fraud.</li><li>◦ Provides safety for the traveler.</li><li>◦ Frequent traveler Fast-Track use.</li></ul>
Secure Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Fast and secure visa application turnaround times.</li></ul>
Kiosk Check-In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Reduces illegal in-country disappearances.</li><li>◦ Can be used at consulates during visa-issue process.</li><li>◦ Reduces need to increase consular staff.</li></ul>
Integrated Central Database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Reduces errors.</li><li>◦ Instantaneous risk status.</li><li>◦ Intra-agency coordination.</li></ul>
Visa and Fast-Track Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Self-funding solution.</li></ul>

***"The challenge ... is to provide for a level of border security that is commensurate with threats from abroad, while facilitating legitimate cross-border travel and commerce, as well as protecting civil liberties."***

*CRS Report for Congress (RL31019, 06/18/01)  
"Terrorism: Automated Lookout Systems and Border Security Options and Issues"*

## U.S. Visitor Statistics

- 211 visa issuing posts worldwide <sup>1</sup>
- 843 consular officer positions <sup>1</sup>
- 7.6 million visas issued in 2001 <sup>1</sup>
- 79% of issued visas for business and pleasure <sup>1</sup>
- 4.6% of issued visas for special workers <sup>1</sup>
- 4.2% of issued visas for students <sup>1</sup>
- 500,000 immigrant visas issued <sup>2</sup>
- Over 48 million overseas visitors <sup>3</sup>
- 15 days was the average overseas visitor's length of stay <sup>3</sup>
- 82% of overseas visitors stay in a hotel/motel <sup>3</sup>
- 28% of overseas visitors fly domestically <sup>3</sup>
- 34% of overseas visitors rent cars <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>"Border Security", GAO-03-132NI (10/2002)

<sup>2</sup>"Terrorism..", CRS Report for Congress RL31019 (06/18/01)

<sup>3</sup>"Key Facts About Inbound Tourism", OTTI (1999)

### ceBerg, Inc.

9213 BULLS RUN PARKWAY  
BETHESDA, MD 20817-2403

PH: (301) 897-3288

FAX: (301) 897-0016

ipDHS@ceberg.com

www.ceberg.com

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