Secure Freight Initiative







SFI Goals



• Enhanced Security

 The Secure Freight Initiative will identify radiological or nuclear threats earlier in the supply chain and provide host governments with greater visibility into potentially dangerous shipments.

Trade Facilitation

 SFI reduces the need for redundant exams while maintaining port efficiency and will be a critical component of trade resumption protocols in currently under development at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Improved Risk Management

 Additional data elements, including those elements provided by the scanning systems, and the data elements gathered under SFI-Security Filing, or 10+2, will provide CBP with improved risk assessment capabilities.



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Container Scanning Project



SFI Phase 1:

- During the initial deployment, three ports will scan "100-percent" of U.S. bound maritime cargo, which meets the minimum requirements of the Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006, the SAFE Port Act.
- A "limited capacity" implementation will be rolled out at four additional ports, which will provide a model for scanning in large volume and transshipment ports for U.S. bound cargo.
- An assessment will be conducted on the scanning capabilities and the impact on port operations from these seven ports and lessons learned will be used to make recommendations for future deployments.



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Lesson Learned - Challenges



Successfully deploying scanning equipment presents certain challenges:

TECHNICAL

- Sustaining equipment operations in extreme weather conditions and certain port environments in third world countries;
- Addressing health and safety concerns of host governments and respective trucking and labor unions;
- Protecting data privacy concerns.

LOGISTICAL

- Re-configuring port layouts to accommodate the equipment without affecting port efficiency;
- Determining who will bear the costs of buying, operating and maintaining the scanning equipment;
- Persuading the foreign customs service and terminal operator to meet additional staffing requirements;
- Developing local response protocols for adjudicating alarms.





Lesson Learned - Benefits



Trade Facilitation

 More efficient movement of containers throughout the supply chain and upon arrival in the United States.

Trade Resumption

 Should a event occur invoking trade resumption protocols, priority given to containers that have been scanned through SFI systems.

Data Sharing

 Building a system to use not only for U.S.-bound containers, but also for containers destined for any trading partner.

Enhanced Data Collection

 The radiation signature and image provide two critical data points in the supply chain.



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Sec. 232(c) - SAFE Port Act-Report to Congress

- Not later then 6 months after becoming fully operational in the three pilot ports, a report is due to Congress describing:
 - Costs of deployment;
 - Lessons learned;
 - An analysis of available technology compared to enhanced capabilities;
 - An assessment of our ability to integrate scanning and imaging into the logistics, operations and risk management process;
 - Any impacts on the flow of commerce.
- The report due date is April 2008



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The 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act Section 1701 – Container Scanning And Seals "100% Scanning"



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Sec. 1701 – 100% Scanning



- The President signed the Act on August 3, 2007
- The Act amends Sec. 232(b) of the SAFE Port Act
- Text of the Act:
 - General Rule: A container that was loaded on a vessel in a foreign port shall not enter the United States (either directly or via a foreign port) unless the container was scanned by non-intrusive imaging equipment and radiation detection equipment at a foreign port before it was loaded on a vessel.
- Timeline By July 1, 2012, all containers entering the U.S. must be scanned by NII and radiation detection equipment at a foreign port.



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100% Scanning Extension Conditions



The deadline can be extended in 2 year increments if any two of the following conditions exist:

- (A) Systems to scan containers are not available for purchase and installation.
- (B) Systems to scan containers do not have a sufficiently low false alarm rate for use in the supply chain.
- (C) Systems to scan containers cannot be purchased, deployed or operated at ports overseas, including, if applicable, because a port does not have the physical characteristics to install such a system.
- (D) Systems to scan containers cannot be integrated, as necessary, with existing systems.
- (E) Use of systems that are available to scan containers will significantly impact trade capacity and the flow of cargo.
- (F) Systems to scan containers do not adequately provide an automated notification of questionable or high-risk cargo as a trigger for further inspection by appropriately trained personnel.



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