



In This Issue

| | |
|---|---|
| Beyond the Border: Pre-Inspection and Infrastructure Initiatives | 1 |
| CBP On the Hill: Federal Government-Issued Biometric IDs | 1 |
| Blue Lightning: CBP and DOT Partner with the Aviation Industry to Fight Human Smuggling | 2 |
| Automated Passport Control: Improving Travel Efficiency | 2 |
| CBP Enforcement News | 2 |

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Beyond the Border: Pre-Inspection and Infrastructure Initiatives



On June 17, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) began Phase I of a truck cargo pre-inspection pilot at the Pacific Highway crossing adjacent to Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. The project is a collaborative effort by CBP, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)

and Public Safety Canada under the *Beyond the Border: A Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness* initiative.

Phase I of the pilot is designed to determine the viability of assigning CBP officers to Canadian border crossings to pre-inspect southbound trucks, drivers, and cargo prior to arrival in the United States. Only trusted traders participating in CBP's Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program will be eligible to use the dedicated CBP pre-inspection commercial primary booth located on the Canadian side of the border.

The pre-inspection pilot is just one of the many collaborative efforts under the *Beyond the Border* initiative. On May 30, 2013, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood joined Canadian dignitaries to release the first-ever joint United States-Canada Border Infrastructure Investment Plan (BIIP). The development and release of this initiative fulfills a commitment made under the 2011 United States-Canada Beyond the Border Action Plan.

"An integrated, bilateral approach to border investment is critical to both the U.S. and Canadian economies," said Secretary Napolitano. "The Border Infrastructure Investment Plan offers enhanced security along our shared U.S.-Canadian border, while reducing wait times at major border crossings—increasing the flow of traffic across the border while ensuring safe and secure trade and travel."

The BIIP is designed to benefit the integrated economies of the United States and Canada, which depend on the fluid movement of commercial and non-commercial traffic across our border. Modernization of major border crossings will reduce wait times, increase reliability of just-in-time shipments, and decrease fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

More information on the pre-inspection pilot and the BIIP is available on the [CBP Website](#) and the [DHS Website](#). Please contact the Office of Congressional Affairs with any questions.

CBP On the Hill: Federal Government-Issued Biometric IDs



Executive Director Colleen Manaher at a June 19 hearing

On June 19, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Executive Director of Planning, Program Analysis, and Evaluation Colleen Manaher testified before the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Operations for a hearing titled, "Federal Government Approaches to Issuing Biometric IDs: Part II"

In her written statement, Manaher said, "Working with our partners, CBP secures our Nation's borders by employing and enhancing our layers of defense throughout the entire supply chain (for goods) and transit sequence (for people) – starting from their points of origin, transit to the United States, to their arrival and entry at our ports of entry. These layers rely upon increased intelligence and risk-management strategies regarding the movement and flow of both travelers and trade. Risk segmentation, separating the "knowns" from the "unknowns" allows us to enhance security by focusing more attention on stopping illegitimate trade, while at the same time facilitating legitimate travel and commerce. More than 1.9 million people, including more than 425,000 new members this fiscal year, have enrolled in Trusted Traveler Programs, which allow expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. These trusted travelers carry credentials that meet or exceed the International Organization for Standardization security standards and exceed the best practices for protection of personal identification documents."

Other witnesses on the panel were National Institute of Standards and Technology Director of the Information Technology Laboratory Charles H. Romine; Federal Bureau of Investigation Executive Assistant Director of the Science and Technology Branch Steven Martinez; Federal Aviation Administration Director of the Flight Standards Service John Allen; and Department of State Deputy Assistant Secretary for Passport Services Brenda Sprague. The full written testimony can be found on the [CBP Website](#) and a recorded webcast of the hearing can be found on the Subcommittee's [Website](#).

Blue Lightning: CBP and DOT Partner with the Aviation Industry to Fight Human Smuggling



CBP Acting Deputy Commissioner Kevin K. McAleenan speaks at a June 6 Blue Lightning event

On June 6, 2013, executives from two airlines joined leaders from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) at Ronald Reagan National Airport in Arlington, VA, to announce the liftoff of Blue Lightning, a new federal partnership with the aviation industry to combat human trafficking. Blue Lightning is a voluntary training program produced by the Departments of Homeland Security

and Transportation and CBP to educate commercial airline flight crews and other relevant airline staff on human trafficking indicators that they may encounter on the job, and empower them to safely report possible human trafficking instances to the proper authorities.

Kevin K. McAleenan, CBP Acting Deputy Commissioner, said that Blue Lightning is one of the newer collaborations between the two federal departments “to ensure that America's transportation system is not being exploited for human trafficking.”

An estimated 20 million people worldwide are trapped in modern-day slavery, many of them in cities and small communities across America. As professional stewards of flight safety, airline personnel can be important partners in our government's efforts to end human trafficking and save lives.

Blue Lightning is an element of the DHS Blue Campaign, which coordinates and unites DHS law enforcement intelligence assets and authorities and collaborates with partners across government, law enforcement, and the private sectors to combat human trafficking. Other collaborators on Blue Lightning and the Blue Campaign include U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center, Federal Air Marshal Service, Federal Aviation Administration, nongovernmental organizations and private industry.

For additional information, please visit the [CBP Website](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

Automated Passport Control: Improving Travel Efficiency



A U.S.-bound traveler utilizes the new Automated Passport Control kiosk

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Vancouver Airport Authority recently launched a new program, Automated Passport Control, an expedited customs entry process that will allow eligible passengers traveling from Vancouver International Airport (YVR) to the United States to clear customs more efficiently, while still ensuring the same high standard of safety and security. This partnership is the first of its kind and aims to help travelers

move more quickly through the CBP preclearance inspection process by allowing entry of passport information at a self-service kiosk.

“Increasing efficiency and streamlining processes are critical components of CBP's modernization efforts at ports of entry,” said Thomas S. Winkowski, acting CBP Commissioner. “Travelers will still speak with a CBP officer after using the Automated Passport Control kiosks; however, this will allow for faster processing and increased focus on the traveler.”

Automated Passport Control does not require pre-registration, is easy to use and maintains the highest levels of protection when it comes to the handling of personal data or information. Instead of filling out a declaration card, eligible passengers can proceed directly to a self-service kiosk in the CBP preclearance area. Travelers will follow the on-screen instructions to scan their passport, answer the customs declaration questions using the touch screen, receive a receipt confirming their information and proceed to the CBP officer to finalize processing. As a result, travelers will experience shorter wait times, less congestions, and faster processing at YVR.

For additional information, please visit the [CBP Website](#) or contact the Office of Congressional Affairs.

CBP Enforcement News



Border Patrol Agents Seize Phony U.S. Fish and Wildlife Vehicle Used to Smuggle Marijuana

Tucson, AZ – On June 20, 2013, Tucson Sector Border Patrol agents, working near Elfrida, AZ, attempted to stop a vehicle they suspected was being used to smuggle narcotics. The driver and passenger fled to evade arrest. A short time later, agents found the truck, which displayed phony U.S. Fish and Wildlife decals, loaded with 933 pounds of marijuana, and arrested the suspected smugglers. Fake uniforms were also found inside the vehicle. Both subjects are being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office. The narcotics, worth an estimated \$466,500, will be turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

– Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.



CBP Officers Arrest Two Fugitives at Airport

Sterling, VA – On June 20, 2013, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at Washington Dulles International Airport arrested two U.S. citizens. The first arrest involved a Florida man arriving on a flight from Frankfurt, Germany. Officers determined the man to be subject to a warrant of arrest issued by the Pinellas County, FL, Police Department for issuing checks with insufficient funds. Later in the day, a Maryland resident arriving on another flight from Frankfurt, Germany, was determined to be subject to a warrant of arrest issued by the Baltimore, MD, Police Department for failure to appear on marijuana possession charges. CBP conducts inspection operations and intercepts currency, weapons, prohibited agriculture products or other illicit items, and on average makes 54 criminal arrests a day at U.S. ports of entry nationwide.

– Visit the [CBP Newsroom](#) for the full story.

The Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) serves as the single point of contact within CBP for communications between CBP and Congress.

OCA is committed to addressing any question or concern you may have related to CBP's complex mission. Please contact us:

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Please visit CBP's [Congressional Resources](#) webpage for Frequently Asked Questions, News and Events, and other CBP Resources.