SIMPLIFIED TRAVEL

Partner with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to change the face of travel through the new simplified travel process, the next generation of identity verification in the travel continuum.

SOPHISTICATED FACIAL BIOMETRIC MATCHING IN TWO SECONDS OR LESS
The simplified travel process is based on CBP’s sophisticated facial biometric matching service that airlines and airports can harness to provide a seamless, paperless, and more secure experience for arriving and departing air travelers. CBP’s matching service provides confirmation of the travelers’ identity in two seconds or less.

Designed as a cloud-based service, the facial recognition matching service takes advantage of the speed of the cloud while minimizing security risks. No personal identifiable information (PII) beyond the traveler photo is transmitted or stored in the cloud. This gives airlines and airports the flexibility to invest in a photo capture solution best suited to each partner’s operational needs.

BE A PARTNER IN DEFINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SECURE AIR TRAVEL
CBP is actively seeking partnerships with airline and airport authorities to deploy the simplified travel process at departure gates that meet airport/airline operational requirements while simultaneously enhancing the international arrival process.

Using CBP’s facial recognition service, airlines and airport authorities have the potential to enrich traveler services beyond the departure and arrival gates through these features and more:

- Self-boarding gates
- Smart queuing and dynamic way-finding
- Automated Global Entry process
- Increased efficiency of CBP inspections
Through a collaborative partnership with CBP, airlines and airport authorities have an extraordinary opportunity to influence the future of secure air travel by co-developing processes that meet business, traveler and security needs.

THE TIME TO JOIN IS NOW
CBP is ready to initiate the simplified travel process at departure gates today. In addition, CBP plans to utilize the same matching service to implement facial recognition upon arrival. CBP partners will have the exclusive ability to preview the benefits of simplified travel on a single arriving flight.

Help Change the Face of Travel Today
For more information on how to become a partner, email SimplifyTravel@cbp.dhs.gov
SIMPLIFIED DEPARTURE FACT SHEET

THE FUTURE OF BIOMETRIC BOARDING IS NOW

CBP’s revolutionary approach to streamlined traveler identity verification is changing the face of travel and is ready for deployment at your departure gates.

Working with airlines, airports, and technology providers, CBP has developed a biometric facial recognition matching service that enables airlines and airports to board travelers using just their face for identity verification. This provides both speed and security, eliminating both the need to scan boarding passes, and the ability for imposters to breach the gate.

Airlines and airports are already using the facial recognition matching service as the primary method of identity verification for departing passengers; pilot programs are underway at eight major U.S. airports. Testing at TSA aviation security checkpoints is also underway, with plans being finalized for facial recognition baggage check tests. CBP is excited at the possibility of biometric matching from curb to gate.

THE MECHANICS OF SIMPLIFIED DEPARTURE

Flexible Design
The simplified departure process is designed with flexibility in mind: CBP developed a sophisticated facial recognition, cloud-based matching service, which allows airlines to have the freedom to choose a photo capture solution that works best for them.

Speed and Security
The process takes advantage of the speed of the cloud while reducing its security risks. No personal identifiable information (PII) beyond the traveler photo is transmitted or stored in the cloud.
At the Gate
The airline captures a photo of a traveler during the boarding process and transmits it to the cloud-based matching service. Verification results are returned within two seconds or less.

Behind the Scenes
CBP receives an advance manifest for the flight. Based on that manifest, CBP builds a photo gallery composed of the biographic information and historical photos (passports, visas, etc.) of each traveler scheduled to depart on that flight.

BECOME A SIMPLIFIED TRAVEL PARTNER TODAY
Getting started is simple: contact your CBP representative or email SimplifyTravel@cbp.dhs.gov. Be prepared to discuss the following operational logistics:

1. Boarding Process: Do you envision fully integrating the boarding process, using only the facial biometric for boarding, or implementing a two-step process by scanning a boarding pass as well? CBP is flexible and can support various testing approaches to determine what works best for each partner.

2. Photo Capture System: What photo capture system do you prefer to use? CBP designed its technology as a cloud-based matching service to allow airlines and airports to invest in a photo capture system that fits your needs. CBP can provide a technical guide and specifications.

Once you have determined your preferred boarding process and identified the photo capture solution, CBP will work with your team to complete the integration with the facial recognition matching service and begin operations.

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection
CBP Publication #0724-0518
SIMPLIFIED ARRIVAL FACT SHEET

EXPERIENCE SEAMLESS AND SECURE ARRIVAL INTO THE UNITED STATES
Partner with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to change the face of travel for travelers arriving in the United States by air. CBP’s simplified arrival process employs sophisticated smart queuing and biometric facial recognition technologies to minimize processing time while enhancing air traveler security.

CBP partners have the exclusive opportunity to deliver seamless entry with more security, less complexity, greater consistency and faster processing.

THE MECHANICS OF SIMPLIFIED ARRIVAL
International arrivals will be elegant and simple. The improved arrival process harnesses the speed, reliability, and security of facial recognition service, airlines and airports can confirm traveler identities within two seconds or less using just their face for identity verification.

BEHIND THE SCENES
Using airline manifest data and a cloud-based matching service, CBP retrieves existing traveler images from government holdings, including passports and visas, and builds a photo gallery of expected travelers prior to the flight’s arrival.

UPON ARRIVAL
As arriving travelers approach the inspection booth, CBP takes a photo of each traveler. The photograph is compared to the pre-assembled gallery to find a match. A match provides all the information needed by a CBP officer to complete their inspection in a matter of seconds.
The CBP officer conducts an interview with the traveler to validate the results, establish the purpose and intent of travel, and determine admissibility.

THE BENEFITS OF SIMPLIFIED ARRIVAL
Simplified arrival will enable airlines, airports and travelers to enjoy a streamlined arrival experience with measurable benefits:

- Faster clearance process
- Shorter connection times
- Paperless travel environment
- Standardized arrival procedures
- No need for fingerprint collection from returning foreign visitors
- Safer travel environment
- Increased identity assurance that reduces the imposter threat
- Decreased need for investment in new Automated Passport Control (APC) kiosks

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CBP'S FACIAL BIOMETRIC MATCHING SERVICE
U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is changing the face of travel with its cloud-based facial biometric matching service that enables safe, secure and fast identity verification.

This matching service is envisioned to replace the need to manually check paper travel documents by providing an automated identity verification process everywhere a traveler shows their travel document across every step in the travel continuum.

HOW DOES IT WORK?
Using APIS data, CBP creates a temporary gallery of photographs and unique identifiers (UIDs) for passengers on all departing and arriving U.S. flights. These photos and UIDs are securely pushed to a cloud-based matching service. CBP provides web services and a gateway for airlines and airports to submit traveler photos through an internet application program interface (API).

CBP’s facial biometric matching service has three primary functions:
1. Authenticate – validates security credentials and grants access to the system
2. Identify – receives photos from the airline’s system and identifies them
3. Respond – responds within two seconds or less with match results

Airports and airlines will be able to verify traveler identity using the facial biometric matching service throughout the travel process by simply capturing a live traveler photo. The captured photo is compared against the cloud-based matching service’s photo gallery in real-time. The service responds with identity verification match results, eliminating manual processing such as document checks or the use of boarding passes.
HOW IS TRAVELER INFORMATION SAFEGUARDED?
CBP's facial biometric matching service is hosted in a secure cloud-based environment. No personal identifying information for travelers beyond the photo is stored in the cloud. Photos used for matching are immediately converted into a format that cannot be restored to their original state. As part of the ongoing exit program, once a traveler’s identity is confirmed, the traveler’s photograph is discarded after a period of 14 days.

CBP takes its obligations to privacy and the protection of traveler data extremely seriously. CBP has published numerous privacy impact assessments explaining all aspects of the program to the public. These assessments indicate exactly how the data is captured, stored, transferred, and for how long it is maintained. Tear sheets and signage are available at the boarding gates, which explain the facial recognition process and alternative inspection procedures.

WHAT PHOTO CAPTURE EQUIPMENT IS REQUIRED AT DEPARTURE GATES?
The facial biometric matching service is device-agnostic. This allows CBP airlines and airports flexibility when selecting cameras to capture traveler photos at the departure gate. CBP provides a technical guide and specifications to support the on-boarding process.

READY TO PARTNER?
Interested airlines and airport authorities should contact their CBP representative or email SimplifyTravel@cbp.dhs.gov. CBP will provide a technical guide and specifications for the photo capture solution. Working with CBP, airlines and airports complete the following steps to initiate testing and deployment:

1. Review CBP-provided technical specification outlining interface, camera and network requirements
2. Develop a concept of operations for integration with the airline Departure Control System (DCS)
3. Select camera equipment and vendor
4. Establish an implementation timeline with CBP

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