

Inspection Technology

CBP is securing U.S. ports of entry by implementing a layered security strategy. By combining state-of-the-art detection technology and sophisticated targeting and communication systems, we are securing America.

CBP also has an Air and Marine Operations Center in Riverside, Calif. (AMOC) with extensive surveillance and database capabilities.

CBP information, inspection and surveillance technologies include:

- Radiation Portal Monitor: A detection device that provides a passive, non-intrusive means to scan for radiation emanating from nuclear devices, dirty bombs, special nuclear materials, natural sources, and isotopes commonly used in medicine and industry. More than 1,090 are installed nationwide with plans for continued expansion.
- Personal Radiation Detector: A small, highly sensitive device that sounds an alarm if radiation is detected during an inspection or enforcement operation. CBP officers at ports of entry are equipped with PRDs and there are over 16,200 are in CBP's inventory for use by CBP officers, with more on order.
- Radiation Isotope Identifiers: A handheld instrument capable of detecting gamma and neutron emissions from radioactive sources, including nuclear, medical and industrial isotopes. CBP officers use this device to locate and determine the exact identity of a radioactive source causing an alarm. More than 1,200 are in use by CBP officers, with more on order.
- Large-scale Gamma-ray/X-ray Imaging Systems: These systems produce transmission and reflected images of the contents of a cargo container, rail car, vehicle or trailer-truck. CBP officers analyze these images to determine where there

- are anomalies associated with the cargo listed on the manifest. There are 200 systems in use, with more to be added.
- Explosives and narcotics detection systems: The system can detect and identify trace amounts (very small) or measurable amounts of explosives or narcotics. CBP officers collect samples by wiping suspected surfaces with sample collection traps.
- Portable Contraband Detector 'Buster':
 Can locate density anomalies concealed inside tires, dashboards, fenders, and other types of homogeneous, opaque surfaces/objects. The device can be used to quickly and easily inspect vehicles entering the country at ports of entry and land border installations.

These detection, inspection and surveillance tools are only a portion of the technology that CBP uses on a daily basis to accomplish its mission of protecting America.

