

Biometric Technology Rally: Adapting to COVID-19



Homeland
Security

Science and Technology

BIOMETRIC AND IDENTITY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The Biometric and Identity Technology Center (BI-TC) serves as a resource for subject matter expertise in the science, methods, tools, and technologies used to recognize individuals and protect sensitive personal information. It enables Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components to cost-effectively maintain capabilities, enhance operations through effective use of new technologies, and inform strategic planning and acquisitions in developing new operational capabilities.

BIOMETRIC TECHNOLOGY RALLY

As commercially-available biometric technologies, such as collection devices and matching algorithms, continue to advance, the DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) is driving biometric solutions and innovations within the Department. Through the BI-TC, S&T will conduct Biometric Technology Rallies with industry vendors to seek innovative solutions that will improve live biometric capture and matching.

2020 RALLY DETAILS AND CHANGES

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DHS priorities for the 2020 Rally will focus on evaluating the ability of systems to reliably collect and/or match images of individuals, including individuals wearing face masks. The intent is to improve the ability to recognize people without requiring travelers to remove protective equipment, reducing risk for both the public and frontline DHS personnel.



Originally, the evaluation also included processing small groups of up to 12 people, without disruption; however, this part of the evaluation will be deferred to 2021.

The 2020 Biometric Technology Rally will take place in a laboratory test environment at the Maryland Test Facility (MdTF). It will evaluate vendors of both hardware and software through a standard, repeatable process.



*Can your system acquire/match face images
from individuals wearing face masks?*

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

For more details about S&T's Biometric Technology Rallies, visit <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/biometric-technology-rally>.

You can also watch an informational video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imv82Cuo2Pw>.

