

THE CHALLENGE: SECURING OUR BORDERS AS THREATS ADVANCE

Protecting our borders from the illegal movement of weapons, drugs, contraband, and people, while promoting lawful trade and travel, is essential to the nation's homeland security, economic prosperity, and sovereignty. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) maintains our border security with vigilance in the air, on land, and at ports of entry (POE). As the technological sophistication of adversaries with malicious and nefarious intent advances the threat, so must the capabilities of DHS.

To help protect our nation against these advanced threats, DHS Science and Technology (S&T) established the Air, Land and POE Security (ALPS) program. This program advances technologies to improve mission effectiveness to reduce illegal entry/exit of people, weapons, dangerous goods, and contraband.

The result is the transition of advanced technical capabilities to secure our national airspace and land borders.

MISSION FOCUSED PROJECTS

The ALPS Program aligns its resources to current operational challenges via eight Project Areas:

- Air Security
- Border Situation Awareness
- Enhanced Trade Technologies
- Ground-Based Technologies
- POE Forensics and Investigations
- POE Mail
- POE Scanning and Technologies & Analytics
- Tunnel Detection and Surveillance



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Notable project advancements include:

- Enhanced intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for air, land, and maritime domains.
- Improved geolocation, data analytics, and dissemination of law enforcement information related to human trafficking and illegal immigration.
- Detection of contraband and bulk currency.
- Detection of material threats embedded in cargo, passengers, automobiles, mail, and express consignment.
- Enhanced law enforcement communication capabilities.
- Improved communications/data access for remote operators.
- Detection and surveillance of cross-border tunnels.
- Improved operational tools and personal protection equipment for officers and agents within the Homeland Security Enterprise.

STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

DHS Components: U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, as well as the U.S. Department of Defense and Intelligence Community.

