



# Privacy Impact Assessment

for the

# TSA Enterprise Search Portal

**DHS Reference No. DHS/TSA/PIA-033(a)**

**August 29, 2023**



**Homeland  
Security**



## Abstract

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) implemented an Enterprise Search Portal search capability to enable authorized users to search or discover data across separate TSA databases with a single search. TSA is updating this Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to reflect that the system (now known as the Real-time Analytic Platform for Incident Deterrence (RAPID)) will expand its search capability beyond the original three TSA databases.<sup>1</sup> The intent of RAPID, as with the Enterprise Search Portal, is to provide greater efficiency and visibility into the data currently held by TSA in disparate databases.

## Overview

TSA is responsible for security in all modes of transportation, and is required to “receive, assess, and distribute intelligence information related to transportation security” as well as to “assess threats to transportation.”<sup>2</sup> Prior to the implementation of an enterprise search capability, authorized TSA employees performed independent searches of several databases held by TSA to perform security functions. Separate searches are inefficient and reduce the ability of analysts to understand relationships between incidents, individuals, locations, and threat items in incidents or intelligence that may have initially been collected and maintained by different offices within TSA.

TSA’s RAPID application is a single system that consolidates data into one, easy-to-use system and enables TSA to instantly search, correlate and analyze information to accurately respond to real-time developing threats to our nation’s transportation system. With the implementation of RAPID as an enterprise search portal, users are able to search any combination of relevant databases using a natural language query as well as other parameters, such as airport code and incident type, and can specify the search by date or range of dates. The system will return a set of results based on the search, and also provide the ability to display information prompted by the system rather than by search terms selected by the user. A module also proactively identifies potential transportation security threats by correlating data against pre-defined configurable rules.

## Reason for the PIA Update

RAPID searches across systems that have compatible TSA purposes, and users undergo an approval process prior to getting access to data from new systems. User access is restricted to ensure that each user has appropriate access to the data returned by a search. For initial operating capability, RAPID searched across the Tactical Information Sharing System (TISS),<sup>3</sup> the

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<sup>1</sup> For more information about the original capabilities, please *see* U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE TSA ENTERPRISE SEARCH PORTAL (ESP), DHS/TSA/PIA-033 (2011), *available at* <https://www.dhs.gov/privacy-documents-transportation-security-administration-tsa>.

<sup>2</sup> Aviation and Transportation Security Act, 49 USC §114(f).

<sup>3</sup> *See* U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY



Operations Center Incident Management System (OCIMS),<sup>4</sup> and the Performance and Results Information System (PARIS).<sup>5</sup> TSA is updating this Privacy Impact Assessment to reflect that additional relevant databases will be added to improve TSA security mission performance, starting with the TSA Airport Information Management (AIM) system.<sup>6</sup> Additional databases may be added in the future following review for compliance with applicable privacy law, regulation, and policy by the TSA Privacy Officer as reflected in the Appendix.

## Privacy Impact Analysis

### Authorities and Other Requirements

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

### Characterization of the Information

This update reflects that new TSA databases will be searchable with RAPID, starting with the TSA Airport Information Management system.

**Privacy Risk:** There is a risk that inappropriate new databases will be added to the RAPID search capability.

**Mitigation:** The risk is mitigated. TSA Privacy reviews each new proposed database to ensure it is appropriate to be added under applicable privacy law, regulation, and policy. The risk is further mitigated by tailoring user access so that search capability is limited to those with a need for the information in the performance of their duties as required.

### Uses of the Information

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

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ADMINISTRATION, PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE TACTICAL INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM, DHS/TSA/PIA-015, available at <https://www.dhs.gov/privacy-documents-transportation-security-administration-tsa>.

<sup>4</sup> See U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE OPERATIONS CENTER INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, DHS/TSA/PIA-029, available at <https://www.dhs.gov/privacy-documents-transportation-security-administration-tsa>.

<sup>5</sup> See U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS INFORMATION SYSTEM, DHS/TSA/PIA-038, available at <https://www.dhs.gov/privacy-documents-transportation-security-administration-tsa>.

<sup>6</sup> See U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR TSA ENTERPRISE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM, DHS/TSA/PIA-034, available at <https://www.dhs.gov/privacy-documents-transportation-security-administration-tsa>.



## **Notice**

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

## **Data Retention by the Project**

Records from the underlying systems that are searched by RAPID will be retained in accordance with schedules approved by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration for those systems. Because RAPID provides a search and discovery capability on data held in other systems, RAPID is periodically refreshed by the data from those systems and therefore the information in RAPID matches updates to the searched systems.

TSA will retain queries saved by users within the system to provide the capability to run the same query in the future. For example, a particular user's investigative interest in security breaches at a particular airport can be saved to run the search on a daily basis. These are intermediary records and will be destroyed upon verification of successful creation of the final document or file, or when no longer needed for business use, whichever is later, in accordance with U.S. National Archives and Records Administration General Records Schedule 5.2, Item 020.

Query results (RAPID dashboard notifications) will be reviewed by TSA analysts within the RAPID system. The analyst can create a folder or report for their research. For example, query results may result in correlation reports providing assessments of transportation security threats. These are deleted when superseded or obsolete, in accordance with U.S. National Archives and Records Administration approved records disposition schedule N1-560-04-12, Item 4b for Intelligence Reports and Assessments.

## **Information Sharing**

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

## **Redress**

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

## **Auditing and Accountability**

There are no updates from the prior Privacy Impact Assessment.

## **Contact Official**

John Bogers  
System Owner  
TSA Law Enforcement/Federal Air Marshal Service  
[TSA.RAPID.Privacy@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:TSA.RAPID.Privacy@tsa.dhs.gov)



## **Responsible Official**

Peter Pietra  
Privacy Officer  
Transportation Security Administration  
[TSAprivacy@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:TSAprivacy@tsa.dhs.gov)

## **Approval Signature**

Original, signed copy on file with the DHS Privacy Office.

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Mason C. Clutter  
Chief Privacy Officer  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
(202) 343-1717



## **APPENDIX A**

TSA data sets searched by the Real-time Analytic Platform for Incident Deterrence (RAPID):

1. Tactical Information Sharing System (TISS)
2. Operations Center Incident Management System (OCIMS)
3. Performance and Results Information System (PARIS)
4. Airport Information Management System (AIM)