

Privacy Impact Assessment Update for the

United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) Program

International Live Test – Phase III
Testing of ICAO-Compliant e-Passports

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Introduction

In response to the requirements of the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002, as amended, (Border Security Act), all Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries must implement programs to issue International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) compliant, biometrically enabled e-Passports to their citizens. In addition, all United States ports of entry (POE) must have the capability to biometrically compare and authenticate these e-Passports, as well as visas, travel, and entry documents issued to aliens by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State.

In interpreting this requirement, DHS required all applicants applying for admission under the VWP with passports issued on or after October 26, 2005, to have a passport that contains a digital photo. In addition, DHS has announced that by October 26, 2006, all VWP countries must produce chip-enabled, biometrically enhanced passports. These new e-Passports must comply with the international technical standards established by ICAO.

DHS will acquire and install a document reader solution that reads these e-Passports at United States ports of entry. State will issue ICAO-compliant e-Passports to U.S. citizens.

Summary of Changes

This document is an update of the International Live Test Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA), dated June 15, 2005, and updated December 22, 2005. The original PIA contains the complete analysis of privacy issues around the live test of the readers. The December update included enhancements to the test to cover the testing of basic access controls of the e-Passports and certain changes to the composition and logistics of the testing. The only change being made in this current update for Phase III is an extension of time to afford DHS the additional opportunity to continue testing the readers until the deployment of the selected reader solution begins. At that time, a PIA describing the full deployment of the selected reader solution will be published.

There will be no change to the current process for data collection and presentation. There will also be no additional impact on the general public. Phase III will not involve the collection of personal information beyond that



currently being collected from all travelers. The only change is to extend the testing date beyond April 15, 2006, until the deployment of the selected reader solution.