



RSI Biometric Technology Has Proven Itself Ready To Immediately Protect Critical U.S. Infrastructure From Terrorist Attacks, IR Tells Congressional Committee

WOODCLIFF LAKE, NJ, November 14, 2001 – Biometric technologies, specifically hand geometry, can today significantly improve security at important U.S. infrastructure, from airports to nuclear power plants, according to testimony delivered today by Martin Huddart, General Manager of Recognition Systems, Inc., (RSI) to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information.

RSI is a subsidiary of Ingersoll-Rand Company (NYSE:IR), a diversified industrial manufacturer and a world leader in security and safety. RSI and IR provide integrated security and safety solutions, featuring advanced access control technologies, including electronic and biometric solutions (such as hand geometry readers). RSI's technology solutions are used to secure some of the world's leading high-security, high volume environments – including over 90 percent of the nation's nuclear power plants, and in leading scientific laboratories, Federal prisons, commercial airports, U.S. military bases, seaport cargo facilities and government buildings.

In his testimony, Huddart cited that in the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11: "One task is certain, we must significantly increase and upgrade security not only at U.S. commercial airports, but at other critical national infrastructure that could potentially be targeted by terrorists."

"Of all the biometric systems currently in use, hand readers are the technology that today best meets the essential tests of performance and reliability in high-security environments. This is a mature system that can quickly be put in place to meet a variety of security applications. That is what differentiates this technology from others," he said.

There are hundreds of proposals for new technologies that have been sent to Congress and Federal and local authorities to consider since September 11. These include many different biometric systems, such as hand, iris, fingerprint, facial and voice recognition. Huddart testified, "While there is no disagreement that technology has a vital role in finding new security solutions for U.S. infrastructure, we must understand that this is not the time to experiment with new and unproven systems. Only those technologies and products that have already been proven in high-security environments, and that already have an established reputation for performance, should be in the forefront of our decision-making processes in the weeks and months ahead."

Huddart said this technology can be used for a wide range of security applications. "One is preventing unauthorized employees from gaining access to certain areas and assets. Another is to quickly identify low-risk users, such as pre-screened airport passengers, so that security personnel can focus on a much smaller category – high-risk passengers. Hand readers can reduce the size of the haystack so we have a better chance of finding the needle," he said.

Huddart also suggested that there is a critical role for Congress and Federal regulatory agencies to play in mandating that new security procedures and technologies be put in place in a variety of different national infrastructure that could be targeted for future terrorist attacks. "Nowhere is there a more immediate security challenge to address than that of U.S. commercial airports," Huddart said.

Currently, only one U.S. airport, San Francisco International Airport (SFO), has implemented the specific intent of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) directive, which mandates that only authorized people are allowed access to flight operations areas at commercial airports. At SFO, RSI HandReaders are used throughout the entire facility and over 30,000 airport workers are enrolled in the system. "This is not a pilot program. It is an integral component of the airport's security infrastructure," Huddart said. Most airport authorities in this country use card-based access systems to implement this mandate. These systems are inadequate because they can only accurately identify ID cards, and not the person carrying the card. Only with the addition of a biometric system can the identity of the card holder be verified.

Huddart's complete testimony is available at IR's Web site, www.irco.com.

Case studies may be viewed at: <http://www.handreader.com/news/customertest.shtml>. Enter the following when prompted:
Username: images / Password: rsimages.

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components; PowerWorks microturbines; and Ingersoll-Rand industrial and construction equipment. In addition, IR offers products and services under many more premium brands for customers in industrial and Commercial Markets. Further information on IR can be found on the company's web site at www.irco.com.