

PISCES

Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System

The Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES) assists host countries in the global effort to combat terrorism and crime. It collects, compares and analyzes data gathered from travelers, allowing border control officials to quickly and easily identify suspect individuals.

Introduction

As the tragic events of September 11 remind us, terrorism is a global threat with global reach: although the attack occurred on American soil, citizens of more than 80 countries were killed in the strike. The proper use of intelligence is the only way to stay one step ahead of terrorist networks, disrupt their operations and protect innocent people around the world from their malicious intentions. But information, although abundant, is useless until it can be interpreted, managed and shared.

The Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES) is a sophisticated border management tool and powerful high-tech weapon designed to help fight the global war against terrorism. PISCES provides host countries with the means to detect, prevent and deter global terrorist activities by collecting, comparing and analyzing traveler information at strategic transit points around the world. It is efficient and reliable, with low deployment and maintenance costs.

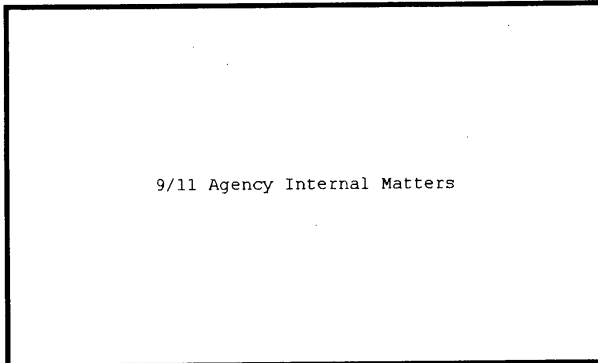
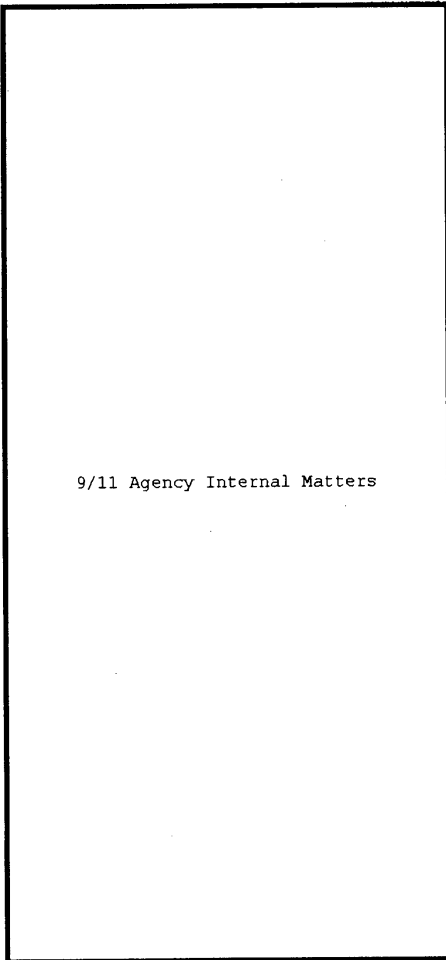
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System Hardware and Software

PISCES is a client-server system. This allows PISCES to operate in a stand-alone, LAN or WAN configuration. Included with the PISCES system are the necessary anti-viral and backup software and Microsoft Office suite, including the Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Access programs.

PISCES uses the Dell 6400 or 4400 servers and Dell 4100 clients. The operating system is Windows 2000 and the database management system is Oracle. A web browser interface allows quick access to foreign languages without changing the application code. It features the JAVA control programming language and compliance with the Open Database Connectivity Query Standard. The browser controls and supports rapid response for database functions, peripheral devices, and system administration. The system also features numerous peripherals to boost its effectiveness (see box below). All of these peripherals are modular and insulated from the application software by easily altered interface routines. That means if a new peripheral is needed, a different brand is purchased or a new and improved version is released, the impact of such a change or upgrade is virtually unnoticed by the user.

Planning for and Installing PISCES



Step 1: The Site Survey

Network, software and facilities engineers perform a detailed site survey to determine the specific installation needs at each location where PISCES will be installed. Following the completion of a detailed questionnaire that examines the status and/or availability of electrical power, networking requirements, the system environment and other similar issues, the team creates a floor plan and power schematics to accommodate PISCES. The survey team typically includes a staff member who is prepared to discuss the PISCES project in detail. A 12-minute video, available in English and Arabic, further demonstrates the capabilities of the PISCES system. Before they depart the

team will prepare a list of any additional actions that are necessary to complete the installation of the system. This is called the After Action Report.

Step 2: Planning, Ordering and Delivery

Based on the After Action Report the PISCES team will prepare a project plan, system design, equipment inventories and installation and training plans. They will order all of the necessary equipment and will configure it for installation, loading the COTS and PISCES software. The team tests each PISCES system before it is installed to ensure that it is operating as required. Following the successful completion of this simulation, the computers will be packed for shipping.

Step 3: PISCES Installation

When the final installation site is ready, a PISCES team will arrive to install the system and conduct a training. User's manuals and training materials will be provided—in the local language if necessary-- to all personnel who will be using the system, such as customs and immigration officials, border guards, analysts and system administrators.

Future enhancements

As technology becomes more sophisticated, so too do the practices of criminals and terrorist networks in their quest to evade detection. PISCES strives to stay one step ahead and has planned several critical upgrades for future versions of the system. Biometrics, for example, is a rapidly advancing and exciting new technology that will further enhance the effectiveness of the PISCES system. Below is a list of some of what's to come:

Keeping the System Safe

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Global Programs

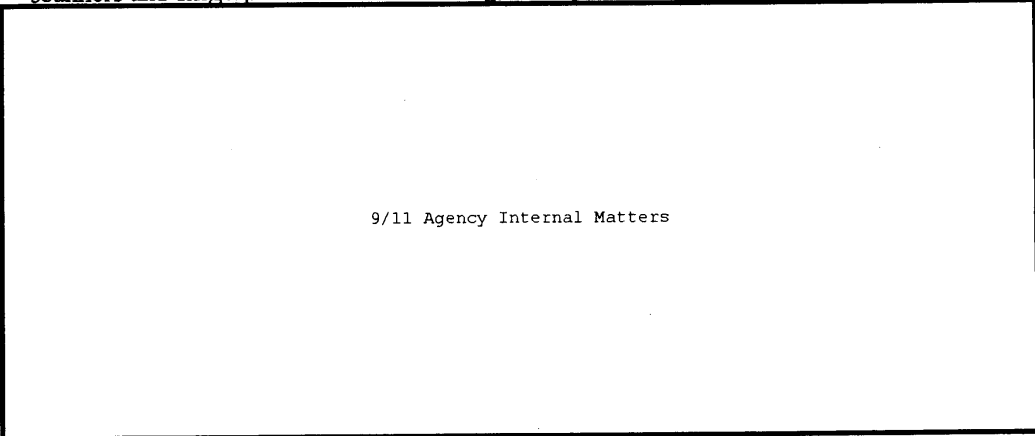
TERRORIST INTERDICTION PROGRAM
(\$ in thousands)

Account	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Estimate	FY 2004 Request
NADR	4,000	5,000	23,000

TIP Program Background:

As Sept. 11 made painfully clear, the United States has a major interest in preventing terrorists from crossing international borders to attack innocent civilian populations or to disrupt the internal stability of friendly countries. The Terrorist Interdiction Program (TIP) is designed to help prevent or disrupt the travel of terrorists across international borders into high-risk countries that have little or no means of quickly identifying such persons. TIP complements existing anti-terrorism training programs by providing border control systems, incorporating computerized database programs and rapidly transmitting information to interdict potential terrorists and their weapons trying to cross international borders. In doing so, TIP bolsters the security of Americans at home and abroad.

Specifically, the TIP program helps recipient nations improve border security by providing computer hardware, database software, peripheral devices-- such as passport scanners and fingerprint readers—training, and operational support that enables officials



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The Need for Global Capacity-Building:

Since the beginning of the war on terrorism, the President and other top Administration and Congressional officials have emphasized the global nature of the terrorist threat and the need for a cooperative global attack to defeat it. This war extends

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beyond the battlefield in Afghanistan to every country where terrorist cells currently operate or have the potential to operate because of weak internal defenses.

Because the tactics of terrorist movements today are highly unconventional, the United States cannot win this war by conventional military means alone. The efforts of our armed forces must be complemented by effective, robust capacity-building programs overseas, which are aimed at bolstering the capabilities of U.S. allies to fight and mitigate terrorist activities. TIP does this by providing the necessary training, equipment, and technologies to host nation security and immigration officials. These are the forces that will be fighting international terrorism on a daily basis, protecting U.S. assets and interests overseas and preventing terrorists from ever reaching American soil in the first place.

TIP is also a significant diplomatic engagement tool. The program acts as both an entre for USG diplomatic engagement with a host nation and acts as a clear indicator of its willingness to support the global campaign against terrorism.

TIP Program Scope:

TIP makes it harder for terrorists to enter vulnerable countries undetected by establishing a multiple-layered barrier program comprised of three elements: border monitoring, using lookout systems and passport scrutiny; updated intelligence and security databases and communications systems; and development of appropriate equipment to detect weapons. The program focuses on vulnerable countries that are key transportation hubs, havens or otherwise important international crossroads identified by intelligence analysis and interagency assessment teams. As demonstrated by the attacks of Sept. 11, the Cole attack, the Embassy bombings in East Africa in 1998, and other similar and deadly attacks, intercepting terrorists before they can move into position is key to preventing terrorist activities and saving lives.

Following Sept. 11 the Three-Tiered Interagency Priority list of strategic countries increased from 34 to 60 countries, including all Frontline states; thirteen of these have known terrorist nodes and are key transit points. Not only has the list of potential recipient countries increased significantly, but the country program resource requirements have as well. As noted above, the introduction of the pilot program in [redacted] has demonstrated the requirement for widespread installation of the system throughout all of a country's entry and exit points as well as the necessity for a comprehensive program to ensure the proper management, training, and functioning of the system.

Installing TIP in multiple points of entry within a single country increases its effectiveness in identifying terrorists as they transit that country's borders. Moreover, building a network of TIP countries exponentially increases the program's effectiveness by tightening the noose around free movement of terrorist suspects between countries. But it also increases the cost of the program.

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Budgetary Requirements:

As the President has said repeatedly, the fight against terrorism requires sustained efforts over time by the U.S. and its allies. Thus, the ramp-up of TIP in FY 2002 with supplemental funding should not be considered a one-time event. The TIP program needs to be sustained at a higher than historical level to ensure that the increased number of countries [redacted] are provided the system at a faster rate than initially envisioned and one which corresponds to the heightened security threats to the United States and to American citizens around the world.

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