

May 25, 2012

Aviation Security Advisory Committee Transportation Security Administration 601 12th St. Arlington, VA 20598

Dear ASAC Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Security Industry Association (SIA) to comment on the May 21, 2012, meeting of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Aviation Security Advisory Committee (ASAC). SIA is an international trade association that represents the interests of more than 400 member companies who design and install cutting-edge electronic security solutions used each day to protect millions of Americans at our nation's airports and other sites.

SIA appreciates TSA Administrator John Pistole encouraging the committee to identify subject matter experts and make them an integral part of its operations. As Administrator Pistole said, SMEs "have the interest [and] have the perspective, things we can always use at TSA." SIA's member companies employ many of the nation's leading experts on such electronic security topics as perimeter security, biometrics, identity management, video surveillance and access control, and several of these individuals have already expressed to us their desire to work with ASAC and TSA to improve aviation security. We would be pleased to provide ASAC members and staff with access to these and other SMEs on aviation security technology issues.

SIA also strongly supports the suggestion by ASAC member John Hazlet that the committee create a technology subcommittee. As Mr. Hazlet noted during the meeting, technology cuts across nearly all aviation security issues, and dedicating a panel to the subject would ensure that the committee is able to stay abreast of the latest developments in this constantly evolving field. SIA would be pleased to assist ASAC in the creation and operation of such a subcommittee.

Securing the nation's air travel network is one of the most challenging tasks faced by any government agency, but technology can be a force multiplier that helps to manage risk and enhance security while improving efficiency. When implemented optimally, it can do all of this while protecting privacy and minimizing intrusive procedures. The experts at SIA's member companies can be an invaluable resource as ASAC seeks to maximize the effectiveness of security technology and protect the traveling public.

Please contact Ronald Hawkins, SIA's manager of technical writing and special projects, at (703) 647-8487 – this will change to (301) 804-4700 as of June 25 – or <u>rhawkins@siaonline.org</u> with any questions about SIA or the availability of electronic physical security SMEs.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

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Donald Erickson CEO Security Industry Association