



The Z-Portal is a safe, efficient, drive-through passenger vehicle imaging system with enhanced capability for rapid scanning of conveyances for the presence of contraband, including hidden stowaways, narcotics, merchandise and security threats. The Z-Portal quickly produces images from three sides (left, right and top-down) of the vehicle being examined, resulting in a comprehensive and improved capability to detect suspicious items while simultaneously facilitating the flow of legitimate traffic.

The advanced technology offered by the Z-Portal is beneficial to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) because it performs a unique function as part of the inventory of inspection tools, including gamma-ray and X-ray non-intrusive inspection technologies, that are presently being used at the nation's ports of entry. In comparison to the technology currently used by CBP, the Z-Portal provides a much clearer image of low density objects that may be hidden in car fenders, tires, trunks, gas tanks, or under the hood.

The Z-Portal will assist CBP officers in preventing contraband, including illegal drugs and terrorist weapons, from entering the United States while also facilitating the flow of legitimate trade and travel. In addition, the Z-Portal will reduce the risks faced by CBP officers when physically dismantling

vehicles suspected of carrying concealed contraband and crawling into confined spaces to detect and retrieve hidden merchandise or persons that may pose a threat.

All vehicles directed from the primary inspection lanes to secondary inspection areas will be scanned by the Z-Portal. The Z-Portal has been tested comprehensively and certified safe for drivers and passengers to remain in the

vehicle during the scanning process.

For persons present in the vehicle being scanned, the system creates only a silhouette with no facial or body detail of the driver or occupants inside the vehicle. The system cannot

be used to identify an individual, or the race, gender or age of persons inside the vehicle.

The extremely low radiation dosage of the Z-Portal is safe for operators, drivers and the environment. A person would have to go through the Z-Portal more than 2,000 times to get the radiation exposure of one medical chest X-ray.

More information on the Z-Portal is available within the Environmental Assessment for Deployment of Z Backscatter Screening Systems, San Ysidro Port of Entry, San Diego County, California.

