TSA Improves Threat Detection Capability
US Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

The TSA is charged with the daunting task of keeping all our nation's transportation facilities safe while doing so at minimal inconvenience to passengers. To carry out this mission they recently began installing a millimeter wave camera system provided by QinetiQ North America called the "SPO-7R™".

The SPO-7R™ uses advanced Millimeter Wave (mmW) technology to provide instant real-time standoff IED detection. The SPO-7R™ is a compact, all-weather system which is portable and easy to use, with simple automatic threat alert functionality and remote operation. SPO-7R™ is the first standoff suicide bomb detector to have successfully passed TSA indoor and outdoor development test and evaluation (DT&E).

TSA Administrator and Assistant Secretary Kip Hawley says the purchase of this system and others will enhance the suite of technologies while improving security. "Better technology leverages the skills of our officers more efficiently and improves our ability to adapt in real-time to changes in the threat environment".

The SPO-7R™ is built on Directed Perception's **PTU-D300** precision computer-controlled pan-tilt unit. The **PTU-D300** enables several key capabilities important to the system including precise pointing, reliability at high duty cycles, computer-controlled tracking, light weight and portability. The portability of the SPO-7R™ was key in TSA's decision as it allows more rapid deployment capability in a wide range of both permanent and semi-permanent installations in transportation facilities.

The **PTU-D300** is an off-the-shelf positioning solution in full production and available in high volume. The PTU-D300 provides QinetiQ with the ability to rapidly deploy this powerful system to airports and transportation centers worldwide.

QinetiQ's SPO-7R™ - Standoff Suicide Bomb Detector

About TSA, (www.tsa.gov) The TSA, formed immediately following the tragedies of Sept. 11, is a component of the Department of Homeland Security and is responsible for security of the nation's transportation systems. TSA oversees security for the highways, railroads, buses, mass transit systems, ports and the 450 U.S. airports. TSA employs approximately 50,000 people from Alaska to Puerto Rico to ensure that travels – by plane, train, automobile or ferry – are safe and secure.