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## NEWS RELEASE

# Tampa International Airport Selected to Test Biometric Technology

### For immediate release

TAMPA, Fla. (May 5, 2004) – The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has announced that Tampa International Airport is one of eight airports selected to participate in TSA's Access Control Pilot Program which will test Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, Anti-Piggybacking technology, advanced video surveillance technology and various biometric technologies.

Tampa International Airport will test the viability of portable card readers (wireless and hand held) and fingerprint recognition technology at a vehicle gate. "It's gratifying to be selected for the TSA's pilot program," explained Louis E. Miller, Executive Director, Hillsborough County Aviation Authority. "When the pilot program begins, we'll select a small population of the airport employees for the test. It is another level of security that ensures only authorized access to secure areas."

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Louis E. Miller Executive Director

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Peter O. Knight Airport Plant City Airport Vandenberg Airport



TSA has developed a two-phase pilot program starting with Phase I, the eight selected airports will test various off-the-shelf biometric technologies under a variety of real-world operational environments in an effort to provide unbiased evaluations of their suitability of use. Based on that analysis, TSA will then determine which technologies will be evaluated in the Phase II airports. Information gathered during these pilot projects will be made available to appropriate industry representatives so that they may make informed decisions when designing access control systems to meet their security and regulatory needs.

Other airports selected include, Boise Air Terminal/Gowen Field Airport (BOI), Boise, Idaho; Miami International Airport (MIA), Miami, Fla.; Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP), Minneapolis, Minn.; Newark International Airport (EWR), Newark, N.J.; Savannah International Airport (SAV), Savannah, Ga.; Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW), Ft. Myers, Fla.; and T. F. Green State Airport (PVD), Providence, R.I.

In October 2003, TSA awarded a contract to Unisys to be the systems integrator for the pilot program. The contract has a maximum government obligation of \$17 million over 20 months. The Aviation Authority will implement the pilot program within the next 30 to 60 days.

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