June 5, 2013

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
326 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Lee
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Biometric Air Exit Solution

Dear Senators Sessions, Feinstein, Cornyn, and Lee:

On behalf of MorphoTrak, I want to thank you for your leadership and public support for biometrics in an immigration setting. Biometrics is and always will be the best means to assure identity. Right now, we are able to deploy an effective and viable biometric air exit system using proven technologies without inconveniencing foreign nationals departing on international flights. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information as requested.

Who is MorphoTrak

MorphoTrak is a world leader in multi-biometric technologies and an acknowledged expert in identification systems. Our solutions meet a wide range of security needs for people, companies and governments worldwide. We are a U.S. company with about 500 employees dedicated to biometric product innovation, project implementation, and customer support.
Our headquarters are in Alexandria, VA, with large facilities in Anaheim, CA and Federal Way, WA.

MorphoTrak provides the FBI with fingerprint matching solutions including those used in the new Next Generation Identification (NGI) System. MorphoTrak has also deployed and currently supports Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) solutions for law enforcement in 28 states and over 30 cities and counties, including the New York (City) Police Department, New York State, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Harris County and the City of El Paso Texas, Arizona Department of Public Safety, Orange County California Sheriff’s Department, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Missouri State Highway Patrol, New Jersey State Police, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, and a large array of interoperable AFIS systems across the U.S. National Capital Region and surrounding jurisdictions.

**Biometrics Used for Immigration**

Biometrics serve as the basis for OBIM (formerly known as US-VISIT), which today is used to take a digital photo and 10 fingerprints for all foreign nationals that enter at US ports of entry. There are currently over 150 million visitors in OBIM that are queried an average of 30,000 times a day by the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense and state, local and federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to verify identities and identify potential criminals and terrorists.

The results of the “2009 US-VISIT Air Exit Pilots Evaluation Report” that Senator Sessions made public during the Senate Judiciary Committee markup of S. 744, “Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act”, clarify that an air biometric exit mandate could have been fulfilled in 2009 without operational or compliance issues that plagued the earlier January 2004 to May 2007 pilot. Biometrics can provide the level of security needed to have a cost-effective and comprehensive system for both entry and exit.

**Feasibility of Implementing Biometric Air Exit**

MorphoTrak is part of a global corporation which deployed large-scale biometric intake and matching systems for immigration purposes including Automated Border Control Solutions (ABCS) installed recently in 9 countries at 20 international airports. These systems include the Australia and New Zealand SmartGates, the French Parafe, UK IRIS, and UAE Abu Dhabi systems processing in excess of 700,000 passengers per month. MorphoTrak is currently the only biometric provider capable of fielding a contactless fingerprint capture technology (also known as “finger-on-the-fly”) ideally suited for high-throughput immigration and border control applications.
WHAT: The purpose of utilizing biometrics as the foundation of a comprehensive exit program is to accurately match non-U.S. citizen departure data with previously collected arrival information. The exit solution requires the collection of a biometric (i.e. fingerprints), along with biographic data, from foreign nationals in order to enable biometric matching and identity verification at departure gates and/or TSA security checkpoints.

HOW: Non-U.S. citizen visitors with an international destination are directed to areas near the departure gate or at the TSA checkpoint for biometric information collection. Using a mobile or portable (cart-based) collection device (such as finger-on-the-fly), the officers collect one or more fingerprints electronically. The fingerprints can be matched locally on the collection device or remotely. A biometric match returns the associated biographic information that is then compared with the biographic data in the Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of a passport, such as name, country, passport number and date of birth. In the attached estimates, we assume 23 airports for our calculations which comprise 40% of the international travel from the U.S.

PRIVACY: All data remains encrypted during the entire transmission process. High level security protocols and procedures are used to protect all devices and data used by CBP, TSA or other officials.

MorphoTrak suggests the use of contactless, “on-the-fly” biometric capture that enables agents to be reassigned to tasks that require manual intervention. The contactless fingerprint technology does not require a passenger to stop walking to place their hands on a device or be
touched by an agent. This maximizes passenger processing, eliminates hygiene concerns and can alleviate cultural or religious objections.

By using contactless fingerprint and/or advanced biometric handheld technologies, the exit process can be expedited, resulting in less than 2 seconds for fingerprint capture for each passenger.  *All of these technologies are available today.*

MorphoTrak has included an attachment identifying costs for multiple options to enable a biometric exit system. These estimates include options for (1) mobile devices, (2) biometric kiosks with contactless fingerprint capture, (3) exception handling, (4) 1:1 and 1:few biometric searching for those foreign nationals who do not have biometric passports, (5) mirror copy of the US VISIT (OBIM) database, and (6) migration of the US VISIT databases.

MorphoTrak believes that the biometric portion of an exit program could fall within the range of $90,000,000 to $150,000,000 using a combination of the options mentioned above.

MorphoTrak greatly appreciates your support and would be pleased to provide any additional information you require.

Sincerely,

Clark Nelson  
Senior Vice President  
MorphoTrak, Inc.