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WHAT IS SECURE FLIGHT?

Learn About It

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Mission and Goals

The Mission of the Secure Flight program is to enhance the security of domestic and international commercial air travel in the United States through the use of improved watch list matching.

The program's goals are to:

- Identify known and suspected terrorists
- Prevent individuals on the No Fly List from boarding an aircraft
- Subject individuals on the Selectee List to enhanced screening to determine if they are permitted to board an aircraft
- Facilitate passenger air travel
- Protect individuals' privacy



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Watch List Matching Pre-Secure Flight

- Before Secure Flight, airlines were responsible for performing watch list matching of passengers
- Airline watch list matching was performed with varying degrees of effectiveness and was less than optimal
- Watch list data was being distributed outside of the U.S. Government with limited controls on how or with whom the data was shared
- Advanced notification of potential threats was limited and ability to preposition to respond was reduced
- Individuals seeking redress had limited success of airlines recognizing their redress credential



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Secure Flight Program Background

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is acting upon:

1. A key recommendation of the 9/11 Commission to implement a uniform watch list matching program
2. Section 4012 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to assume from aircraft operators the function of conducting preflight companies of airline passenger information to Federal Government watch lists for international and domestic flights

TSA issued the Secure Flight Final Rule in October 2008 and is currently implementing the Secure Flight program



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Program Timeline

- **October 28, 2008:** The Secure Flight Final Rule was published in the Federal Register, and went into effect on December 29, 2008
- **January 2009:** Secure Flight began implementation with volunteer airlines
- **May 15, 2009:** Domestic airlines are required to request and provide full name
- **August 15, 2009:** Domestic airlines are required to request all Secure Flight Passenger Data
- **October 31, 2009:** All airlines are required to request and provide full Secure Flight Passenger Data
- Deployments for domestic airlines will occur through March 2010
- Deployments for foreign airlines will begin at the end of 2009 and continue through 2010



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Secure Flight Scope

- Applies to passengers traveling on covered airline flights:
 - Into, out of, or within the United States and its territories
 - Over the continental United States
 - Between two international points conducted by covered U.S. airlines only
- Also applies to non-traveling individuals seeking authorization to enter the sterile area of an airport
- At full capacity, Secure Flight will screen more than 2.5 million passengers daily

Changes for Airlines

- **Airlines must comply with the following:**
 - Require full name, date of birth (DOB), gender and other information (Secure Flight Passenger Data or SFPD) from passengers and non-traveling individuals seeking gate passes
 - Make IT changes to transmit SFPD to TSA and receive and comply with boarding pass printing result
 - Request a verifying identity document from passengers under certain circumstances
 - Make a privacy notice available on public websites and self-serve kiosks before collecting personally identifiable information from passengers or non-traveling individuals for purposes of Secure Flight
 - Contact Secure Flight Service Center when passenger resolution is required
- **Airlines are also responsible for:**
 - Communicating system changes and requirements to GDS and reservation partners (i.e. travel agencies)
 - Communicating Secure Flight requirements to frequent flyers and passengers

Changes for Travel Agencies

- In order for airlines to comply with Secure Flight, airlines may call for travel agents to:
 - Modify IT systems to receive and transmit Secure Flight Passenger Data (SFPD)
 - Communicate Secure Flight requirements to clients
 - Request full name, date of birth, gender, and Redress number (if known) from all passengers



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Changes for Passengers

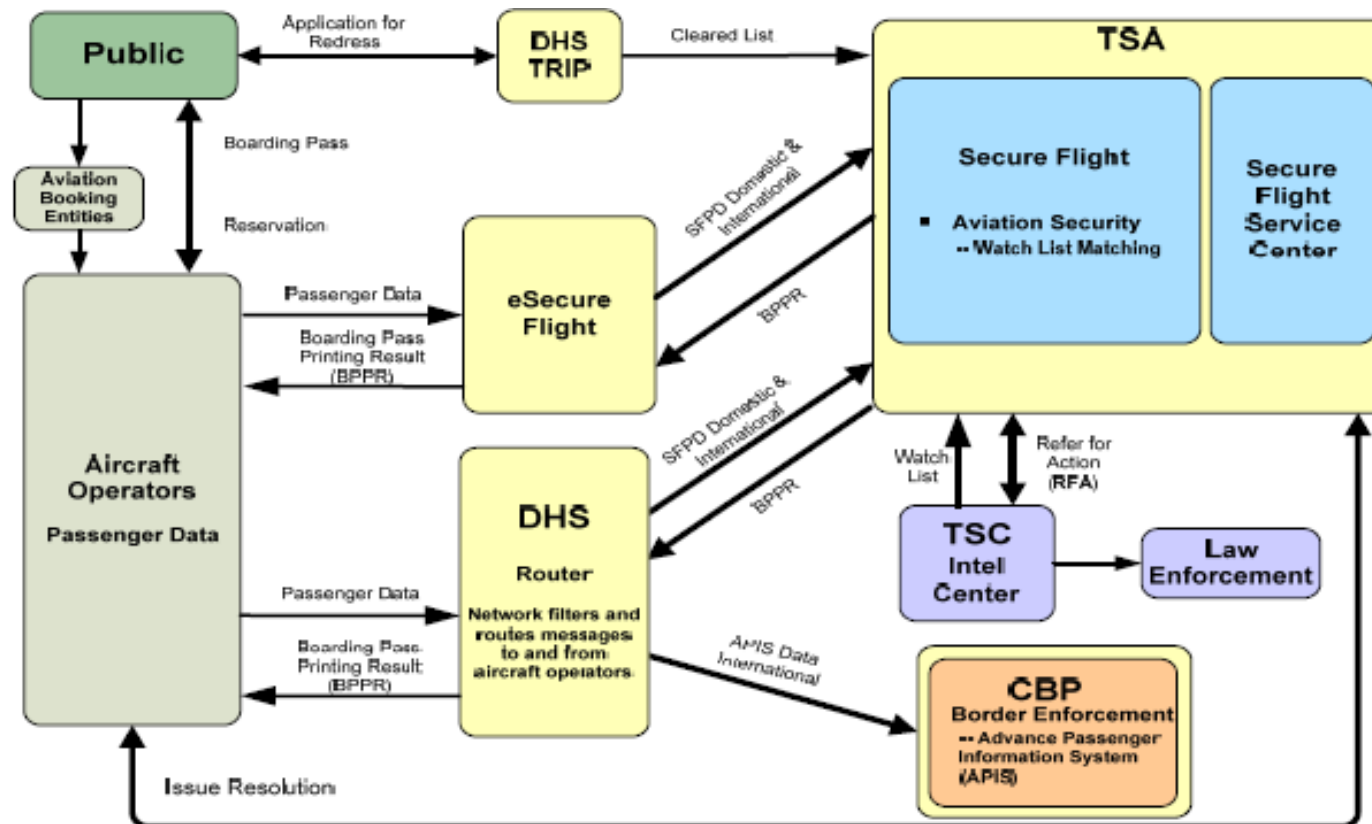
- Passengers and non-traveling individuals are responsible for:
 - Providing their full name, date of birth, gender to airlines when making a reservation
 - Presenting a verifying identity document, when requested
- Passengers who have encountered misidentification may apply for Redress at www.dhs.gov/trip

Secure Flight Process

- Since both the CBP Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) Pre-Departure Rule and the Secure Flight Final Rule have an operational impact on airlines, CBP and TSA Secure Flight have been working together to develop 'One DHS Solution' for airlines.

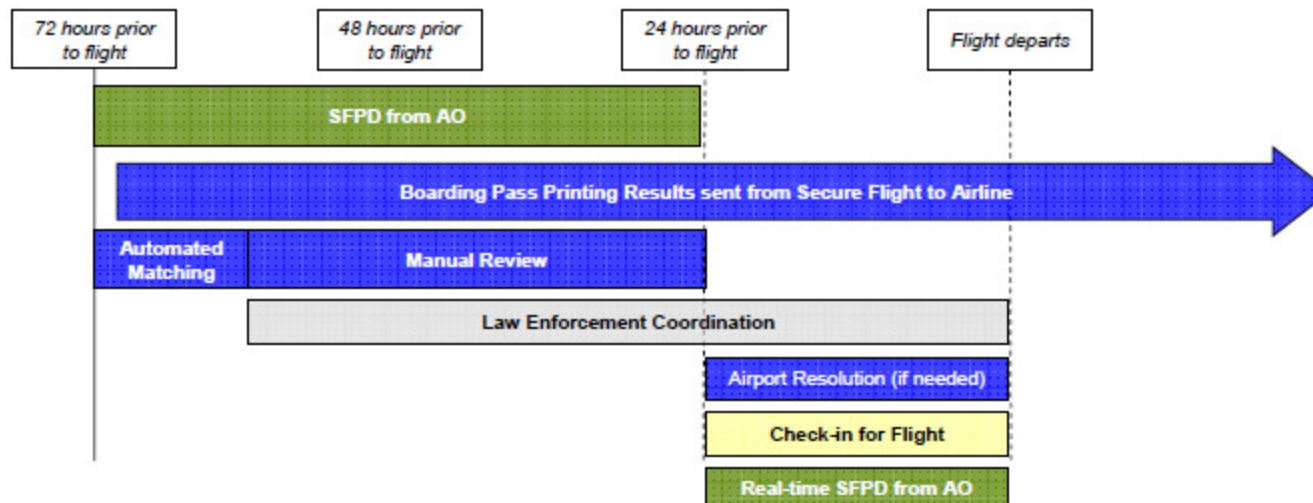


Secure Flight Process Flow



Secure Flight Process

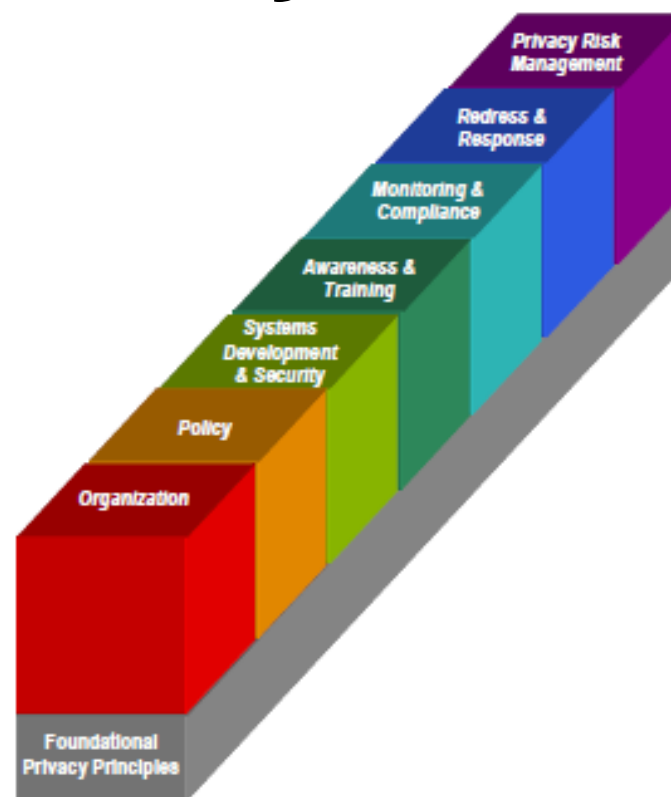
- Secure Flight uses SFPD starting at 72 hours prior to flight to provide early watch list matching results to airlines



- Secure Flight will send updated results to airlines if changes occur due to watch list updates, changes in threat level or airport resolution

Ensuring Privacy

- TSA has developed a comprehensive privacy plan to incorporate privacy laws and practices into all areas of Secure Flight.
- TSA will collect the minimum amount of personal information necessary to conduct effective watch list matching.
- The only required data elements will be full name, DOB, gender, and itinerary.
- TSA will retain personal information for the minimum amount of time necessary.
- TSA issued a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) and System of Records Notice (SORN) to provide detailed information about the program's privacy approach in conjunction with its Final Rule.



Secure Flight privacy approach is rooted in Fair Information Practices



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Secure Flight Benefits

- Enhances the security of commercial air travel
- Raises the baseline standard in terms of the technology and automation used in watch list matching
- Decreases the chance for compromised watch list data by limiting distribution
- Expedites law enforcement notification by gaining earlier insight to potential matches
- Provides fair, equitable, and consistent watch list matching across all airlines
- Facilitates an expedited and integrated redress process for misidentification passengers
- Supports the travel industry's operational needs



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