

Travel to/from Sensitive Regions: A Comprehensive Tracking Platform

About

As the proliferation of failed states, radical organizations, and conflict zones continues, and as global economic integration progresses, the flow of persons across borders has become fraught with complications. Refugees from war and persecution, individuals on VISA waiver and American nationals in sensitive regions all must be accounted for and tracked. As of yet, records on the numbers of Syrian refugees, American citizens who have travelled to and from Syria, number of individuals on the no-fly list, and VISA waiver program overstays has been somewhat shadow and obscured. New methods to track these persons may give departments the tools necessary to maintain full awareness of movements.

Virtual Badge® (VB) is a software platform that leverages the power of smartphones and tablets to provide increased business intelligence for mobile operations. Virtual Badge® turns smartphones into full-functioning badges and data collection devices, with the option of GPS tracking available. In the hands of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State, this platform will successfully manage identities of, optionally track the locations of, and strengthen the check-in process for sensitive persons.



Virtual Badge® combines identification management with actionable data reporting

Identification

Individuals using the Virtual Badge® system on a smart device create a displayable electronic ID badge. Each custom badge is encrypted with a system generated QR code, ensuring positive identification of individuals and safeguarding against fraud, tamper and black market acquisition of identities. Badges are customizable from a secure, web-based Control Center, and as such can display any number of useful criteria beyond name and photo, such as legal status, VISA status, sponsor, employer, address, declared travel location, country of origin, and background check information. Further advancements of the system will include facial recognition, fingerprint, and other biometric identifiers for badges.

Using the VB Control Center, badges are also remotely editable and revocable. Remote command reassignment of VISA status, legal status and threat level, and badge revocation/expiration upon VISA waiver expiration, end of travel or terror threat identification, are possible at all times. This remote command functionality prevents the falsely “frozen” identification inherent in older ID systems and provides an efficient mechanism for removing the legitimacy of hostile actors. Requiring all individuals (Refugee, travel to/from Syria and other sensitive regions, VISA) to register electronic ID’s will allow agencies to have an instant, actionable number of persons for a required population bracket.

GPS Tracking

The Virtual Badge platform® provides the option of GPS tracking any individual possessing the software on a smart device. If a sensitive population is less likely to possess smart devices, such devices can be loaned by departments for the duration of critical tracking period. Tracking American nationals abroad, especially in dangerous regions, allows U.S. agencies to monitor, advise and rescue should nationals encounter developing threats. U.S. citizens who have travelled to Syria and other volatile regions, who are known to have been radicalized and in cooperation with possible terrorist groups could be monitored in exceptional cases. Refugees from regions with known extremist and radical presence can also be location monitored, until a record of law abiding behavior and a lack of ties to extremism has been established. Individuals on VISA waiver in the United States can be tracked during their stay or upon the termination of their permitted 90 days, providing incentive to return home and giving law enforcement an advantage in apprehending violators.

Once tracking is initiated, paths taken by users are recorded and saved as well. Studying past pathways will allow intelligence agencies to investigate the history of threat individuals and determine their association with critical locations and organizations. Larger statistical analysis for any number of criteria can be determined from aggregating historical user path flows.



DHS can optionally GPS track participants of the VISA waiver program

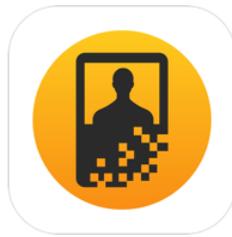
Check-Ins and Reporting.

Should GPS monitoring prove to be unfeasible, simple check-ins are an option to manage information on critical populations. Requiring VISA stays and refugees to periodically check in for a tamper-proof badge scan will allow DHS and the State Department to better track required individuals, without fear of fraudulent documentation. Push notifications from managers to badge holders can remind VISA waiver participants of upcoming check-in dates and locations. As smart device cameras are capable of scanning badges, agents possessing Virtual Badge® can perform mobile checks at any location.

Custom forms can be created and accessed by badge holders for submission. In addition to any number of custom fields and the option for photo documentation, forms include a time, date, and geocode stamp. All forms are instantly uploaded to the Control Center in both map and log format. Citizens travelling abroad could instantly report on critical life-safety information during crises regarding identity, injury status, situation, travel routes, shelter orders, location and evacuation needs. A panic button to the State Department could be added to the application, which would allow any citizen to easily alert the State Department at any time if they are in trouble and where they are. This method could drastically increase the speed, accuracy and readability of life safety information to departments during critical periods.

About:

Disaster Solutions, LLC (DS) is a HUBZone certified small business located in Florida and specializing in disaster response consulting services and disaster response software development. DS has seven approved US Patents which enforce intellectual property protection for a variety of disaster software scenarios. DS has completed a FedRAMP-Moderate Pre-assessment audit by an authorized Federal third party assessor and currently has two Cooperative Research and Development Agreements with the Federal Government. DS also has a valid 5-year GSA Schedule 84 contract. A history of response operations can be viewed at www.disastersolutions.cc/history.html



www.virtualbadge.com

scott.lewis@virtualbadge.com

561-389-9667