

## Costs and Benefits of Exit Monitoring Programs

This goal of this project is to assess the costs and benefits of potential strategies for implementing an exit monitoring program on U.S. Borders.

**Modeling Area:** Risk Management and Applied Decision Analysis

**Case Studies Supported:** NA

**Principal Investigator:** Henry H. Willis

**Institution:** RAND Corporation

**Other Investigators:** Detlof von Winterfeldt, Kimberly Lewkowicz

### Brief Description:

In a typical day, over 1 million people enter the United States via air, land and water. The U.S.

Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement are responsible for keeping bad things and people out of the United States. However, these agencies only see half the picture because while travelers identify themselves and provide documentation when entering the U.S., mechanisms for documenting who leaves the U.S. are still being developed. This project will develop tools to assess the costs and benefits of implementing exit monitoring as part of border control strategies.



**Cars waiting at the San Ysidro Border Crossing**

### Objectives:

In year 1 of this project (CREATE Year 4), we reviewed the border processes in place to monitor people as they enter the country. As part of this review, we collaborated with officials in the US-VISIT program office, in particular those involved with the Integrated Process Team for Land Exit Monitoring. Through this interaction, we are identifying strategies that could be used to implement exit monitoring and the metrics and data that could be used to assess the costs and benefits of exit monitoring programs. Building on this work in year 2 of the project (CREATE Year 5), we will develop quantitative benefit-cost assessment of a few alternative exit monitoring strategies. The work will be cast in the form of a parameterized model of exit monitoring

### Interfaces to other Center Projects:

This work will maintain a close interface with other CREATE risk management and applied decision analysis projects.

### Interfaces to non-Center Projects:

After the award is made for the proposed Border Security Center of Excellence, we will investigate opportunities to collaborate with their research activities.

### Major Products and Customers:

The principal product from the first year of this research will be a report that describes options for implementing exit monitoring, metrics for evaluating such programs, and perspectives on the potential options, value, and barriers of implementing exit monitoring. The results of the second year study will be an assessment of the costs and benefits of a proposed, and possibly

demonstrated, exit monitoring program. The results of this work will be of interest to organizations and policymakers responsible for securing U.S. borders and facilitating trade and immigration. These include, but are not limited to, DHS-ICE, DHS-INS, DHS-CBP, DHS-TSA, DHS-Policy, DHS-ORMA, and the Department of State.

**Technical Approach: (Describe the technical approach to achieve the research objectives.)**

Evaluations of exit monitoring programs will be grounded in the theory and methods of benefit-cost analysis, probabilistic risk analysis, and multi-criteria decision analysis. The benefits of exit monitoring will be in part derived from estimates of reductions in terrorism risk. Estimates of terrorism risk will be derived from other CREATE economics and risk studies and from other models of terrorism risk, such as those developed by RMS, Inc. Information about the cost and design of exit monitoring systems will be obtained through review of literature and discussions with subject matter experts.

**Major Milestones and Dates:**

1. Complete draft white paper on exit monitoring options and metrics – September 2008
2. Deliver project report and briefings to DHS policymakers – Fall 2008
3. Review draft cost-benefit analysis too with ICE – February 2009
4. Deliver evaluation reports and briefings to DHS policymakers – September 2009