

## Temperature measurement devices: **Safety Facts**

To limit the spread of COVID 19, CATSA is required by the *Aeronautics Act* to verify that the temperature of passengers and non-passengers is below a specified reading before allowing access to the screening checkpoint. This is part of the Government of Canada's multi-layered framework of measures to protect Canadians, and help prevent air travel from being a source for the spread of the virus.

**Temperature measurement devices used by CATSA do not emit harmful radiation**

Temperature screening operations has taken a phased approach starting with Canada's four busiest airports (Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto-Pearson and Montreal-Trudeau) on July 30 and followed by the next 11 busiest airports (St. John's, Halifax, Québec City, Ottawa, Toronto-Billy Bishop, Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Kelowna and Victoria) on September 23. Screening officers at these airports are trained on temperature screening procedures, equipment and technology.

### Temperature screening equipment

The cameras and the hand-held thermometers used for temperature screening present no health risks to users. They are "passive" devices, meaning they operate by reading heat being emitted by individuals. They do not emit any harmful radiation to measure temperature.

The **temperature-scanning camera** used by CATSA is a long-wave infrared (LWIR) camera. LWIR cameras are used regularly in airports and train terminals, at concerts, by home inspectors, fire fighters and others in the course of their duties. These cameras operate by receiving and reading the invisible, infrared light (i.e. heat) emitted from a person, the same way a photographic camera reads visible light. The LWIR cameras being used by CATSA have been tested and meet Health Canada's standards.

The **hand-held thermometers** used by CATSA also operate by reading infrared light at a distance. These thermometers are designed to only take measurements from the temporal artery located just under the skin of the forehead. The accuracy of the temperature reading cannot be guaranteed if it is measured on another part of the body.

### Meeting equipment, health and safety standards

Both temperature scanning technologies meet the equipment standards set by Transport Canada and Health Canada's health and safety standards.