



# Privacy Impact Assessment Summary

## Boarding Pass Security System (BPSS) and CATSA Plus

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### Executive Summary

This is a summary of the Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) completed by the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) for the Boarding Pass Security System (BPSS) and CATSA Plus.

CATSA, through BPSS scanners, collects information from passenger boarding cards to validate access to airport secure areas, and from Trusted Traveller program cards to ensure they are valid.

Passengers who are members of the NEXUS program can scan their cards at e-Gates (mechanized doors at screening checkpoints) to gain access to priority screening lines. NEXUS card numbers are validated by the Canadian Border Services Agency, but not retained by BPSS. Restricted Area Identity Card (RAIC) holders can also scan those cards to access priority screening lines at e-Gates. In both cases, only the result of the validation check (pass/fail/error) and the type of card scanned (NEXUS or RAIC) is retained in BPSS.

CATSA Plus is a screening-line infrastructure design, comprised of a scalable collection of modular features to enhance passenger experience, which can include such innovations as remote x-ray analysis.

CATSA shares a limited amount of passengers' personal information collected by the BPSS with air carriers or airport authorities for the following reasons:

- Ensuring compliance with Canadian aviation regulations;
- Assisting air carriers to make better decisions regarding flight departures or delays; and
- Improving security management overall for CATSA and other aviation security partners.

The PIA was conducted using the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat guidelines for conducting PIAs, which incorporates the ten principles of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Model Code for assessing fair information handling practices.

The PIA concluded that CATSA is addressing all risks with risk mitigation strategies that are in line with privacy best practices including ensuring:

- Only limited passenger personal information is collected and retained by BPSS.
- Only limited passenger personal information is accessible by air carriers.
- Only depersonalized information is accessible by NEXUS airport authorities.
- Only NEXUS card numbers are provided to Canadian Border Services Agency, and retaining only whether the card was valid.
- Agreements are executed with air carriers and airport authorities that contain terms and conditions to protect individuals' privacy. These provisions limit the use, disclosure, retention, and disposal of personal information.
- Accurate privacy notice statements explaining BPSS data sharing are readily available to the travelling public online.



**PIA Summary: BPSS and CATSA Plus**

**Privacy Principles**

The findings and recommendations relating to potential privacy risks for the BPSS Data Sharing Initiative below are presented in a framework consistent with the ten privacy principles of the CSA Model Code for assessing fair information handling practices.

*Principle 1: Accountability*

CATSA has assigned the accountability for privacy risks and their mitigation.

*Principle 2: Identifying Purposes*

CATSA has prepared communication material to explain the BPSS and CATSA Plus to travellers. Notice identifying the purpose of BPSS is available online.

*Principle 3: Consent*

CATSA considers the disclosure of passengers’ personal information, for the purposes listed above, to the air carrier issuing the boarding pass a *consistent use*. Similarly, CATSA considers the provision of the NEXUS card numbers to CBSA a consistent use.

*Principle 4: Use*

The table below illustrates the specific data elements that are available to each stakeholder:

<b>Personal Information available to stakeholders</b>			
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Airports</b>	<b>Air Carriers</b>
Airline Code	Barcode	No	Yes
Flight Number	Barcode	No	Yes
Flight Date	Barcode	No	Yes
Seat Number	Barcode	No	Yes
Check-in sequence number	Barcode	No	Yes
Airport Code	BPSS	Yes	Yes
Checkpoint name	BPSS	Yes	Yes
BPSS Scan type	BPSS	Yes	Yes
Manual Entry (“Y/N”)	BPSS	Yes	Yes
Depersonalized bar code ID	BPSS	Yes	Yes
Scan Time	BPSS	Yes	Yes
Wait Time	BPSS	Yes	Yes

CATSA has included clauses in the information sharing agreements that limit the retention period for the information that is accessible by stakeholders.

*Principle 5: Disclosure and Retention*

CATSA limits the retention of a passenger’s name to 30 days, unless the passenger in question was involved in an incident, a security breach, or filed a complaint or claim, in which case the passenger’s name would be retained for two years. This retention practice is consistent with the requirements listed in the *Privacy Regulations*.

CATSA has included clauses in the information sharing agreements that limit the retention period for the information that is accessible by stakeholders.

*Principle 6: Accuracy*

CATSA and the BPSS rely on the air carriers to provide accurate and up-to-date data on boarding passes and the airport authority to provide accurate data in the flight information system. The BPSS will identify duplicate and fraudulent boarding passes based on the accuracy of the data that is provided by air carriers and airport authorities.



## PIA Summary: BPSS and CATSA Plus

### *Principle 7: Safeguarding*

Prior to the launch of data sharing, the addition of Trusted Traveller card scanning and validation, CATSA Plus remote x-ray analysis, CATSA officials assessed the administrative, physical and technical safeguards associated with the BPSS.

### *Principle 8: Openness*

CATSA provides information online about the purpose for the collection of personal information by BPSS. Additionally, the *Personal Information Bank PPU 100 - Boarding Pass Security Screening* explains CATSA's handling of personal information collected by BPSS.

### *Principle 9: Individual Access*

Individuals requesting access to their personal information collected by the BPSS may forward their requests to the CATSA Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator.

### *Principle 10: Challenging Compliance*

Individuals requesting additional information regarding the privacy management features of the BPSS may contact the CATSA Privacy Advisor at [priv@catsa.gc.ca](mailto:priv@catsa.gc.ca). If individuals are not satisfied with the outcome of their response, they can formally file a complaint with the federal Privacy Commissioner.

## **Conclusion**

In conducting interviews and reviewing the documentation provided for PIA purposes, it was concluded that CATSA has incorporated privacy as a core element of the BPSS Data Sharing Initiative. CATSA will continue to assess the effectiveness of this initiative.