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Al-powered BAG-INTEL solution: Transforming customs operations at international airports

Henrik Larsen | Legind Technologies The BAG-INTEL Project Coordinator I-SEAMORE Webinar: Use of AI in Border Security

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Operational scenario

CUSTOMS CONTROL OF INCOMING PASSENGER BAGGAGE AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

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Upon flight arrival, when the luggage is unloaded and placed on the baggage conveyor belt, the **customs risk** of each piece of luggage is **assessed using AI-supported tools** under the supervision of the customs control officer(s).

External

data

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The applied risk indicators arise from 4 kinds of sensors/sources:

- External data and knowledge, such as the Passenger Name Record and the databases of Law Enforcement Agencies, where suspicious travel patterns and links to organized crime are recorded.
- An X-ray/CT scanner with absorption sensing and object recognition in the scanning image, which will be trained to detect/recognize various kinds of contraband, such as drugs, cigarettes, currency, etc.
- The customs control officer who may detect suspicious content that has not been detected and flagged by the scanner itself.
- **Dog handler input**, if the customs apply a sniffer-dog at the dog track before the X-ray/CT scanner.





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Based on the **overall** risk assessment of the luggage, a **decision** whether the luggage should undergo manual inspection is taken.

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Advancing the state of the art CURRENT SOLUTIONS

- The security scanning of outgoing luggage is well-developed but the customs scanning of incoming luggage is not developed to its full potential.
- Utilization of external data for the risk assessment is, in general, not exploited to its full potential for the customs control.
- While some airports apply radio-frequency identification (RFID) tagging for the customs reidentification of luggage, this method has several **disadvantages**:
 - **the smuggler may find and remove the tag** upon collecting the luggage and before entering the customs area at the exit of the baggage delivery space
 - tags must be manually placed in/on the luggage and then removed before the traveller leaves the customs area following the inspection of their luggage
 - it has a relatively high operation and maintenance cost
 - it comes with an **environmental impact** due to production and disposal of tags







Advancing the state of the art THE BAG-INTEL SOLUTION

Implementing the BAG-INTEL solution with its advanced features and capabilities, including:

- Al-powered functionality for enhanced detection of contraband in X-ray scanning of luggage,
- Al-powered risk assessment based on the analysis of data from external sources (Passenger Name Record and Law Enforcement Agencies),
- AI-camera-based end-to-end reidentification of luggage, and
- digital twin for system visualization and performance optimization,

will lead to greater effectiveness and efficiency of the customs control processes!

- The cases of manual inspection not leading to finding contraband will decrease as only luggage containing contraband will be inspected manually.
- More contraband will be detected as more luggages containing contraband will be flagged.
- Besides, the AI-camera-based reidentification is non-intrusive, avoiding all the disadvantages of alternative solutions.





Reach out to BAG-INTEL >



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Follow our journey!





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