



## **FACT SHEET - Winner of “Most Innovative Use of Infocomm Technology (Public Sector)”**

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**Company:** Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

**Technology/Project:** Enhanced Immigration Automated Clearance System (e-IACS)

### **Description**

The enhanced Immigration Automated Clearance System (eIACS) was first commissioned at Budget Terminal on 22 March 2006. This system is an enhancement on the Immigration Automated Clearance System (IACS) which was implemented in Dec 1997. The enhancement has instantly allowed 3,000,000 Singapore citizens to make use of their passports for automated immigration clearance.

### **Innovative Use of Technology**

The eIACS is a unique combination of back-end and front-end operations. This system allows Singapore citizens to clear immigration via the automated gates using only their machine-readable passports. After scanning his passport at the self service kiosk, the system will then retrieve the traveler’s fingerprint record from the National Registration Office database. The traveler is then required to present his live fingerprint image for verification. The automated gate will open for the traveler to pass through once the system has verified the passport holder’s fingerprint.

### **Benefits**

eIACS provides new functionalities and capabilities at a very reasonable cost through the innovative use of inexpensive components. Manpower which has been traditionally used to man counters is now re-deployed to carry out enhanced checks that focus on the high risk travelers and goods. By adopting innovative infocomm solutions, ICA is now able to provide Singaporeans the convenience and efficiency of automated immigration clearance. In addition, ICA does not have to register or issue any tokens to users, and enrollment into the eIACS scheme is free for all Singapore citizens who have a valid Singapore passport and who have registered with the National Registration Office (NRO) of ICA.

## **About ICA**

The Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) is a government agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs. ICA has brought together the former Singapore Immigration & Registration (SIR) and the enforcement work performed by the former Customs & Excise Department (CED) at the various checkpoints. Operational on 1 April 2003, ICA is responsible for the security of Singapore's borders against the entry of undesirable persons and cargo through our land, air and sea checkpoints. ICA also performs other immigration and registration functions such as issuing travel documents and identity cards to Singapore citizens and various immigration passes and permits to foreigners. It also conducts operations against immigration offenders.

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