



# 100 Percent Screening of Cargo Containers (Session 3A: Security II)

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# Outline

- ◆ **Need for Integrated Container Inspection System (ICIS)**
- ◆ **Description of ICIS**
  - ◆ **VACIS**
  - ◆ **Radiation Portal Monitor**
  - ◆ **OCR-Automated Container Identification**
  - ◆ **Radioisotope Identification System (RIIDs)**
  - ◆ **PELAN (material specific inspection)**
  - ◆ **Integrated Data Display**
- ◆ **ICIS Demonstrations**
- ◆ **Automated image analysis (EmptyView)**
- ◆ **Conclusions**

# Need for Integrated System Approach

- **Radiation Portal Monitors (RPMs) used to detect nuclear weapons and radioactive materials by detecting gamma-rays and neutrons (Passive Detection)**
- **High density shielding can prevent passive detection of nuclear weapon or radioactive material**
- **Gamma or X-ray radiographic imaging will detect anomalous high density shielding – complements RPMs**

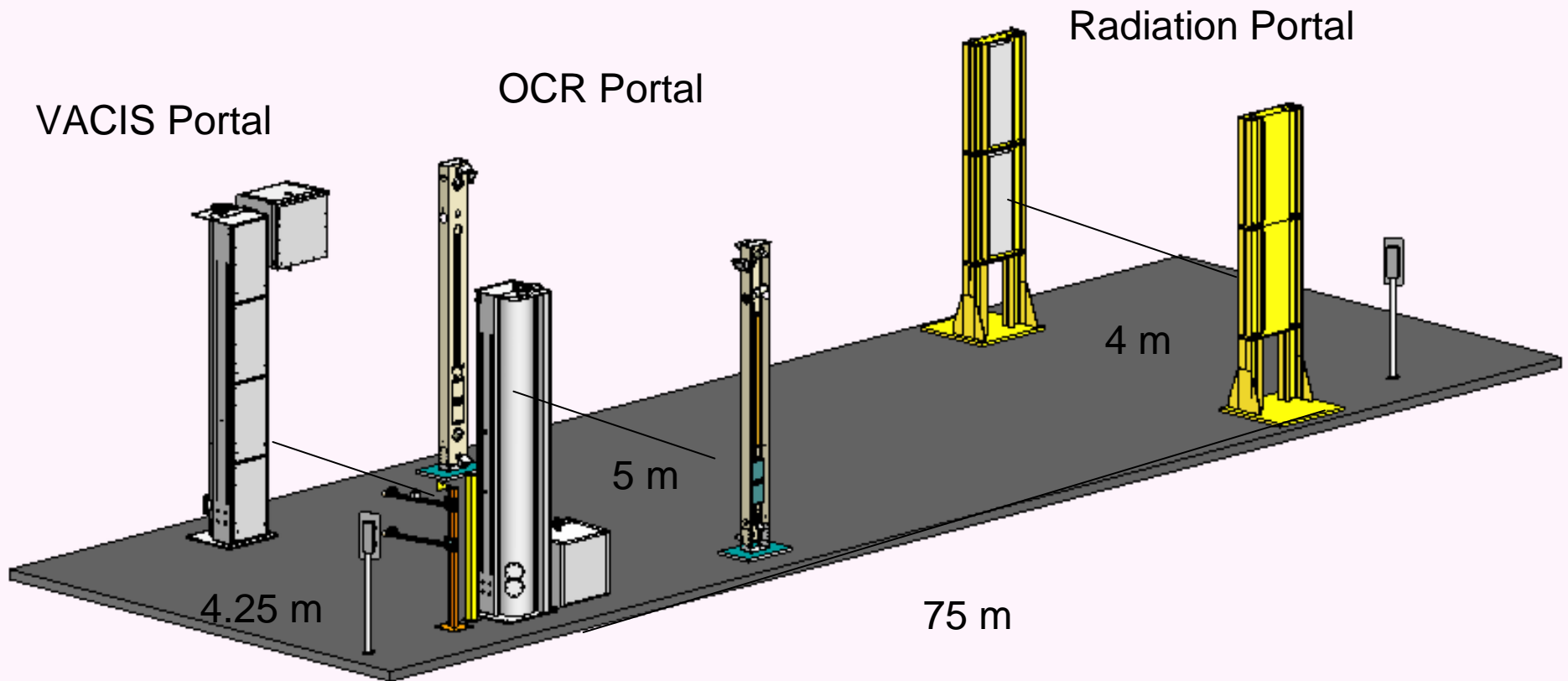
# Need for Integrated System Approach

continued

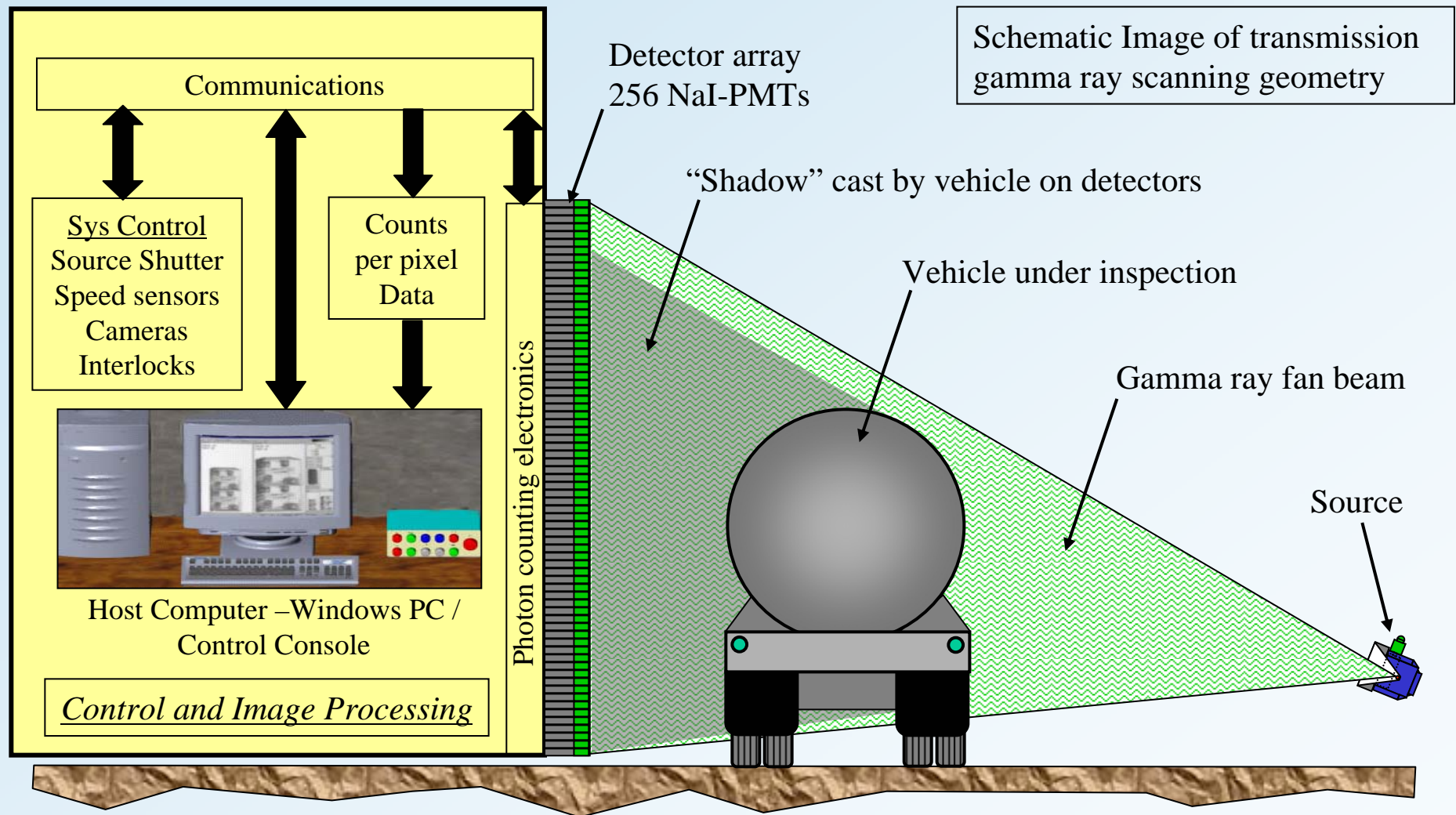
- **“Nuisance” alarms in RPMs from naturally radioactive materials in cargo must be resolved promptly**
  - ◆ Isotope identification using gamma spectroscopy
  - ◆ Manifest consistency from gamma/x-ray image
- **Material specific neutron interrogation techniques (Active Detection) to verify explosives, chemical agents, and nuclear materials (like U-235 which is difficult to detect passively when shielded)**
- **Automatic identification of container/truck to minimize impact of inspection on cargo throughput**
- **“Smart Containers” with intrusion sensors, tracking capability and electronic seals**

# The Solution

## *ICIS Concept Layout*



# Operating Principle of VACIS Gamma Ray Imaging



## VACIS Configurations



### Portal

Permanent installation for gates or checkpoints  
High throughput – minimal impact on traffic



### Relocatable

Track-mounted movable system  
Entire system can be moved  
in 1–2 days

### Mobile

Truck-mounted mobile system  
Scans containers, trucks and  
other large objects



### Railroad

Scans railcars and containers  
as trains pass by

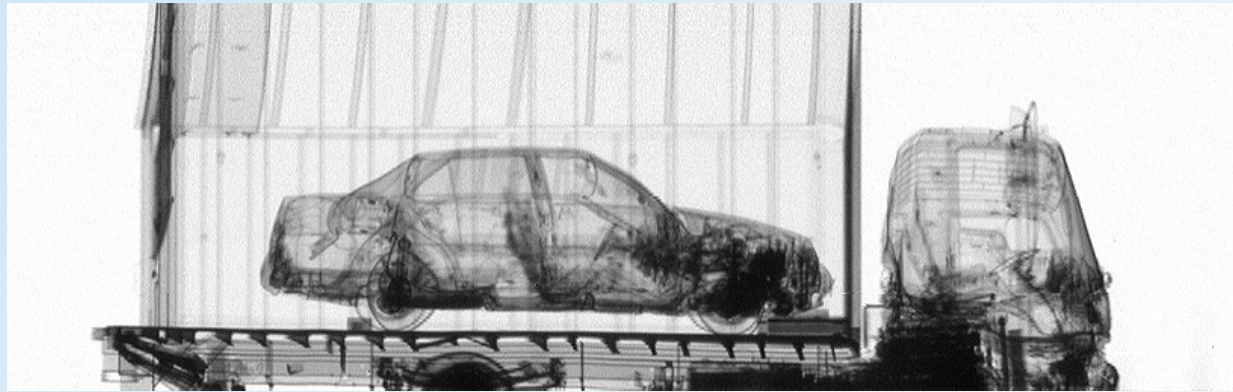


### Pallet

Scans cargo on pallets

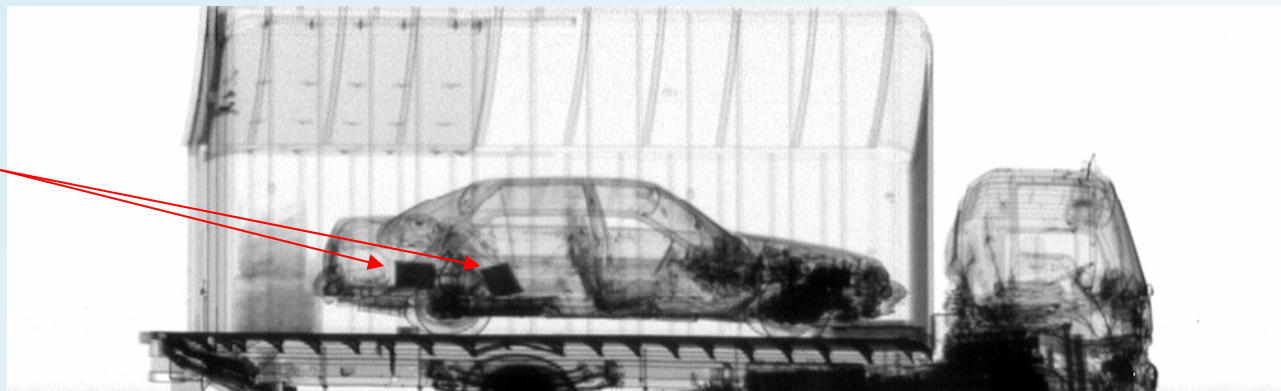


# Mobile VACIS Images of Auto in Container



**Contraband-free Automobile**

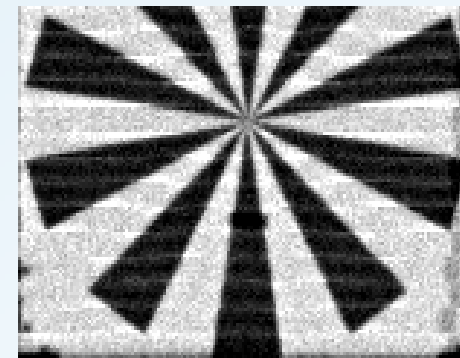
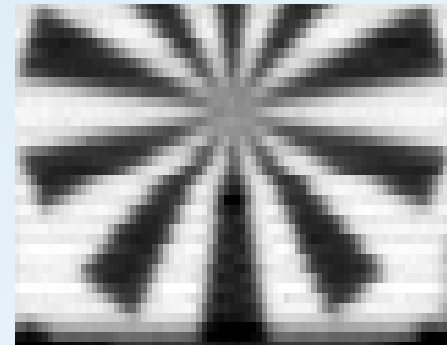
**C-4 simulants**



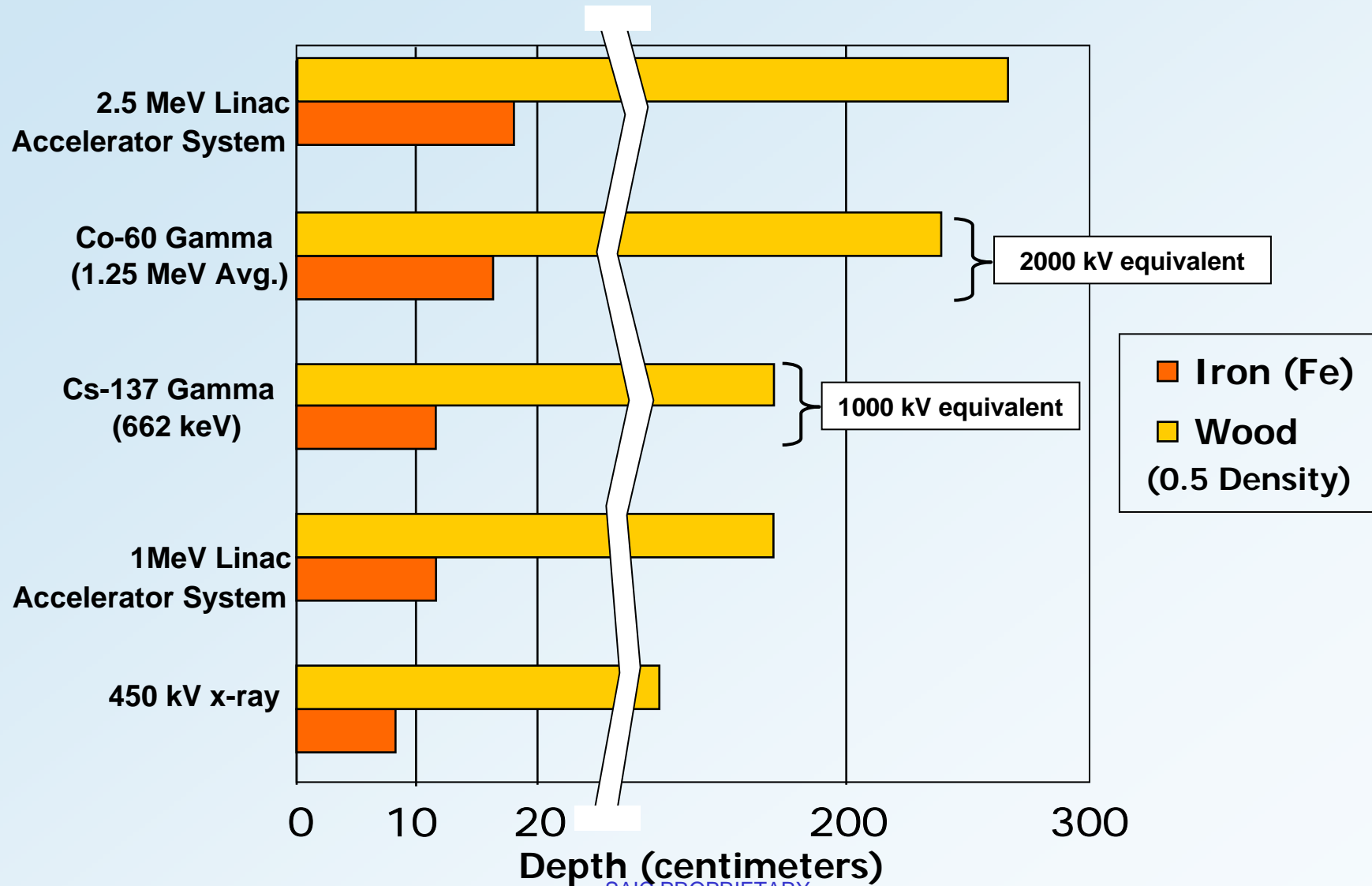
**Automobile containing simulated explosives**



# High-Resolution VACIS

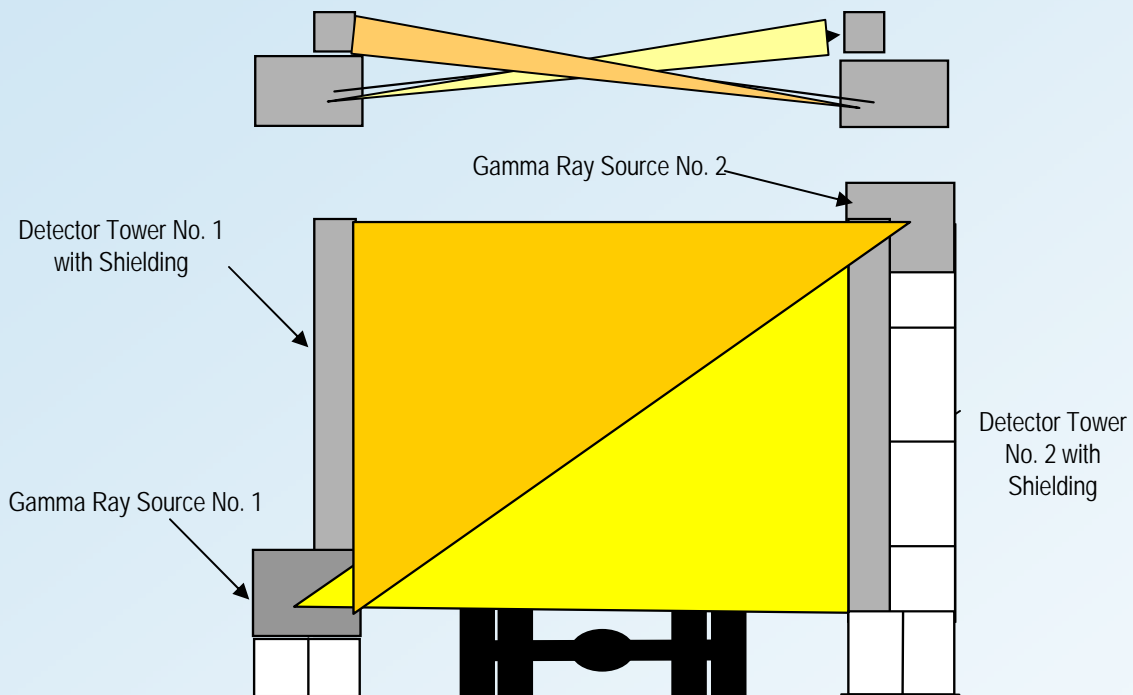


# Operational Penetration Comparisons



# Portal VACIS

## Source-Detector Configuration



## Portal VACIS Prototype



# Two Portal VACIS on adjacent traffic lanes



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# Radiation Portal Monitors

## *Exploranium AT-9xx Radiation Portal Monitor (RPM)*



- ▶ Senses and locates gamma ray and neutron sources
- ▶ Uses Plastic Scintillators for gamma detection and moderated He-3 detectors for neutrons
- ▶ Scans containers, trucks, cars and railcars in traffic
- ▶ State-of-the-art sensitivity, very low false-alarm rate
- ▶ Configurable for specific materials and alarm thresholds
- ▶ Graphic console displays live and stored radiation profiles

# RPMs at Felixstowe in UK



# Radioisotope Identification

## *Handheld Analyzers*



### **Exploranium GR-135 Gamma/Neutron Isotope Identifier**

- ▶ Measures gamma and neutron levels
- ▶ Displays real-time dose rates
- ▶ Identifies many common nuclides
- ▶ Easy one-hand operation
- ▶ Upload scanning data for analysis and archiving

## *Vehicular-Mounted Analyzers*



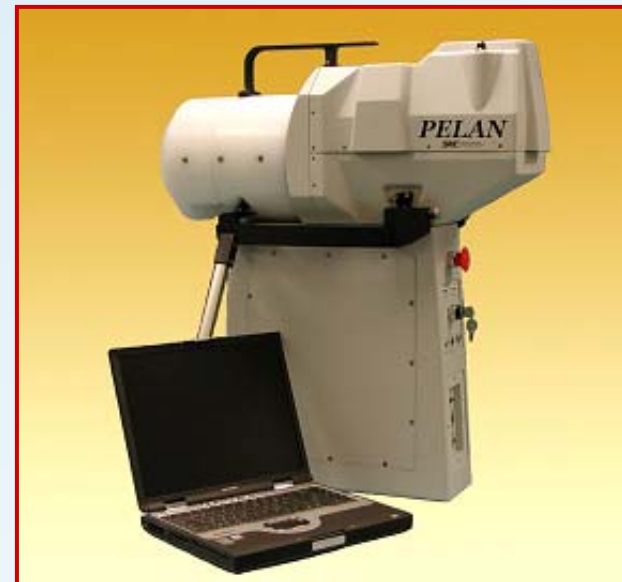
### **Exploranium GR-460 and GR-660**

- Identify, locate and map gamma and neutron radiation
- Quickly survey urban, rural and wilderness terrain
- Airborne, car-mounted and hand-carried configurations

# Explosives, Chemical, Other Hazmat

## *Pulsed-Neutron Elemental Analysis (PELAN)*

- ▶ Fast analysis of explosives and other materials in the field
- ▶ State-of-the-art thermal and pulsed neutron technology
- ▶ Scans contents of vehicles, cargo containers, luggage, packages, and other places of concealment
- ▶ Analyzes bombs, explosive materials, even buried land mines
- ▶ Portable system can be carried, set up and operated by a single person
- ▶ Wireless notebook controller for safe remote operation





# PELAN Neutron Interrogation System Detecting Explosives



PELAN



200 lbs ANFO  
Inside of  
Rental van

# ICIS Viewer - integrated data display



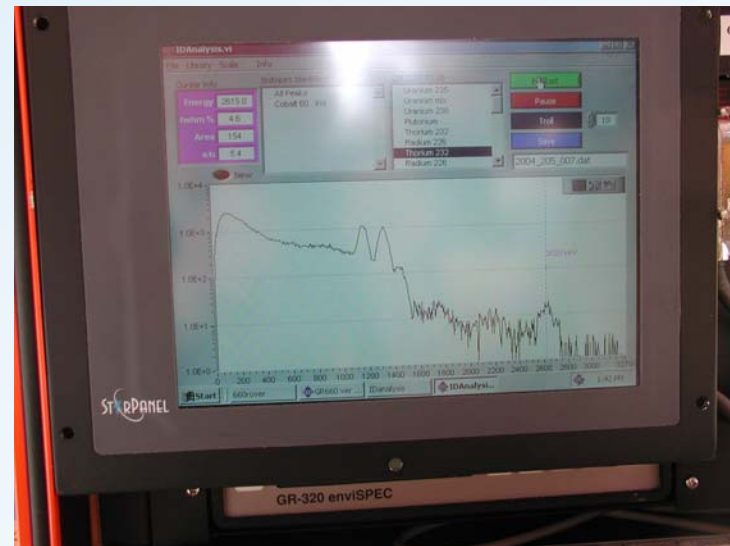
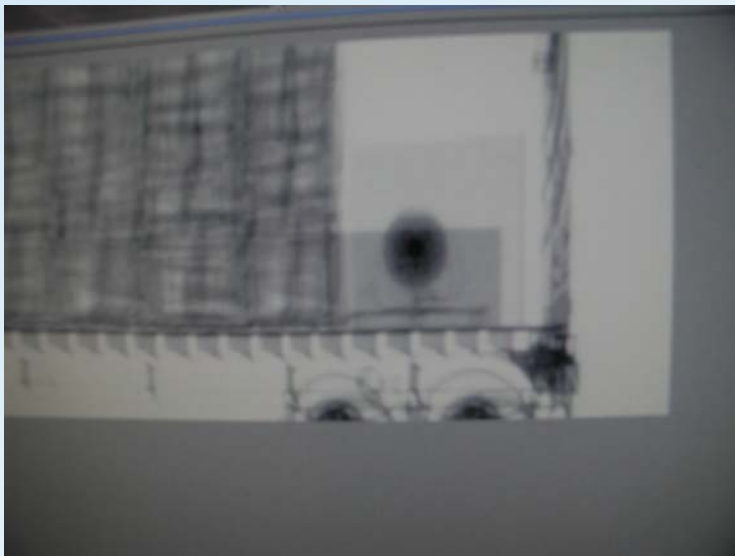
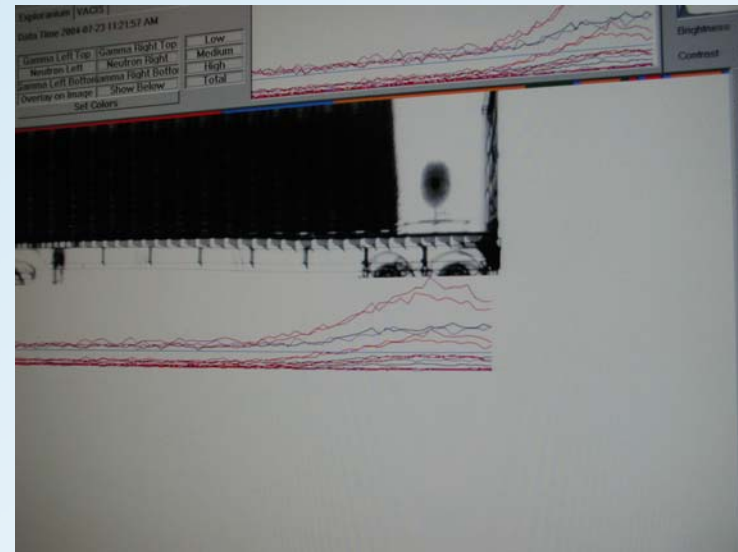
The screenshot displays the ICIS Viewer software interface. At the top, a status bar shows "Number of vehicles scanned: 2235" and "Alarm type: G". Below this, a "Vehicle 5 G-ALARM" report is visible, including fields for "Identification: Vehicle number: 5678aa2" and "Driver: [redacted]". The report also shows "B 2357" and "A 3015". To the right, a tree view labeled "VehiclesImages" shows a folder structure: "VehiclesImages", "C660\_MU\_Laredo", "C2137\_Laredo", "Hold", "N20020304-001", "PassiveScan", and "PORTAL IMAGES". Below the report, a large plot shows a gamma spectrum with a prominent peak. The plot is overlaid with a grayscale image of a truck. At the bottom of the plot, two "GammaLow" indicators are shown with radiation symbols. The software interface includes a toolbar at the top and a Windows taskbar at the bottom with various open applications like Microsoft Outlook and SQL Server Query Analyzer.



# ICIS at Tacoma



# Typical Initial Image Data



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# ICIS Prototype Testing at San Diego

- ICIS uses advanced Portal VACIS with “drive-through” capability (up to 10 mph)
- ICIS uses relocatable Exploranium Radiation Portal Monitor (can be repositioned using fork lift and is “free-standing”)
- OCR video cameras for automatically reading container ID and line scan video for automatic OCR reading of chassis number



**ICIS Overview**



**Portal VACIS**



**Video OCR System**



**Relocatable RPM**

# ICIS Demonstration and the Hong Kong CTOA

- ▶ Hong Kong Container Terminal Operators Association (CTOA)
  - Promotes the Port of Hong Kong as the key container hub in the region
  - Composed of HIT, Modern Terminals, CSX WT, COSCO-HIT and ACT
- ▶ CTOA is currently evaluating new terminal security measures
  - Respond to current and future CSI requirements
  - Reduce vulnerability, mitigate impact, recover faster
  - Enhance security without impeding traffic
- ▶ SAIC is working with CTOA to evaluate the ICIS system
  - High throughput – capable of screening containers in normal traffic
  - Fixed and mobile configurations to support gate and quay operations
  - Combines gamma ray imaging, radiation screening and OCR identification
  - Provides screening data to Customs authorities in near real time
  - Provides a database for reference in the event of an incident

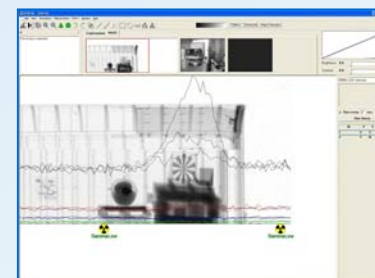


# The ICIS System

VACIS®  
gamma  
imaging



ICIS  
Viewer



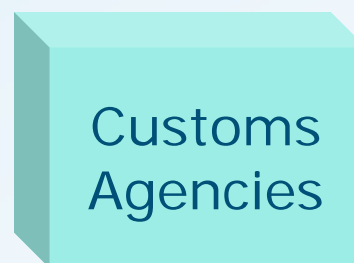
Cargo  
images

OCR  
identification

Container IDs



Integrated  
ICIS data

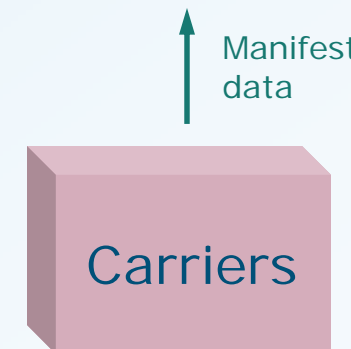
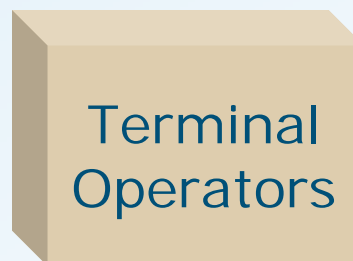


Integrated  
ICIS data

Radiation  
profiles

Container  
data

Radiation  
Portal  
Monitor



Manifest  
data

# ICIS Demonstration

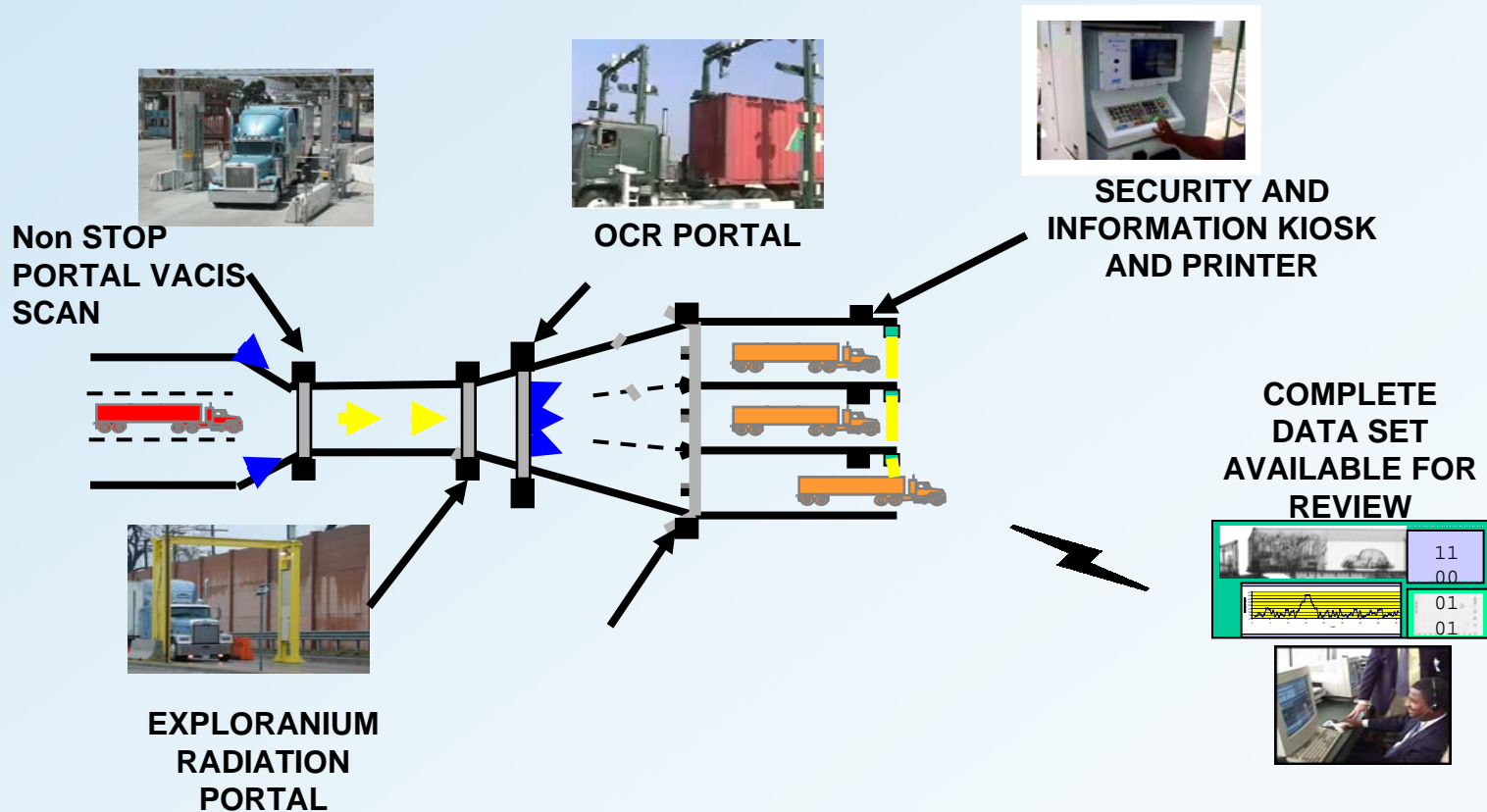
- ▶ Concept of operation
  - Install in terminal's normal traffic patterns
  - Collect and integrate imaging, radiation and OCR data
  - Provide data to Customs and other approved parties
- ▶ Hong Kong ICIS demonstration
  - Install VACIS Portal, RPM and OCR at Modern Terminals and/or Hong Kong International Terminals
  - Collect and integrate data in central repository
  - Provide integrated data to Customs and CTOA for evaluation
  - Began operation September 27, 2004; 6-months demonstration
- ▶ Goal: Demonstrate the benefits of ICIS for Customs, terminal operators and shippers
  - Increase supply chain security by screening cargo at port of origin
  - Reduce security costs for terminals by minimizing impact on traffic
  - Reduce costs for shippers by qualifying for expedited processing
  - Enhance cargo security and management through data analysis
  - Expedite recovery following an incident





# Hong Kong Demo – 100% Screening

- ◆ In-line screening does not require trucks to stop at gate
- ◆ 100% Passive radiation + VACIS + OCR
- ◆ Modern Terminals Ltd. #1, 2, 5, >2 million containers/yr
- ◆ Current (10/13-14<sup>th</sup>) throughput averaging 1960 containers per day
- ◆ Quay-side VACIS for trans-shipment containers

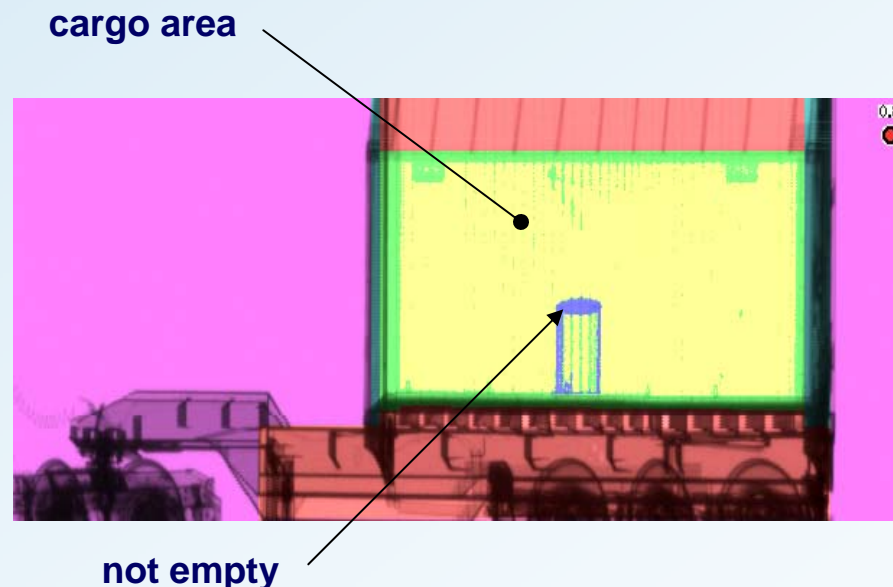


# Video of Hong Kong ICIS Demo



# Automatic Detection of Empty Containers

- ◆ Portal VACIS designed to automatically detect empty containers (EmptyView)
- ◆ fast algorithm defines segments
- ◆ cargo area searched for contents
- ◆ Performance
  - ◆ Accuracy 97.2%
  - ◆ False Negative probability 0.4%



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# Summary and Conclusions

- **Combining a RPM with a Portal VACIS enhances the effectiveness for detecting a nuclear weapon or RDD**
  - ◆ Two systems complement
  - ◆ RPM provides passive detection (unless dense shielding used)
  - ◆ VACIS gamma imaging detects dense shielding
- **Other technologies further enhance detection and minimize disruption of commerce**
  - ◆ Isotope Identifier helps resolve “nuisance” RPM alarms
  - ◆ PELAN provides material specific information-verification
  - ◆ Automatic container/truck ID speeds flow
- **Integrated display facilitates operator decision process**
- **New technologies under development will enhance performance of Integrated Container Inspection System (ICIS)**