National Science & Technology Council
Interagency Working Group on Biometrics

Iris Recognition R&D
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www.tsa.gov
**TSA – Iris Sensor Development**

- **Approach**
  - Issue BAA – solicit industry and academic ideas in the form of project proposals (short and long term)
  - Evaluation of the most promising proposals
  - Award of several concept feasibility or demonstration grants in Phase 1
  - Short duration, low cost efforts which will result in evidence of technical progress and a detailed proposal for additional follow-on work for Phase 2 in the following fiscal year
TSA – Iris Sensor Development

• Objectives
  – Significantly improved iris recognition sensors, whose performance has been optimized for some or all of the following metrics:
    » Reduced failure to enroll rate
    » Adaptability to user position
    » Adaptability to user pose angle
    » Tolerance to user motions
    » Rapid data capture
    » Reduced sensor cost
    » Improved capture volume
TSA – Iris Sensor Development

• Milestones
  • Issue BAA soliciting Phase 1 proposals
  • Phase 1 evaluations and awards
  • Phase 2 evaluations
MBARK (Multi-Biometric Accuracy Research Kiosk)

• Joint project between DHS Science & Technology, TSA and NIST.

• Purpose
  – obtain high quality biometric samples from 10,000 individuals, and will include 2 sets of 10-print fingerprints, 2 sets of an array of 9 high resolution face images, and 2 iris images.
MBARK (Multi-Biometric Accuracy Research Kiosk)

- Data will then be used for multiple purposes
  - Sequestered NIST evaluations of competitive biometric algorithms.
  - Released to the biometrics research community
- Motivation for this effort, is to fill the gap in iris test data.
- No such database of unbiased iris images exists