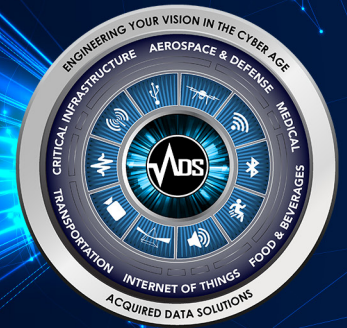


CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION CASE STUDY



OVERVIEW

Acquired Data Solutions was hired as a Tier 1 subcontractor to provide Operational Test and Evaluation services to The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) / Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

- Transportation Security Equipment (TSE) is part of the critical infrastructure that is essential for TSA to perform their mission.
- TSA's Acquisition Program Management (APM) determines if a TSE functions as intended in a realistic setting and determine a procurement strategy.
- ADS provided TSA's objective of identifying vulnerabilities of the security screening equipment and process to ensure cyber resiliency.

HOW ADS HELPED

ADS played an integral role in operational testing of TSA critical infrastructure.

- ADS was involved in all phases of the Testing Life Cycle: test planning, test execution, data analysis and reporting.
- ADS provided liaisons, project leads, site leads, test engineers, data collectors and threat inserts.
- ADS maintained a pool of trusted TSA-Vetted data collectors and threat inserts (Surge support) that could be accessed and deployed on short notice to support multiple test events at multiple locations.

"OT&E is a key part of the Test and Evaluation (T&E) process that measures performance levels of the systems and processes used to protect our nation's airports and determine if they are ready for procurement and deployment."



CHALLENGE

The TSA must determine whether a Checkpoint or Checked Baggage TSE is operationally effective, cyber resilient, and suitable. This appraisal is necessary for new or upgraded TSE's (critical infrastructure) that are under consideration for acquisition procurement. There are numerous TSE's that need to be evaluated at all classes of airports. The challenge is to plan, report and execute these tests in such a way as to provide meaningful real-time data. The collected data is used for modeling and simulations to identify gaps/risks between a TSE's performance and its functional requirements.

SOLUTION

Since 2006, ADS has supported numerous OT&E events as a Tier 1 Subcontractor. Working closely with all stakeholders (Prime, TSA and Airports), ADS conducted countless test events on a variety of TSE's for the Checkpoint Solutions and Integration Division (CSID) and Checked baggage technologies Division (CBTD). ADS was involved with all phases of the testing life cycle: planning, execution & analysis and reporting. OT&E events were performed on-site at all classes of airports which ranged from 2 days to 2 months. ADS successfully supported stakeholders by:

- Providing in-depth experience with all types of Transportation Security Equipment.
- Possessing comprehensive knowledge of TSA culture and airport environments.
- Providing technically experienced personnel to perform during the various phases of OT&E.
- Maintaining a cache of TSA-vetted surge personnel to support concurrent tests at multiple locations.
- Delivering daily written data reports, test plans prior to operational testing, and required briefings and data analysis to TSA leadership and other stakeholders.
- Providing outstanding ability to analyze end user requirements and potential improvements in coordination with logistics teams at TSIF.

RESULTS

Our support of Operational Testing Activities enabled TSA to validate whether new/upgraded TSE performed as intended and provided vital information for each phase of their acquisition strategies. ADS also helped in determining changes to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) used by Transportation Security Officers.

- **Test Planning:** our efforts resulted in the development of critical planning deliverables such as, System Evaluation Plans, Data Collection Active Reports and Operational Plans.
- **Test Execution:** we lead and performed on-site data gathering for modeling efforts. Our data results were presented/confirmed in Daily Test Reports, Data Authentication Group Meetings and Briefings.
- **Test Analysis & Reporting:** we successfully developed critical deliverables such as Lesson Learned, Emerging Results Briefings, and System Evaluation Reports.

