



### **ADSA-CBP-01**

# Multi-View CT System (MVCT)

# **Cargo Skid Scanner**

Simon Bedford, Dir. Govt. Programs Astrophysics Inc.

June 21<sup>st</sup> 2018



- Founded 2002 in City of Industry, California
- Present in over 100 countries with over 100 agents
  - Offices in 6 US states, Lebanon, India, Philippines, Mexico
- 13 different X-ray tunnel sizes / 34 different models
  - Energy Levels / Beam Orientations / Single View / Dual View / Mobility
  - Checkpoint, Hold Baggage, Cargo (TSA Capacity A,B,C)
  - Vehicle Screening & High Energy Container Scanners
- 19 qualified systems on TSA's Air Cargo Screening Technology List
- Install base > 20,000 units
  - United Nations, US Army, Navy & Air Force, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of State & Energy, FBI, DHS ICE, Army National Guard, CA Court Houses...
  - Recent CBP installations & projects:
    - 76 X-ray systems at federal baggage inspection stations and int'l mail facilities















## **Co-Workers**

- Acknowledgments:
  - ALERT DHS Center of Excellence
    - Northeastern University
      - Michael Silevitch, John Beaty & Fernando Quivira
    - Boston University
      - David Castanon
  - Funding & Support from DHS, S&T Directorate
    - Explosives Division, Screening of Palletized Air Cargo Program





### So What? Who Cares?

- **Space:** Screening and detection of contraband in cargo skids at ports of entry
- **Problem:** Very challenging for non-invasive inspection methods
  - Currently requires break-bulk tear-down of skids for effective screening
  - High man-power requirements, slows commerce, costly exercise
- **Solution:** Full skid X-ray imaging with many-view transmission and volumetric (CT)
  - Operational cost savings from reduced break-bulk screening (less labor & time)
  - Cost-effective MVCT scanner hardware configuration
- **Results:** Demonstrated in government trials, 2017
- **TRL:** Production engineering, 1st deployments 2019
- Contact: <u>sbedford@astrophysicsinc.com</u> +1 858 774 8432







## **MVCT Skid Scanner**

- "Dual function" X-ray transmission & (3D) CT system:
  - Multi-view linescan transmission imaging with many views over 180 degrees
    - Single X-ray source, high-resolution detector arrays
    - Can operate as a "1<sup>st</sup> level" screening system at high throughput
    - Displayed as an intuitive rotating image (cf. current dual view technology)
  - Computer Tomography (CT) volumetric 3D imaging
    - Multi-pass translate-rotate CT of a full skid
    - True 3D image that can be sliced, rotated, panned & flipped
    - For primary screening or "2<sup>nd</sup> level" resolution of suspect items
  - Single operator and an automated screening process



MVCT Air Cargo Skid Screening System

> Max skid: 122cm x 122cm x 165cm (48" x 48" x 65")





### Summary

#### • Astrophysics roadmap:

- Production MVCT in development for Customs and Air Cargo applications
- 1<sup>st</sup> deployments anticipated in 2019
- Automated explosive threat detection under development
  - Exploits transmission and CT image datasets

#### • Major Operational benefits:

- Advanced screening, flexible & dynamically extendable scans
- Good operational throughput (comparable to existing 320kV systems)
- High kV X-ray generator to screen high density cargo skids

#### Strong return on investment

- Substantial savings in screening labor versus break-bulk screening
- Streamlined screening process
- May allow screening of heterogeneous skids