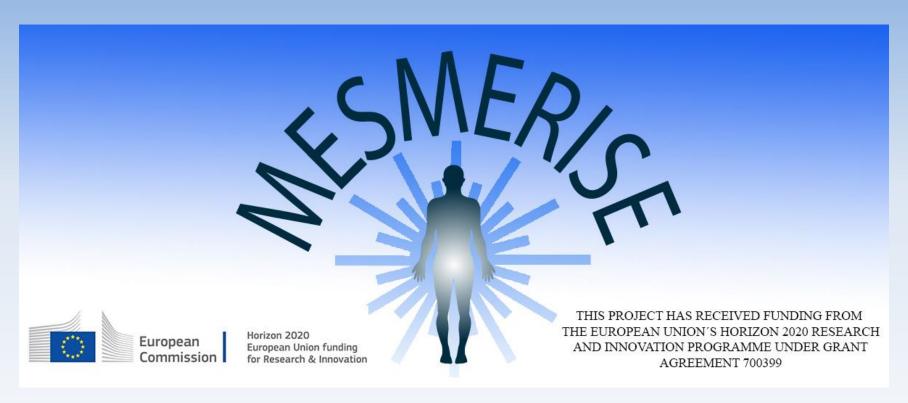


# Multi-Energy High Resolution Modular Scan System for Internal and External Concealed Commodities



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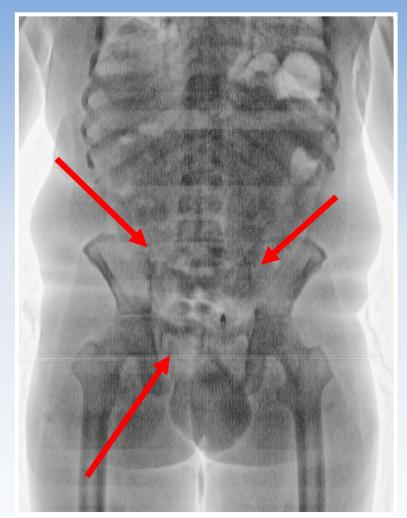
ADSA-CBP-01 Boston June 21st 2018



## So What? Who Cares?

- Space: Drugs concealed inside people to circumvent a border control.
- Problem?
  - i) Image analysis relies on skill level of human operator
  - ii) Not enough information from x-ray
  - iii) Liquid drugs challenging to discern on low-dose transmission systems.
- <u>Solution</u>: Multi-energy x-ray to provide spectral information for automated detection process, AI to process images for additional detection algorithm.
- Results: Prototype being constructed with M/E array; detection software testing and optimisation underway. Planned to trial in UK Nov 2018
- <u>TRL</u>: 6 (target)
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Operator view on low-dose system

- In 2005 UK Customs introduced low-dose x-ray scanners to combat this growing trend of smuggling. Successful, but trend in liquid drugs brings greater challenges.
- In 2013 the European-led Customs Detection Technology Project Group was permitted by the European commission to select collective challenges to address.
- One was to automatically detect and identify drugs and explosives on, or inside a person. €4.9 million was considered sufficient. MESMERISE was the successful bid.

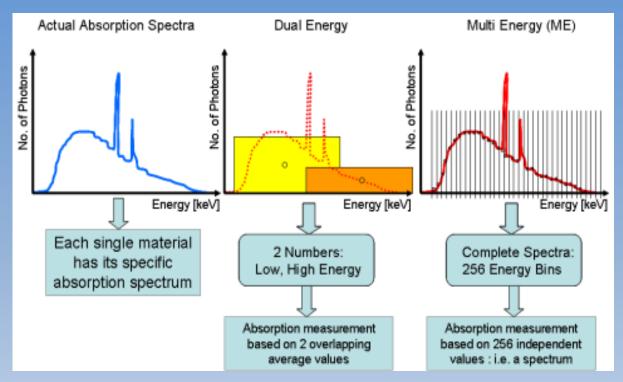


- MESMERISE is developing two technologies.
  - 1. Multi-energy x-ray for internal concealments TRL 6
  - 2. Infrasound for external concealments TRL4
- This presentation will focus on the multi-energy device.
- Project includes end-users: Customs UK and Norway, Guardia Civil (Spain)

#### MESMERISE goals:

- To develop a high-resolution, non-intrusive x-ray spectrometric CdT/CZT scanner able to automatically detect and identify both internal and external concealed prohibited or restricted commodities.
- Commodities include Cocaine (liquid and solid), Heroin, MDMA, Currency, knives, explosives.
- If end-users comfortable with performance over current technology, then device will be dove-tailed into existing process in UK.

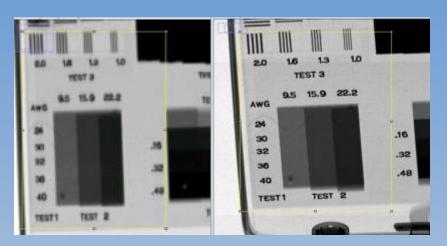




- New spectrometric detectors offer many advantages: each transmitted x-ray photon is individually detected and its energy measured by a semi-conductor crystal (CdTe/CZT).
- The direct conversion in CdTe/CZT and the electrical properties of this material ensure energy measurement promptly and with a good energy resolution



### **Improved Image Resolution**



Test	Conventional	ME100
Wire visible in air (AWG)	32	40
Wire visible under 9.5mm Al (AWG)	24	32
Spatial Resolution (mm)	1.6x1.3	1x1
Penetration of steel (mm)	22-26	26-28

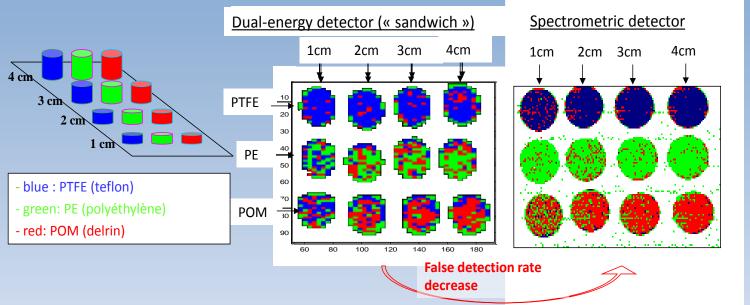
- Detailed view of an image from the ASTM F792 test piece acquired by a conventional detection system (left) and the multiple energy detector (right) with same acquisition parameters.
- Operators will benefit from improved image quality which helps them to maintain their skill and validate capability of automated detection software.





#### **Information processing**

- ME calibration, superposition
- Method using probability density
- Density & Zeff identification





#### **X-MESMERISE:**

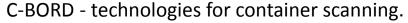
A full body non-intrusive ultra-low dose x-ray scanner (FBS), usable upon consent by the final user, for internally (and externally) concealed commodities detection identifying the object and warning the operator:

- Quick: the whole operation could be deployed in a very convenient footprint, offering enhanced capability without the resource and security implications of removing a suspect off-site to a medical facility. Ability to verify negatives also reduces delay to passenger and allows staff to resume frontline duties.
- Low dose: The dose per scan will be under the limits according to the EU standard limits (1mSv per year)
- Automated Target Recognition System: Provides a consistent response based on spectral and algorithmic information.





**EU Horizon 2020 Work Programme** 



MESMERISE- technology to detect internal and external drugs.

PEN-CP - Network of customs practitioners.

2018 – Postal supply chain topic

2019 – Dense cargo screening topic



16 Customs administrations cooperating to:

- Exchange information on technology and processes.
- Share best practice.
- Influence development of more bespoke technology for customs needs.



other EU Customs
Administrations

