



THE CANADIAN AIR TRANSPORT SECURITY AUTHORITY: A N O V E R V I E W



There's a knife at the bottom of this briefcase. You may not have noticed it, but our screening officers are expertly trained to spot any potential weapon or suspicious-looking article.

The Canadian Air Transport Security Authority's (CATSA) mission is to protect the public by securing critical elements of the air transportation system as assigned by the government.

The creation of CATSA was the centrepiece of the Government of Canada's response to the events of September 11, 2001 and part of a comprehensive \$2.2 billion package for aviation security initiatives contained in the December 2001 budget. Established on April 1, 2002, CATSA is responsible for several key aviation security services.

A Crown Corporation based in the National Capital Region, CATSA reports to Parliament through the Minister of Transport. It is responsible for the delivery of consistent, effective and professional services at or above the standards set by Transport Canada. CATSA is governed by an eleven member Board of Directors, including representatives of the airline industry and airport operators.

CATSA's responsibilities fall into six major areas:

- Pre-board screening of passengers and their belongings;
- Acquisition, deployment, operation and maintenance of explosives detection systems at airports;
- Contracting for RCMP policing services on selected flights and all flights to Reagan National Airport;
- Implementation of a restricted area identification card;
- The screening of non-passengers entering airport restricted areas;
- Contributions for supplemental airport policing services.

In preparation for assuming its responsibilities, CATSA added hundreds of additional Pre-Board Screening (PBS) officers across the country and introduced a new multi-level training program for all screening officers. As part of its commitment to enhance training, the Authority has nearly doubled classroom instruction time and tripled on-the-job training hours.

Our goal is to provide a professional and consistent level of service across the country.



C A T S A ' S M A N D A T E

<p>1. Pre-Board Screening (PBS) of passengers and their belongings</p>	<p>CATSA is responsible for Pre-Board Screening (PBS) at Canada's major airports. On April 1, 2002, CATSA assumed financial responsibility for screening by reimbursing airlines for the cost of the service and on December 31, 2002, assumed full operational responsibility for PBS.</p>
<p>2. Acquisition, deployment, operation and maintenance of Explosives Detection Systems (EDS)</p>	<p>CATSA is responsible for acquiring, deploying, operating and maintaining EDS equipment at designated airports covering 99 per cent of air travellers in Canada. The Government of Canada has committed over \$1 billion for EDS from 2002–2006. This new equipment has been deployed at airports across the country.</p>
<p>3. Implementation of the Canadian Air Carrier Protective Program</p>	<p>CATSA is responsible for working with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for the provision of on-board security services under the Canadian Air Carrier Protective Program. This program covers selected domestic, transborder and international flights, and flights to Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C.</p>
<p>4. Implementation of a Restricted Area Identification Card</p>	<p>CATSA is implementing an enhanced restricted area identification card for non-passengers which includes the use of biometric identifiers. This card is issued by the Airport Authorities and augments the security of restricted areas at major Canadian airports. The program will include a national database authenticating the validity of the identification card.</p>
<p>5. Non-Passenger Screening</p>	<p>CATSA is implementing a system for the random screening of non-passengers accessing restricted areas at major airports. The screening applies to individuals such as airline personnel, airport employees, refuelers, caterers and maintenance personnel. CATSA's role includes the administration of the program, training of screening personnel and the purchase, deployment, operation and maintenance of all screening equipment.</p>
<p>6. Contributions toward airport policing costs</p>	<p>In the aftermath of 9/11, new measures were implemented at airports to increase police presence. The Government of Canada, through CATSA, has committed to assisting selected airports with these additional costs.</p>

To learn more, visit our website: www.catsa-acsta.gc.ca