



February 23, 2007

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-0504

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify before the Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 31, 2007. As a follow up to my testimony at the hearing "US-VISIT: Challenges and Strategies for Securing the U.S. Border," you asked the following question: "In your testimony you highlight that technology is only effective if there are also a proper focus on process, policies and people. What should Homeland Security be doing to improve the reliability of the computer infrastructure at U.S. Visit?"

As a general matter, in order to improve the reliability of a computer system, one needs to review the current system architecture and program requirements and deploy robust technologies after proper analysis, design and testing have been completed. This requires a very fact-specific inquiry into the parameters of a particular system under analysis. ITAA, however, does not have the specific knowledge and technology insight into the US-VISIT program to provide you with the information you requested. Your question is best directed to the Department of Homeland Security and its prime contractor for the U.S. Visit program. Thank you again for the opportunity to aid the Committee in its important work.

Regards,

Phillip J. Bond

President and CEO
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Information Technology Association of America

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