



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0049 Project Summary

Project Title:	Creating and Maintaining a Strong Security Culture at Airports
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Principal Investigator:	Joel Guerrero
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BACKGROUND

ICAO defines security culture as “a set of norms, beliefs, values, attitudes and assumptions that are inherent in the daily operation of an organization and are reflected by the actions and behaviours of all entities and personnel within the organization.” Maintaining a strong culture of security at airports is a key aspect of mitigating current and emerging threats.

Options for enhancing security culture include formalized systems, such as a Security Management System (SeMS) or Insider Threat Mitigation Program, or less formal systems that include layers of strategies that focus on badge holder rules, responsibilities, and training. Creating a consolidated resource of these options, strategies, and associated considerations will enhance an airport’s ability to evaluate their security culture, and identify actionable steps for improvement that are best suited to their individual needs and available resources.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to create a consolidated source of options and strategies to help airports develop and maintain a strong culture of security. The research should address:

- Leadership engagement (airport and stakeholders)
- Outreach and communication
- Empowering employees
- Accountability at all levels
- Reward and recognition
- Reporting systems
- Training opportunities
- Hiring considerations for airport security positions
- Lessons learned from similar programs and operating models
- Leveraging available technology
- Applicable metrics and measures of success

The resulting guidance should be comprehensive and scalable to airports of all sizes and resource levels.