



Best Operational Success – Runner up

DHS/DoD Biometric Information Sharing Interoperability Project Team

The joint DHS/DoD team has enabled more efficient and effective automated biometric information sharing interoperability between the DHS Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) and the DoD Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS). The advancement of DHS IDENT/DoD ABIS interoperability directly benefits both departments, allowing faster and more complete access to one another's biometric data. The project ties directly to each department's overarching priorities – DHS' "Counter Terrorism and Homeland Security Threats" and DoD's "Deepen Interoperability."

The teams worked tirelessly to ensure the coordination of policy, privacy, and technological requirements between DHS and DoD for the exchange of identity data. This capability directly impacts the federal government's future identity capabilities and builds a stronger information sharing foundation. Since inception in August 2019, DoD interoperability has enabled biometric data exchange for approximately 127,000 encounters between DHS and DoD. Creation and use of direct interoperability has enabled the exchange of almost 36,000 more encounters between the two agencies than legacy processes in the past five months alone.

The team's continued focus and resilience to overcome ever-present challenges and priority shifts have achieved a new level of mutually beneficial identity information sharing for the United States and directly contribute to the security and defense of the nation.