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PNR Implementation in the United Kingdom

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PNR Implementation in the United Kingdom

History and Practice



PNR data is not a requirement
placed on the carrier.

It is a business record.

It is what it is.



2002: programme begun to deliver a modernised border control in which all passengers on scheduled services would be screened before travel to or from the UK

2004: IBM contracted deliver Project Semaphore – a pilot project to analyse and eliminate risks in the development and delivery of the “e-Borders” solution and to provide a working test platform

2005: initial processing of API



2007: Draft EU Framework Decision for the use of PNR for law enforcement purposes

2010: National Border Targeting Centre (NBTC) created

2011: Draft EU PNR Directive published

2013: Project Semaphore supports IATA PNRGOV message and a new watchlist management interface enables watchlisting of phone numbers, payment card details, travel agents and email addresses



2015: Terrorist attacks in Paris (January), Copenhagen (February) Tunis (March) and Paris (November)

2016: Directive (EU) 2016/681 on the PNR for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime

2018: Passenger Name Record Data and Miscellaneous Amendments Regulations transpose the Directive into UK law

2020: European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020 amends 2018 regulations to reflect EU-UK agreement on safeguards for transfers of PNR data from the EU to the UK

2021: Amendment 28 to ICAO Annex 9

PNR Implementation in the United Kingdom

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total (%)	0	<6	6	18	41	82	89	96	100	100
UK-EU (%)	0	0	0	0	20	77	85	96	100	100
Extra-EU (%)	0	<27	27	53	84	93	98	98	100	100
Carriers	-	-	<42	42	70	83	104	118	130	130
Routes (K)	-	-	<0.4	0.4	1.0	4.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6
Passengers (M)	-	-	<30	30.5	77.1	164.8	203.8	225.4	237.7	234.6



National Border Targeting Centre (UK Passenger Information Unit)

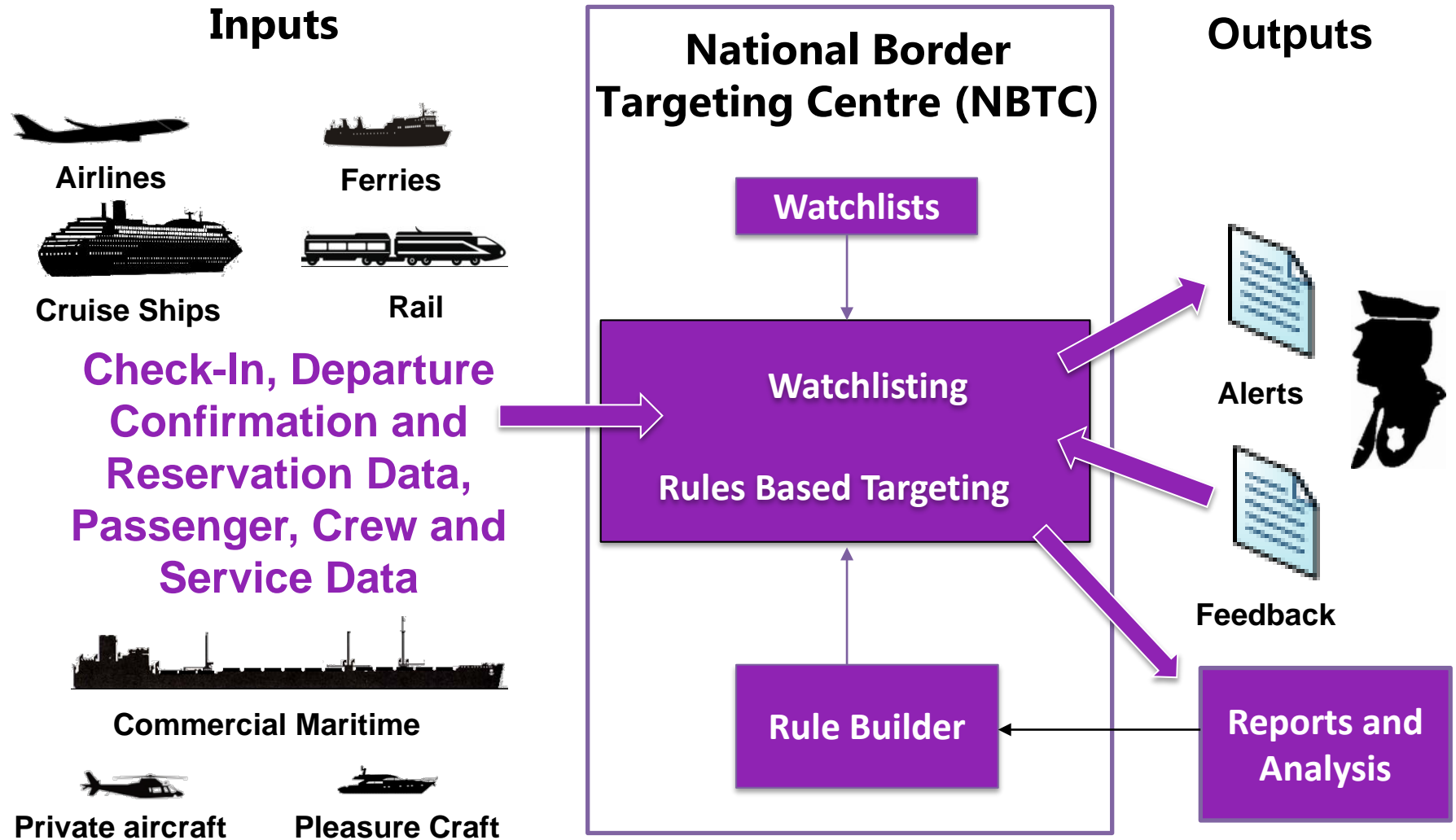
Operates 365 days a year, 24 hours a day and analyses data in real time.

Has over 250 staff from Border Force, the police and the National Crime Agency using API and PNR data to prevent, detect and investigate terrorist offences and serious crime.

Operates from a secure building. There are strict access controls to the building and the data system. All staff with access to the data are security vetted.



System Overview



Implementation of PNR in the UK

PNR plays an important role in identifying otherwise unknown people engaged in terrorist-related activity and serious crime, and helps protect vulnerable individuals by....

Matching data (contact details, routings, travel agents) associated with known criminality.

Identifying usual behaviour which, on the basis of objective evidence (prior experience), is likely to be associated criminal activity – suspicious travel patterns and financial transactions.



Implementation of PNR in the UK

Early identification of known subjects of interest enabling action to be planned at our border.

Not possible to make these connections or to identify anomalous behaviour through analysis of API only.

Historic data is necessary to identify trends and patterns and make connections between members of terrorist and criminal networks. Major investigations into large and complex networks can last many years.



Implementation of PNR in the UK

There is no substitute for PNR. No other data set enables us to identify networks *and* take executive action against known or suspected criminals at our borders.

PNR helps law enforcement target more intelligently and reduces the need to stop and interfere with legitimate passengers.



Rules Based Targeting Example

RP MBSU DIYT12108 DIYT12108 AGY DIYT12108 1976AZ 141113 120

BORISENKO 1 ARKADIJ MR

141113 2045 151113 0625 2 JNB LHR SA 234 Q ET

SSR DOCS HK 1 SA

P/CZE/C1647852/CZE/19MAR77/M/19MAY17/BORISENKO/ARKADIJ/

AP 3 5 DIY 904122525640 - BENGISU TURIZM - SUBE - A

TK OK 141113 ISTLL212R ET SA

FA 3 P06 PAX 083-

4319452378/ETSA/TRY1729.44/14NOV13/ISTLL212R/88200696

FB 3 P07 PAX 1400071830 TTP/ITR-EMLA OK ETICKET

FE 3 10 PAX NONEND T-/Q- PLUSFARE

FM 3 11 PAX *C*0

FP 3 16 CASH

FV 3 P18 PAX SA

←
Booked within nine hours of departure

←
One way ticket

←
EU Passport

←
Flight from Johannesburg to Heathrow booked by agent in Istanbul

←
No contact details

←
Cash Payment



Lessons Learned

Monitor the PNR data to your system.

Make sure you are receiving the PNR data you are expecting – and can query missing data in real-time.



