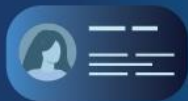




ICAO



2025 ICAO **TRIP** SYMPOSIUM

MONTRÉAL, CANADA | NOVEMBER 4 - 6



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Dion Chamberlain

Chairperson, ICAO Implementation and Capacity Building
Working Group (ICBWG)

Co-Chair ICAO DTC Policy Sub-Group

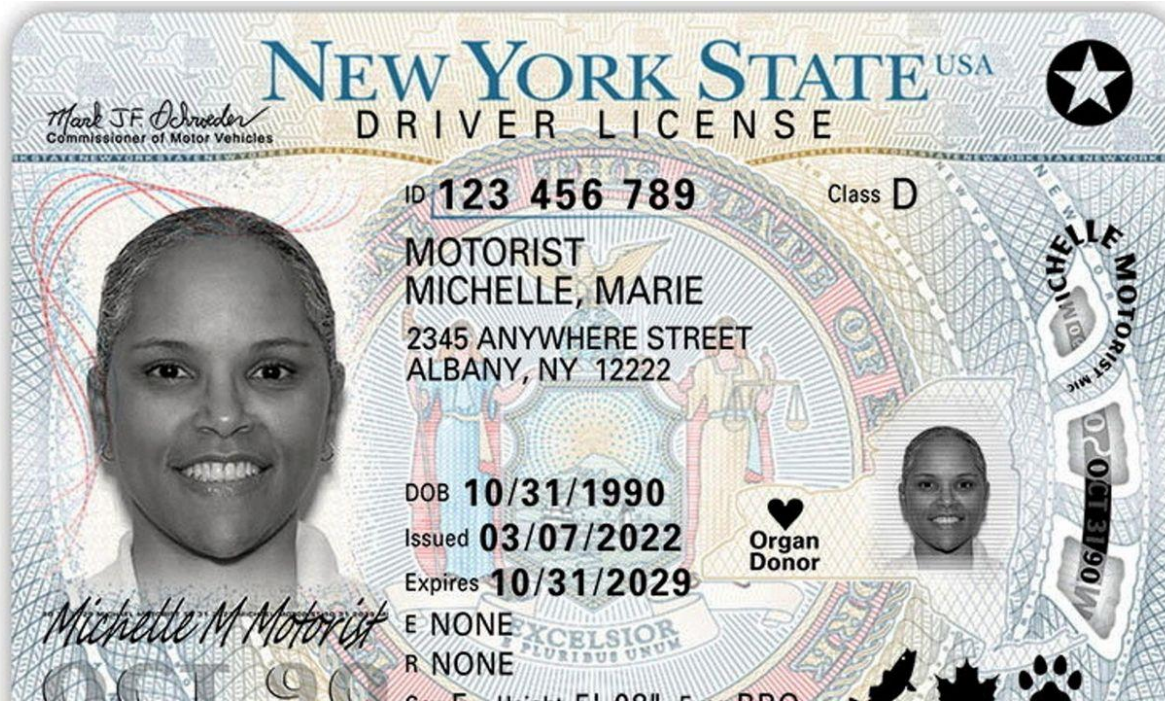
Director International and Product Strategy, Department of
Internal Affairs, New Zealand

FAL Panel and TAG-TRIP Delegate for New Zealand

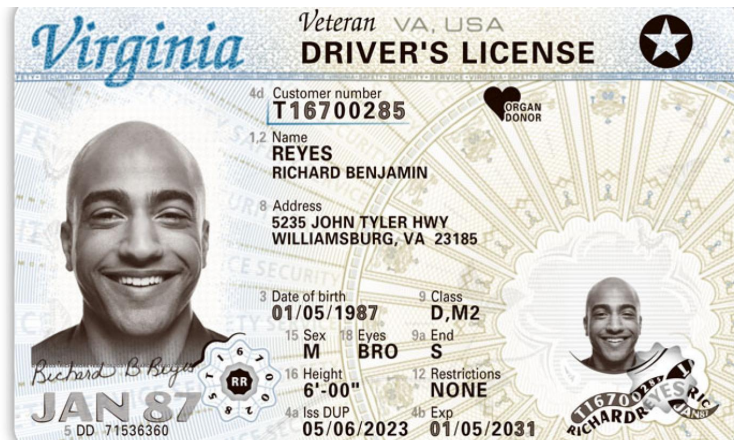
DIGITAL TRAVEL CREDENTIAL

DTC

VOTE: Are these
passports?

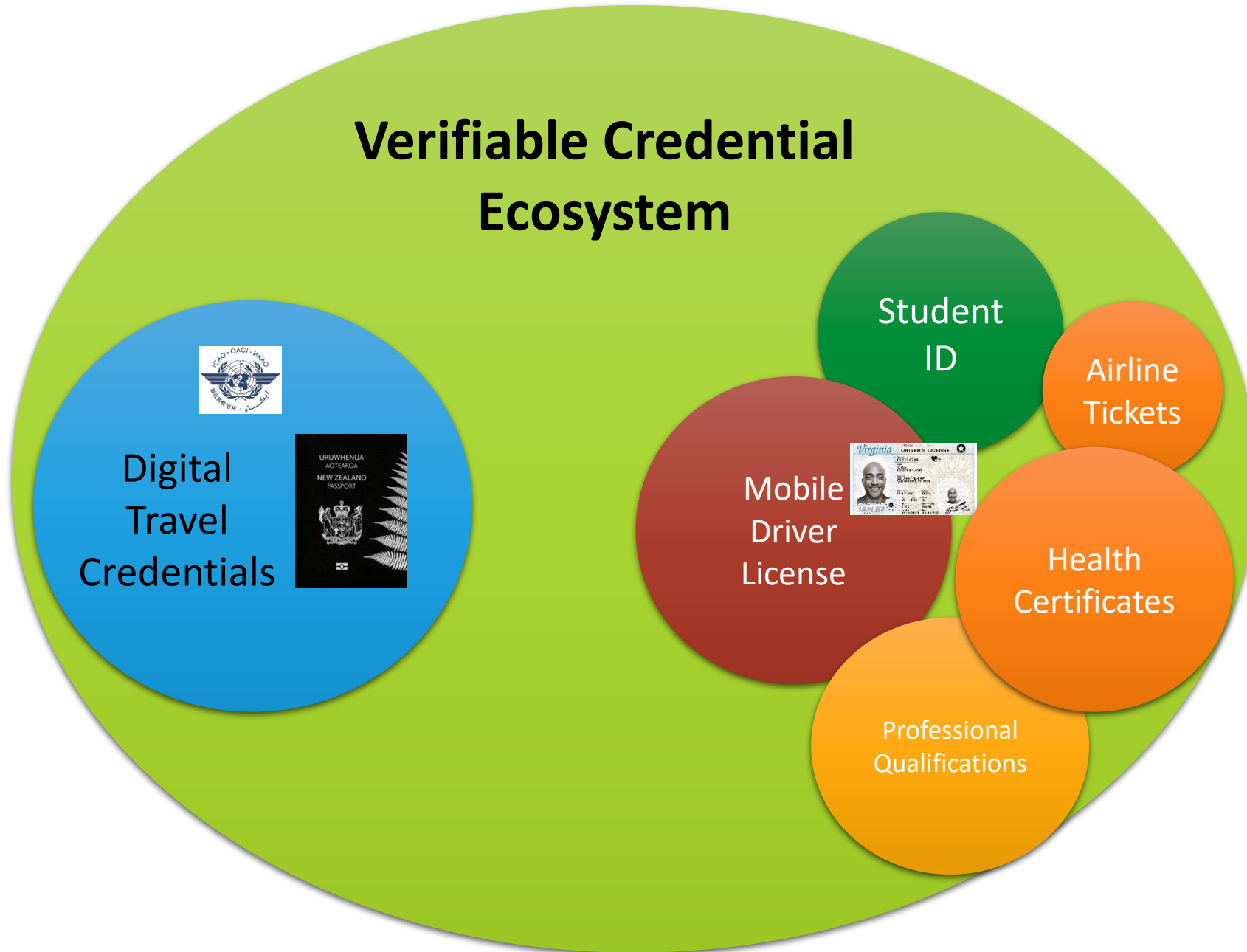


And yet ... when it is turned into a credential, put on a phone and used to clear border security ...



People start to think they are.





What gets even harder is when entities use the passport chip data to create verifiable credentials

**BUT THEY START MESSIN' WITH IT
... AND CALLING IT A DTC**



DTC Definition – Policy Paper

Travel credential in a digital format that conforms with the specifications contained in Doc. 9303 that is meant to temporarily or permanently substitute a conventional passport with a digital representation of the traveller's identity.

ICAO DTC Characteristics

- Intended and **specified** first and foremost for border clearance (ICAO)
- Globally interoperable
- Includes the facial biometric
- Signed by the issuing State (ePassports PKI)
- Like the passport, it is normally an assertion of bearer's nationality



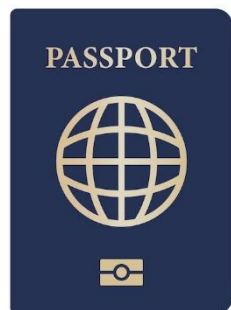
From ePassport to the
ICAO DTC-VC and DTC-PC
(Hybrid Model) – based on
slides by R Rajeshkumar



An ePassport can be viewed as a combination of:

- A **Virtual Component (VC)** consisting of the data contained in the chip;
- A **Physical Component (PC)** consisting of the booklet and/or cryptographic link between the VC and the PC and acts as an **authenticator** (second factor).





DTC – VC (Type 1)

Exact copy of information (from ePassport) – same validity

Can have a secondary wrapper or container when sending

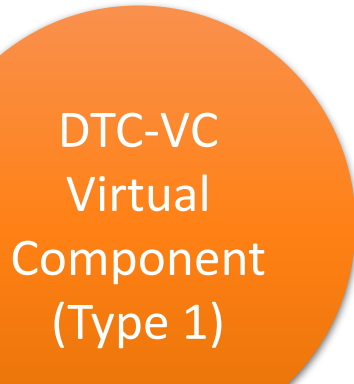
Can be stored and transmitted from phone

Reliant on Passive Authentication (PKI) and Facial recognition by receiving party (binding on presentation at Border or possibly prior on phone/app)

Infinitely clonable

No device or chip authentication

No secure authentication with reader



DTC – PC (Type 2)

Contains the virtual component but also has a secondary Physical Component (card or mobile device)

Secondary components are cryptographically linked to passport

Provide opportunities to add other information (e.g. up to date photo)

Other components/devices can have shorter validity



Mobile device security challenges

No secure transmission between device and reader

Partly specified



DTC
Unbound
(Type 3)



DTC – Unbound (Type 3)

No passport

Pushed or enrolled onto a device by the issuing authority

The ‘endgame’ in everyone’s mind

Emergency/single trip may be a great early use case

Not specified

No passport





ICAO Digital Travel Credential

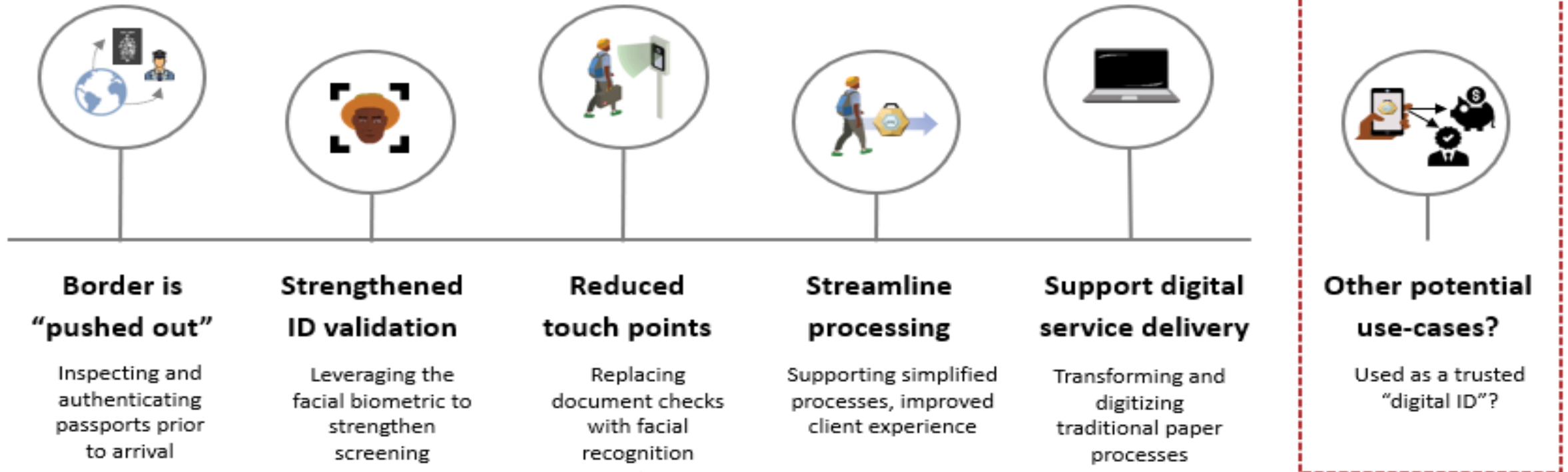


Unbroken PKI link to
issuing authority

PKI available without
impediment

Use Cases :

- Seamless Travel
- Advance Travel Authorization (ETA/DTA/...)
- Improving border processing time
- Emergency Travel Document



ICAO DTC Specifications (NTWG)

- ICAO DTC-VC Technical Report approved in 2020
- ICAO DTC-PC specifications divided into phases
 - Phase 1 – maintain backward compatibility (inspection systems) and replicate behavior of eMRTD – The Technical Report approved 2023
 - Phase 2 – investigate other form factors like mobile phones – gap analysis
 - **Later** phases – ISO, NTWG working on mobile-phone security
- Privacy and Transmission protocols - **NOW**

Draft Transmission Protocols (1)

For discussion at TAG-TRIP (12-14 November 2025)

1. The holder of the DTC must consent to the transmission of the DTC-VC
2. The endpoint to which the DTC is submitted must be authenticated and this endpoint must be verifiable by the submitter
3. The DTC-VC must not be transmitted in an unencrypted form. It must be encrypted specifically for the intended recipient, ensuring that only the authorized endpoint can access the data. Relying solely on Transport Layer Security (TLS) encryption at the transport layer is insufficient for this purpose.

Draft Transmission Protocols (2)

4. If the submission to the endpoint happens through intermediaries routing the information to the endpoint, the intermediate entities should not be able to access the DTC-VC information. Additional information that allows the intermediaries to route the DTC-VC to the correct end-point should be part of the transmitted datagram
5. The transmission protocol shall allow for the transmission of additional information (e.g. flight number, destination, date etc.) to be added to the transmitted datagram
6. An endpoint response must be sent back to acknowledge receipt of the DTC-VC

Draft Transmission Protocols (3)

7. The endpoint response may contain information that the DTC holder can additionally provide as supplementary information as part of the protocol or in another manner. The protocol always ends with the response given by the endpoint.
8. If the DTC-VC is in the ID wallet and there is additional information available in another application on the same mobile device, the ID wallet can obtain the necessary information directly from the other application. A standardized interoperable mechanism for retrieving information must be used in communication between applications.
9. The eMRTD trust framework shall be the basis of trust in the transmission.

Next steps

- Pilots ... we are learning a lot
- Device security
- Transmission protocols
- Convergence ... how will the DTC work within the wider verifiable credential ecosystem in a seamless and usable way (wallets, airline flows etc)



DTC

DON'T BE MESSIN' WITH IT

Thank You

