



## **IR Testimony to Congressional Subcommittee Describes How Biometric Access Control Technologies Can Enhance Airport Security and Safety**

WOODCLIFF LAKE, NJ, October 11, 2001 – Advanced biometric access control technologies can significantly help to enhance the security and safety of our nation's airports, according to testimony submitted today by Jim Scott, president of Ingersoll-Rand's (NYSE: IR) Security and Safety Solutions business unit, to the U.S. House Subcommittee on Aviation.

IR is a leading provider of comprehensive, integrated security and safety solutions, featuring advanced access control technologies, including electronic and biometric solutions (such as hand geometry readers and facial recognition systems). IR's comprehensive access control solutions are used to secure some of the world's busiest airports including, New York's Kennedy International, San Francisco International Airport, Los Angeles International Airport, Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel, and the newly constructed Incheon Airport, outside of Seoul, South Korea.

"Biometric systems lie at the core of new technologies that can provide customized security, not just for access control, but for monitoring the movements and activities of people throughout the airport environment," Scott said in his testimony. "Integrating this technology into a comprehensive security management system for airports is the vision that should be explored by Federal and local agencies and this Congress."

IR's Recognition Systems Inc. (RSI) business unit is the world's leading provider of biometric solutions, with more than 60,000 of its innovative handreaders installed in airports, government facilities, office buildings, and other critical installations across the globe.

In his testimony, Scott also cited the enormous challenges and critical security gaps that the U.S. Department of Transportation and the airline industry must overcome.

"Many airport security systems rely on identification cards, magnetic stripe cards, PIN numbers, and mechanical keys and push buttons. In most cases, these credentials are not integrated and, therefore, work independently of each other and can be defeated, since keys can be duplicated, and PIN numbers can be borrowed or stolen," Scott said. "What is needed is an integration of technologies and products throughout an airport that consolidates information, data and security devices into a common database. This enables security personnel to monitor every individual in an airport – from pilots and flight crews, to baggage handlers, to aircraft technicians and vendors – and provides customized access for each to only those areas where they are required to be, and only when they are authorized to be."

Scott added, "Biometric systems are particularly effective in an airport environment, for example, in managing the control of access to a particular jetway, or coordinating the movements of individual flight crews who must have access to more than one airport facility. In recent years, biometric systems have become more powerful and less expensive. They provide a very high level of confidence, as well as speed and convenience – far above other forms of identity checking. This is a truly integrated system that not only provides a high level of security, but can enable organizational efficiencies and cost reductions." Scott's complete testimony is available at IR's website, [www.irco.com](http://www.irco.com).

Through its Security and Safety Sector, IR offers a broad selection of the industry's best known hardware products, innovative software systems, and advanced access control solutions, such as Schlage locks and electronic and key management systems, Von Duprin exit door hardware, Locknetics electronic locking systems, Recognition Systems Inc. (RSI) biometric identification and verification HandReaders, and Interflex networked access control, time and attendance, and personnel scheduling systems. These technologies and systems can play significant roles in addressing the security concerns of other critical installations, such as government buildings, hospitals, schools, power generation facilities and water treatment plants, and sports stadiums.

IR is a leading innovation and solutions provider for the major global markets of Security and Safety, Climate Control, Industrial Productivity and Infrastructure. The company's diverse product portfolio encompasses such leading industrial and commercial brands as Schlage locks and security solutions; Thermo King transport temperature control equipment; Hussmann commercial and retail refrigeration equipment; Bobcat compact equipment; Club Car golf cars and utility vehicles; Torrington bearings and components; PowerWorks microturbines; and Ingersoll-Rand industrial and construction equipment. In addition, IR offers products and services under many more premium brands for customers in industrial and Commercial Markets. Further information on IR can be found on the company's web site at [www.irco.com](http://www.irco.com).