

Automated Border Control Gates for Europe

Explaining a technological project may sometimes prove challenging. If the project includes also actions of authorities that all travelers are subjected to, it might be even more challenging to describe the project understandably. Instead of trying to explain, we decided to show what we in ABC4EU are actually doing. We made videos about our first pilot phase and some of the videos are now live on Facebook and Twitter.

The ABC4EU-project had the proof of concept pilots in Madrid-Barajas and Lisbon airports as well as at Algeciras seaport border crossing points between October 2016 and February 2017. Conducting the pilot in Madrid and Lisbon in an airport terminal environment and in Algeciras in the seaport provided an excellent opportunity to study how the current Automated Border Control solution works in different border control points. The information gained from different pilot environments is essential for achieving the core object of the ABC4EU project: to make border control more flexible and easier for travelers and border authorities by harmonizing the functionalities of e-gates.

The results of the pilot are beneficial for various ABC4EU partners. To mention a few useful results, the technology providers received operational feedback about a real-life situation, and the border guards gained firsthand experience on the technology used in border control. The pilot results can now convince more stakeholders of the easiness of using mobile technology in border control.

The videos picture different scenarios for different traveller groups at the border crossing point. The videos describe the functionalities of border control system for different traveler groups. With the videos ABC4EU wants to show the travelers and other stakeholders how the project could facilitate travelling to and within Europe.

ABC4EU follows the EU regulations on privacy. All pilot videos were filmed and published with the consent of the people in the videos.

The pilot results were also presented to some of our relevant stakeholders. ABC4EU organized a joint showcase seminar in cooperation with another EC-funded project, BODEGA, in Levi, Finland on May 2nd through May 5th. The seminar gathered 42 attendees from 10 European countries. The discussions were vivid with good atmosphere, covering issues from the pilots and technology to the ethics of border control. Want to know more about the seminar? See the ABC4EU newsletter number 18, which will be published in June / July 2017 on www.abc4eu.com

For further information about the project and future news please subscribe to our monthly newsletter:
<http://abc4eu.com/newsletter-subscription/>

If you have any questions, please contact us via contact form in the webpage.
For further details, contact ABC4EU project coordinator

Contact
Mr. Daniel Cuesta Cantarero
Indra Sistemas S.A., Spain
tel. +34 914 807 993
dcuesta@minsait.com



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Automated Border Control Gates for Europe (ABC4EU) is a part of an European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 312797. The project began in January 2014 with main aim to make border checks more flexible and user-friendly for passengers by harmonising the functionalities of border check automation. Project consortium has 13 different partners from 8 EU member states with 17 million euros funding from EU.