



News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Security Manufacturers Coalition's T.J. Schulz Testifies at Hearing on TSA Acquisition Reform

Alexandria, VA - Security Manufacturers Coalition Director T.J. Schulz discussed opportunities to improve the Transportation Security Administration's acquisitions process during a hearing of the House Homeland Security Committee's Transportation Security Subcommittee on January 7, 2016. The hearing was titled "Transportation Security Acquisitions Reform Act: Examining Remaining Challenges."

In his testimony Schulz remarked that while TSA's engagement with industry has improved and there is more clarity in TSA's investment plans and process reforms through the publication of the *Five-Year Technology Investment Plan for Aviation Security*, more needs to be done. Schulz specifically called for further detail on TSA's investment plans for security screening equipment; reforming the TSA test and evaluation process, which can take years to complete; better alignment between the DHS Science and Technology Directorate and TSA on equipment research and development; industry involvement in equipment lifecycle decisions; and robust, consistent funding for equipment recapitalization.

"Industry needs a more precise roadmap to know where and when to invest," Schulz said in his testimony. "Ensuring our R&D efforts focus on the capabilities that will meet TSA priorities and address emerging security threats is critical to protecting the citizens of our country. Greater partnership between TSA and industry will only help with this process."

Schulz's full testimony can be found [here](#).

The Security Manufacturers Coalition serves as the unified voice of companies that manufacture security screening technology and focuses on aviation and intermodal security issues in the U.S. and globally. Organized under the Airport Consultants Council (ACC), the Coalition addresses issues that most affect its member companies relating to funding and acquisitions, technology research programs, and international regulations and standards.