

Detecting a Nuclear Device

DHS's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office has developed the Intelligent Radiation Sensing System (IRSS) to equip law enforcement in protecting cities from radiological or nuclear threats. The IRSS is a MASINT (measurement and signature intelligence) collection system that networks a group of portable radiation detectors. The program creates a network architecture, along with data fusion algorithms that combine information from many detectors. The integrated program provides search and monitoring capabilities across a large coverage area.

A significant number of sensor systems are being used on our borders, at airports, and within the United States to gather real-time intelligence on WMDs as part of the prevent and protect missions. Many of these are classified, but most work in a manner similar to the IRSS to collect and collate raw tactical intelligence on imminent WMD threats.