DATA MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT TASK FORCE

February 2003

CHAIR:
Attorney General Designee: US Immigration and Naturalization Service

MEMBERS:
Air Transport Association

Airports Council International

American Association of Port Authorities

American Trucking Associations, Inc.

Border Trade Alliance

Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance

International Council of Cruise Lines

National Association of Counties

National Governors Association

Travel Industry Association of America

US Chamber of Commerce

US Department of Commerce

US Department of Justice

US Department of State

US Department of Transportation

US Department of Treasury/ US Customs Service

The Immigration and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act (DMIA) of 2000 created a Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations on how the flow of traffic at United States airports, seaports and land border Ports-of-Entry (POE) can be improved while enhancing security. Statutory mandates include evaluations and recommendations on: an electronic entry/exit system; enhancing information technology (IT) systems and data collection/sharing; facilities and infrastructure issues; and increasing cooperation between public and private sectors, among federal and state/local agencies and with affected foreign governments.

The DMIA Task Force is comprised of 17 senior level officials from six Federal agencies, two state and local governmental groups and nine private industry trade and travel organizations (See attached chart). The members bring together the expertise necessary to find solutions to address our Nation's commercial facilitation needs consistent with increased security concerns.

The Task Force's 2002 report to Congress focused on recommendations for an electronic entry/exit system. Some of the highlights in 2002:

- Fact-finding site visits at different POEs to view facilities and operations; receive briefings and demonstrations of port operations and automated inspections projects; and participate in stakeholders' meetings.
- Updates and ongoing coordination efforts with Congress, other federal agencies, state and local government representatives, and members of business and private organizations.
- December 31, 2002 first Task Force recommendations report due to Congress.

For 2003 the Task Force will move to other statutory requirements, focusing on three main areas for their next report to Congress:

- **Coordination and Cooperation**: The Task Force will examine ongoing efforts and make recommendations for increasing and improving cooperation and coordination between public and private sectors, among federal and state/local agencies and with affected foreign governments.
- **Facilities and Infrastructure**: The Task Force will study existing deficiencies and identify potential improvements to meet the requirements of overall security and improving the flow of traffic at the various POEs.
- **Information Technology Interoperability**: IT consultants from Los Alamos National Laboratory will continue with their in-depth analyses of border management systems, interoperability, and other considerations as the Task Force continues its work with a goal of increasing effectiveness and information sharing among appropriate entities.