



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Brazil Secures Border Controls with Technology from Bull and A2iA**

*SERPRO Benefits from the Expertise of Leading Technology Solutions Providers to Automate the Capturing of written data from Brazilian Passports*

**NEW YORK & SÃO PAULO June 5, 2007** – A2iA, a worldwide leading developer of advanced handwriting and print recognition engines, and BULL, a premier European-based global IT supplier, announced the success of their implementation with the Brazilian company Serviço Federal de Processamento de Dados (SERPRO) from the Brazilian Government, for an automated border entry and departure control system used by Brazil's federal police. The project was well received and has resulted in expansion of the solution.

In 2005, SERPRO gave Bull the task of implementing a solution to automate passport and travel documentation security; a job worth 10.5 million dollars. The project called for updating the control of security measures at Brazilian borders which meant, automating verification of passport and travel documentation as well as identifying and authenticating these documents. After being chosen to implement the project, Bull turned to A2iA to supply the technology to automatically identify and read information from non ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) standard passports. A2iA FieldReader was chosen for its ability to recognize all types of fields and writing. A2iA FieldReader is currently the only recognition technology developed specifically to read the writing characteristics of Brazil.

The Bull / A2iA solution is being installed at 70 main border control checkpoints in Brazil, including airports, seaports and land borders. The solution works as follows: the Brazilian Passport is scanned with a special document scanner, then it is identified and authenticated by a software solution. Next A2iA FieldReader reads and identifies the critical printed and written information from the passports.

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With the success of the initial installation, SERPRO anticipates an expansion totaling 255 checkpoints in the near future and plans on using the same solution tailored for processing entry and exit forms.

For the Past 4 years, A2iA has been one of Bull's greatest worldwide technology partners. This alliance is one of the keystones of the success of the SERPRO project, which BULL has successfully implemented through its competence in solutions integration.

Bull and A2iA will once again be exhibiting their solutions at CIAB 2007 in São Paulo June 13 – 15, where attendees can see first-hand the efforts this alliance has made visible through its pioneering applications.

### **About BULL**

Bull is an information technology company, dedicated to helping corporations and public sector bodies develop open and secure information systems to sustain their business strategies. The premier European-based global IT supplier, Bull has a worldwide presence in more than 100 countries, and is particularly active in the defense, finance, healthcare, manufacturing, public and telecommunication sectors. For more information: [www.bull.com](http://www.bull.com).

### **About A2iA Corporation**

A2iA (Artificial Intelligence & Image Analysis), founded in 1991, headquartered in New York and Paris, is known as the worldwide leading developer of Intelligent Word Recognition (IWR) technology for extracting information from natural freeform and cursive handwriting on paper documents. The company's technology has been helping paper-intensive industries reduce data entry costs and improve business process automation for over 16 years. A2iA's recognition engines harmonize their OCR, ICR and IWR technologies with their image analysis, artificial intelligence and neural network systems to enhance solutions from the world's leading systems integrators and other independent software vendors. For more information: [www.a2ia.com](http://www.a2ia.com).

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