

**Australian Communications and Media Authority**  
**Level 3**  
**40 Cameron Avenue**  
**Belconnen ACT 2617**

24 April 2024

To whom it may concern,

By way of introduction, I'm the Airport Compliance Supervisor at Albury Airport. As part of my responsibilities, I ensure the overall compliance and efficient operation of the airport's security screening points.

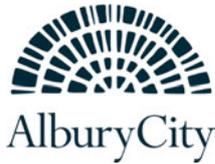
This letter is being submitted to request the Australian Communication and Media Authority (**ACMA**) consider modifying the existing Body Scanner Class Licence as part of this year's Work Program to allow operation of body scanners which operate in the 20-40 GHz frequency range.

Albury Airport currently uses the Leidos ProVision 2 Body Scanner (**PV2**) to screen passengers, and is considering upgrading the PV2 to next generation PV3 Body Scanners because of the operational advantages the PV3 offers. This advanced screening technology is crucial for the national aviation security framework for the reasons outlined in this letter.

We believe the safe deployment of new generation body scanner technologies should be prioritised in order to improve safety, security and operational efficiency for all passengers. To that end, and as explained by Leidos, the company's millimetre wave scanning technology has an improved capability of detecting weapons and/or contraband which might otherwise require intrusive physical searches or be overlooked by existing legacy metal detectors. Albury Airport considers the new generation body scanner technology to deliver multiple advantages, including but not limited to:

- improved detection of concealed prohibited items;
- decreased false alarm rates, thereby reducing delays in passenger throughput;
- reduced processing time, allowing airports to optimise their operational capacity; and
- increased positive passenger experience.

Amongst other challenges in the aviation sector, the high false alarms with the current generation of body scanners is a compounding pain point for airports. The anticipated release of the next generation body scanners (including the PV3) is ideal for security screening of persons. We understand the operating wavelength of the transmitted signals can easily pass through clothing while reflecting from the skin, providing the resolution necessary to enable robust threat detection algorithms while providing sufficient privacy.



Reliability enhancements also enable performance improvements of screening and efficiencies without causing undue operational pressures.

The PV3 with expected low false alarm rates will be a game changer for the industry. It will streamline passenger processing and increase throughput at all Australian airport security screening check points. Most importantly, the reduced false alarms mitigate the need for time consuming and confrontational secondary inspections. Additionally, this addresses the human factor concerns that have resulted in security screening staff nationally becoming increasingly disenfranchised and demotivated due to unacceptably high false alarm rates from legacy equipment. For these reasons, it is becoming more urgent for legacy body scanner equipment to be updated with the latest advancements in technology.

Albury Airport fully supports Leidos' request and respectfully requests that ACMA grant due consideration to Leidos' submission into the Work Program.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information.

Kind regards



**Louise Wicks**

Airport Compliance Supervisor – Albury Airport