Internationales Zentrum für Ethik in den Wissenschaften (IZEW)

Security, Ethics, and Justice – Towards a more inclusive Security Design @ IZEW, University of Tuebingen June 21-23, 2012

Re-setting the valve? How body scanners (don't) transform the airport security checkpoint



scope:

'How does the implementation of body scanners affect social interaction?'

methodology:

- (expert) interviews
- ethnographic field research



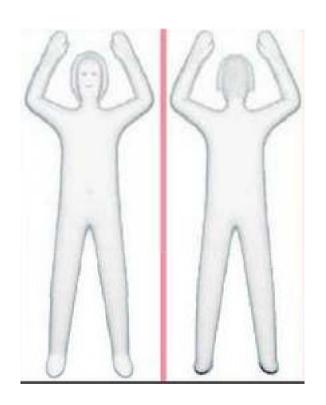




screening checkpoint with body scanners







'naked' vs 'avatar'





'no-jokes policy'



the social dimension I: passengers

- uncertainty
- lack of technical awareness
- humor
- potential amplification of issues of shame and dignity



the social dimension II: security personnel

- ambigious reaction

- 'scapegoats' of potential conflict

- social skills required



conclusions?



@ Portland International Airport, April 18, 2012



some policy advice!

in order to avoid conflict...

- rethink sub-contracting of airport security

- scope on job training

Thank you!