

ANNEX C

UNITED STATES INSPECTION AGENCIES GUIDELINES FOR A PRECLEARANCE FACILITY

INTRODUCTION

When planning a preclearance facility, sufficient space must be provided to allow the Federal Inspectional Agencies (FIA) to conduct their examinations effectively, and ensure the sterility of the precleared passenger to be preserved from the point of examination until boarding the aircraft. Airport planners are urged to work closely with the FIA during all stages of planning and development to ensure maximum utilization of all areas of the facility.

Below are general descriptions of the FIA space and equipment requirements for a preclearance operation.

1. INSPECTION AREA

The inspection area must have sufficient space for the number of inspection counters required to process passengers in an orderly and expeditious manner. In determining this space, the following dimensions should be kept in mind:

Immigration inspection booths are usually 25 feet square with a 3-foot outside aisle. Customs baggage inspection counters are approximately 25 feet long and 2 feet 8 inches wide. Counters are paired, and form a rectangle with the inspector's work station (which houses the CRT equipment) at one end and the communications printer at the other. There should be 5-foot aisles on both sides of the counters. Specifications and technical drawings for the inspector work station and the baggage inspection counters are available from the inspectional agencies upon request.

To minimize confusion and congestion in the inspection area, it is recommended that a 40-foot queue space be provided for the Immigration inspection booths and that a 30-foot queue space be provided between Immigration inspection booths and Customs baggage inspection counters. (A schematic drawing is attached.)

Under normal conditions, the Immigration Service can process approximately 50 passengers per hour per booth and Customs can process approximately 100-120 passengers per hour through each set of inspection counters.

2. STERILE AREA

A sterile area large enough to accommodate the anticipated per-hour passenger load must be provided contiguous to the FIA passenger inspection area. A minimum of 10 square feet per passenger is recommended.