



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

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For immediate release

MEDIA RELEASE

**MODERN MOBILE SCANNERS ARRIVE IN TRINIDAD TO BE DEPLOYED
IN BORDER SECURITY EFFORTS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DIVISION**

The Minister of Finance is pleased to announce the arrival of the first two (2) high/medium energy mobile X-ray scanners in Trinidad on Sunday November 3rd 2024.

In January 2024, the Ministry of Finance signed a contract with Canadian-based Sectus Technologies for the purchase of four (4) high/medium mobile X-ray scanners to be used for inspection of both imports and exports. These scanners, which were built in and shipped from Paris, France allow trained operators to view the contents of loaded trucks, containers and vehicles. Its high-performance imaging is expected to play a significant role in improving national security by enhancing the capabilities of the Customs and Excise Division in detecting a wide range of contraband items including weapons. Since the scanners use high/medium-energy X-ray to penetrate materials, they can see through walls, containers, or vehicle parts to identify hidden objects that would otherwise be difficult to detect.

In addition, the scanners will assist the Customs and Excise Division to more quickly and efficiently scan and inspect vehicles, trucks, or shipping containers which would limit the need to unload or manually inspect items, thereby increasing throughput while still maintaining high security.

The two (2) scanners that are currently in-country will be strategically deployed at the Port of Port-of-Spain and the Port of Point Lisas following a 2-3 week commissioning period which would involve, site acceptance testing and training.

The other two (2) scanners have shipped and are expected to arrive in the country by November 24th 2024.

The procurement of the four (4) scanners was at a cost of US\$12 million and include maintenance and technician training for Customs and Excise personnel.

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The Honourable Colm Imbert M.P.
Minister of Finance