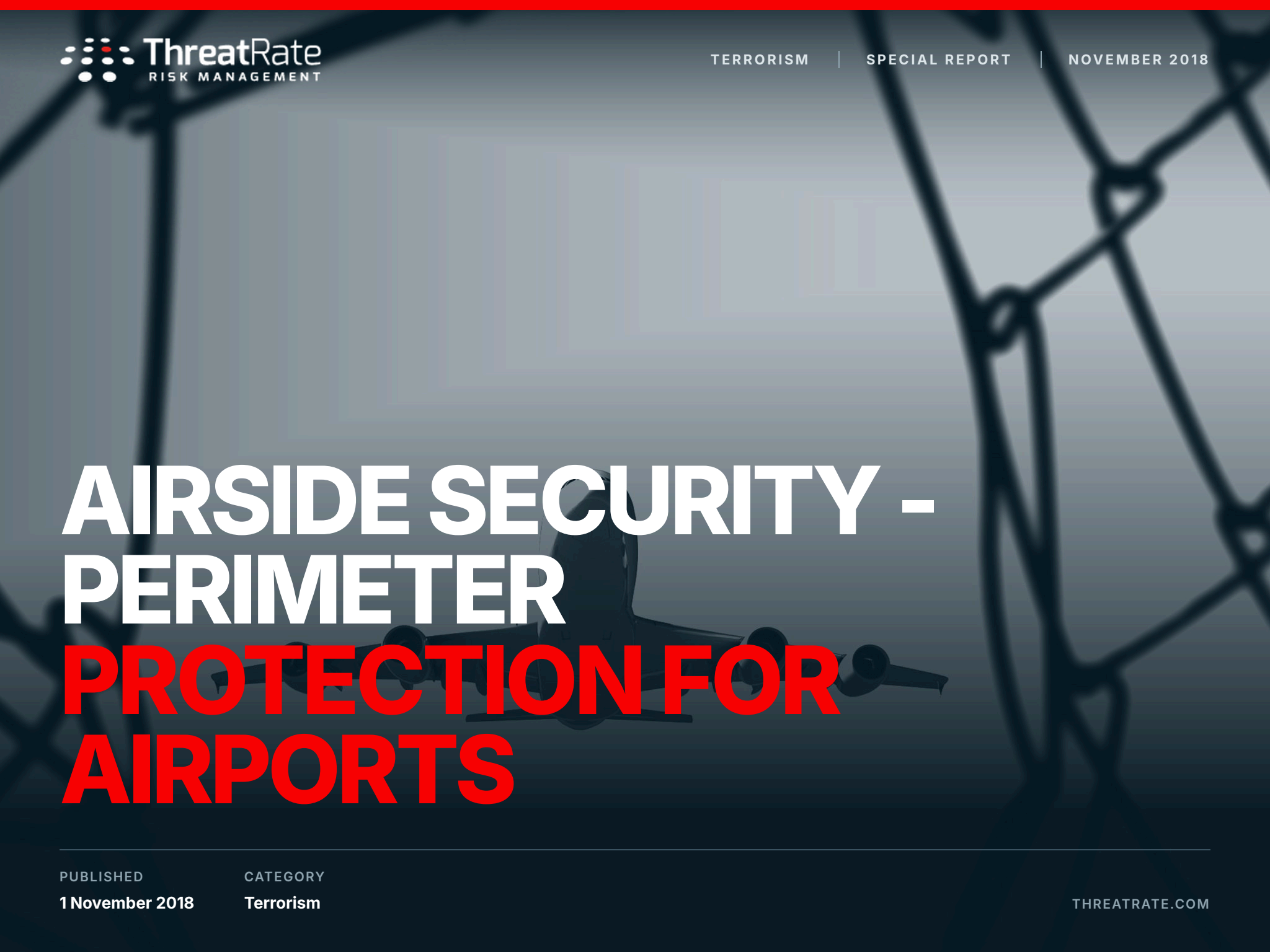


AIRSIDE SECURITY - PERIMETER PROTECTION FOR AIRPORTS

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Airside Security - Perimeter Protection for Airports

When the public thinks of airport security, they often immediately think of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) putting in place measures or barriers to prevent malicious individuals from either getting through airport security or, if the individual happens to make it through the security checkpoint, perpetrate a crime – e.g., hijacking – while on the plane. Measures such as locked cockpits, enhanced screenings, and identification document requirements (e.g., the Real ID Act in the United States) are some measures that have been taken since the terrorist attacks on 9/11 to strengthen airport security.

There is, however, an entirely different area of airport that consumers do not think often about that is critical to ensuring facility security – the perimeter. Airport security administrators are apt to note that they are responsible for security from curbside to airside. Perimeter security is an extremely challenging endeavor for airports as the facilities are often extremely large and manpower is limited; thus, it is difficult to meaningfully patrol such fences with security staff and still also have security personnel available to patrol the airport buildings and security checkpoints. Inappropriate access of airfields can lead to flight delays and extensive fuel wastage as planes that are bound for landing must remain in the air while the inappropriate intrusion is remediated, and the scene cleared by airport security personnel.

The rapid growth of the Internet of Things (IoT) and machine learning/automation technologies have provided a way for airport security administrators to overcome such challenges and to more effectively surveil the perimeter of the airport and to respond to potential events. Outside of the obvious wired mesh fencing or concrete barriers, the use of intrusion detection devices such as thermal or infrared cameras that can view movement twenty-four hours a day are an obvious addition that will make security personnel more efficient. Linking them to a central monitoring station allows fewer staff members to monitor larger areas. Technology company Axis can also complement thermal cameras with their Axis Radar Technology which uses intelligent algorithms to refrain from setting off alarms with false positives (e.g., shadows or animals). Such devices can also trigger a light when something is detected.

One challenge traditionally with intelligent image processing on a large scale (for example, for all the cameras available needed in an airfield) is the processing necessary to analyze such images. Security personnel cannot, in a potentially developing situation await image processing and analysis by multiple cameras before proceeding to act.

Axis's technology, however, eliminates that difficulty by embedding sufficiently powerful local processing power on the devices themselves so that the analysis can occur locally. The benefit of this for security administrators is that they can then see the analysis from multiple cameras simultaneously and act more efficiently. Axis also offers companies motion detection cameras.

Regardless of the vendor an airport security administrator chooses, it is important – for the assurance of highly available and effectively run

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airports – that traditional security measures such as fencing, concrete barriers, and routine patrols be complemented with the latest IoT and analytics technology which can allow staff to more efficiently concentrate on responding to events and monitoring the airfield from centralized location.

In 2015, the Associated Press concluded an investigation into perimeter breaches at 31 of the United States' busiest airports. The investigation covered the years from January 2004 to January 2015 and found 268 instances of people breaching the outer limits of these



https://security.world/airside-security-perimeter-protection-for-airports/

Soundbite analytics

- From 2004-2015, a research study was able to confirm 268 breaches of the outer barriers of an airport.
- 75 planes were kept in the air and 80 were grounded in 2012 due to a vehicle trespassing onto the runway at Philadelphia's international airport.

SOURCES

1 https://security.world/airside-security-perimeter-protection-for-airports/
2 https://www.axis.com/files/feature_articles/wp_perimeter_prot_airport_71990_en_1805_lo.pdf
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