Mission
Conduct and transition research, develop innovative solutions, and provide education that enhances the Nation’s ability to secure the borders, facilitate legitimate trade and travel, and ensure the integrity of the immigration system.

Method
Through a multi-disciplinary team of national and international experts, the Institute delivers transformational technology-driven solutions, data-informed policies, workforce development opportunities for today’s Homeland Security Enterprise, and trans-disciplinary education for the next generation of homeland security experts.

Secure • Facilitate • Ensure
Developing improved identification technology

Accurate and timely identification of people crossing the border, whether authorized or unauthorized, is necessary for establishing effective border management. BTI Institute researchers are developing software solutions based on biometric identifiers that remain effective in a variety of distances, aspects and illuminations.

Facilitating legitimate flows across U.S. borders through modeling methodology and simulation models

With over 42 million pedestrian crossings and nearly 105 million vehicle crossings per year, the need to facilitate the flow of traffic without compromising security is paramount. BTI Institute researchers are working with leadership at Ports of Entry to detail “what if” scenarios and reduce congestion leading to shorter wait times and better utilization of inspection personnel.

Securing trade into U.S. seaports through operational and risk assessments

Each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive at U.S. seaports. BTI Institute researchers are developing a risk assessment tool and an operational assessment of seaports to evaluate current security risk management and cargo screening processes.

Improving resourcing decision for border security through improved forecasting of migration flows

BTI Institute researchers are collecting data directly related to the push and pull factors impacting migration. The researchers are building forecasting and estimated flow models to allow multiple DHS component agencies to make better informed decisions on how to utilize resources and personnel.

Having a national impact by meeting our homeland security needs...

...by teaming with experts from academia, private industry, non-profit think tanks and national laboratories.

American University, D.C.
Cross-Border Institute
Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, CA
Migration Policy Institute
MITRE Inc.
Oak Ridge National Laboratories
Rutgers University, Newark and New Brunswick, NJ
SAS Federal LLC
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
South West Border Sheriff’s Coalition
Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, TX
Texas A&M International University, TX
Texas A&M Transportation Institute, TX
University of Arizona, AZ
University of Houston, TX (LEAD)
University of Minnesota, MN
University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC
University of Texas at El Paso, TX
University of Virginia, VA
Voir Dire International LLC
West Virginia University, WV