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.

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

Forecasting migration trends in order to prepare policy for the future

To help Customs and Border Protection prepare for a potential migration crisis, BTI Institute researchers are exploring the dimensions of the migration outflow in other nations. This examination of the current trends and future impacts will result in recommendations to prevent a broader hemispheric crisis.

Evaluating the utilization of blockchain to facilitate legitimate trade

With over $7 billion worth of imported products entering the U.S. daily, and in light of the associated administrative processes and personnel requirements, BTI Institute researchers are evaluating the efficiencies gained through automation such as blockchain.

Securing trade into U.S. seaports through development of next-generation sensing deployment

Each year, more than 11 million maritime containers arrive in U.S. seaports. BTI Institute researchers are evaluating the feasibility of utilizing cameras, thermal imaging cameras, and other sensors mounted on unmanned autonomous systems to enhance cargo container screening.

Informing border security operations by validating deterrence models

In order to deter and detect the smuggling of illegal goods or instruments of terror, CBP utilizes scanning technology along with other techniques and procedures. BTI Institute researchers are measuring the deterrence value of scanning technology to assist CBP agents in making data-informed decisions in determining screening rates and scanner deployment.

American University, Washington, D.C.
ANSER Inc, VA
Cross-Border Institute, Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Lantern UAS
Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, CA
Migration Policy Institute, D.C.
Naval Postgraduate School, CA
Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, TN
Rutgers University, Newark and New Brunswick, NJ
South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, TX
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
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, University City, Mexico
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, TX
West Virginia University, WV

...by teaming with experts from academia and industry.