



## INFORMATION BULLETIN

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**DATE: February 12, 2009**

**SUBJECT: Border Monitoring**

**SOURCE: Federal Times.Com**

The Homeland Security Department will wire up 23 miles of Arizona border in March with high-tech sensor technology with the aim of having the state's entire border wired by 2011, said Mark Borkowski, executive director of the department's Secure Border Initiative.

Roll out to other portions of the southwest border will depend on future funding, he said. The deployment comes after extensive testing in New Mexico of a network of ground sensors, day and night cameras, and radar technology, Borkowski said.

The effort follows earlier failures of a similar border-protection technology project, known as Project 28.

Glitches that plagued Project 28 have been addressed in the latest effort, he said. For instance, slow satellite-based communication links were replaced with faster microwave exchanges, and border cameras were fitted with image stabilization technology. Tests in December of the new system revealed some problems, such as computer crashes after prolonged use, but those were fixed, Borkowski said.

The sensor equipment and video surveillance **systems will also be tested on the northern border this spring to see how the technology does under different conditions.**

"The Great Lakes are not the same as the desert," Borkowski noted.