Edinburgh Airport introduces new security scanners

New security scanners will ensure that Edinburgh Airport enters the next generation of aviation security

Edinburgh Airport has introduced new state-of-the-art body scanners to improve the speed and efficiency of the airport security experience.

As part of its £150 million five-year investment programme, the airport is putting technology at the core of the security process, reducing the time spent in the search area and improving interaction between staff and passengers. The new scanners are the first major pieces of equipment to be installed in the terminal ahead of the new airport extension, which will open later this year.

Created by L-3 Security & Detection Systems, the scanners are now fully operational and will result in less physical searches and speed up the entire security process, allowing passengers more time to relax before flying.

Edinburgh Airport has been working hard over the last two years to improve the security process following the Department for Transport's legislative decision on airport security scanners. Last year, the airport installed E-gates, as well as facial recognition cameras to enhance the security process and track queue time.

Julie Matthews, Head of Security at Edinburgh Airport, said: "We're committed to ensuring the safety of our passengers by continually reviewing and improving our security process.

"New technology is a key part of this and these new security scanners will be hugely beneficial in improving the passenger experience by reducing the number of body searches and speeding up the process.

"Having a security scanner in place since 2012 has allowed us to train our staff to a high standard and effectively communicate with passengers to prepare them for the security process.

"With our brand-new security hall scheduled to open later this year, we're investing in fantastic state-of-the-art technology, which will allow us to enter the next generation of airport security."

Although the main security process will remain unchanged, the new security scanners will act as an additional level of security. If a passenger passes through the security archway and is found to still be carrying an item likely to activate the metal detector — for example, a belt buckle, mobile phone or watch — the archway alarm will sound.

The passenger will then be asked to remove the item and enter the new security scanner, which will scan for any additional items. If cleared, passengers will be allowed to carry on and collect their belongings before making their way into the departure lounge.

Thomas M. Ripp, president of L-3 Security & Detection Systems, said: "We're pleased to supply our advanced security scanners to Edinburgh Airport. We have a long-term partnership with the airport and support their commitment to security and next-generation technology.

"With over 1,000 ProVision® ATD and ProVision® 2 systems deployed worldwide, this market-proven technology offers the ideal balance between addressing regulatory requirements and meeting airport operational demands."