

Best Practice: Separate Access Gate for Vessel Crewmembers



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| Category: | Access Control |
| Location: | Varna and Burgas, Bulgaria |
| Date Observed: | October 2006 |
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Description: Separate access gate for vessel crewmembers.

Discussion: Ports in Bulgaria have separate access gates for seaman. These access points are manned by the border authorities. These measures enhance access control by reducing traffic at other entrances used by port employees and vendors. Additionally, these measures reduce the number of differing credentials the security force needs to be familiar with and they provide a heightened level of scrutiny by which individuals purporting to be crew members must pass.

Potential Down-side: Access points at many ports may not be configured to set up a separate entrance. Furthermore, the border control regime in the country may preclude having such a gate arrangement.

Conclusion: A separate access point for seaman can be beneficial if the configuration of the port and the country's border control regime allow it.

Cost: The cost varies depending on the configuration of the port. It would be minimal if the gate arrangement was such that a separate entrance could be provided without new construction and if the port could use existing personnel. The cost of building a new checkpoint would depend on its size and complexity.