Face-recognition next anti-terrorist tool

by UPI

WASHINGTON - The U.S. government is looking into advanced face-recognition technology that would use digital surveillance photos to spot terrorists.

The goal is to convert photos into numerical sequences that can be instantly compared with millions of photos in a database, USA Today said Thursday.

The newspaper said the technology has been tested at Boston's Logan International Airport, in busy city centers and at the 2001 Super Bowl in Tampa

Using face-recognition for surveillance is difficult, however, because of the poor quality of the images. Also, terrorists can use disguises or hats that shield their faces.

Homeland Security is paying a private company to develop technology that will take a partial picture of a face from a surveillance photo and reconstruct it into a full frontal shot, the newspaper said.

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