

IMMIGRATION DATA ON LINE

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Immigration officials are testing a program that lets companies check government computer files to make sure new employees aren't in the United States illegally.

"Most illegal immigrants come here for jobs, so we have to look to the workplace," **Immigration** and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner said as she unveiled the pilot project, which could become a blueprint for a national system.

The project - along with more frequent work-site visits by INS agents - involves 223 Southern California companies. Up to half the country's 4 million or so illegal immigrants live in California.

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