**Contraband Detector – Market Survey of the Hidden Eye of Technology**

**Overview**

A contraband detector is a security instrument that detects the hidden items such as drugs, currency, explosives within the closed cavities of the human body, luggage, freight containers, etc. The market share for the contraband detector is poised for an upward growth from its current USD 3.9bn in 2019 up to USD 5.4bn in the next 5 years. This will make its CAGR to grow at an impressive 6.7% annually. The major factors causing the increased demand for the contraband detector in the market are rising security concerns due to rapid urbanization, surging security measures at airports and aggressive investment from the government for improving the existing transit facilities along with the construction of new transits with enhanced security.

**Applications of Contraband Detector**

In terms of technology, X-ray imaging would be at the forefront of the largest market share in the contraband market by 2024. These machines make use of low penetrating radiation for detecting metallic as well as for non-metallic hidden objects in the clothing or body cavities. The major x-ray screening technologies are Energy Transmission, Backscatter and Computed Tomography, of which the first two are widely used for screening people and also baggage in some cases. Transport application will employ these detectors most as using x-ray imaging systems at the airport, railway stations will aid in better security. Retail businesses like malls are more prone to security risks and to allay these fears they have also started using contraband detectors.

Fixed contraband detectors are used for detecting items that are anchored at a fixed place of an intended facility. A common example of these would be door frame or walk through metal detectors installed at various security checkpoints of stadiums, malls for screening a large number of people.

**Regional Growth Perspective**

Starting from 2015 until now there has been a gradual increase in the market growth of contraband detectors all over the world. Initially, North America was the major growth region but slowly the increased demand has caught up in APAC market dominated by China and Japan. Both countries are highly developing economies and with the government looking to curb the menace of terrorism the growth rate in the next 5 years is expected to be highest in the APAC market. The huge population and an increasing number of public screenings have led China to use human imaging device based on millimeter wave technology at airports for security.

**Key Market Players**

* L3 Technologies (US), Smith’s group (UK), Magal Security Systems (Israel), Godrej Security Solutions, CEIA (Italy) are renowned players in the contraband detector market.
* In January 2019, Rapiscan Systems, a company owned by OSI Systems (US), launched theORION series product line containing 3 checkpoint screening solutions that included 918CX, 920CX, and 922CX.
* In December 2018, NUCTECH (China) launched Kylin Ti - a CT baggage screening device that can detect any explosives carried in baggage.

These players have adopted various growth strategies, such as agreements, collaboration, partnerships, acquisitions, and product launches, to further expand their footprints in the global contraband detector market.

**Global Leaders**

L3 Technologies, founded in 1997 and headquartered at New York, US, is a leader in contraband detector with services ranging from intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance (ISR) systems that can be used across water, land and air space. The company is also into night vision weapons, aviation security. L3 provides most of its security features in Security & Detection Systems (SDS) segment. It is an integrated security solution offering that has whole-body scanning, explosive detection among many others. In June 2018, L3 unveiled the CV2 software solution at the World Customs Organization’s (WCO) IT Conference & Exhibition, Peru. CV2 is an intelligent platform that not only integrates inspection technologies but also manifests and advances information databases and security systems and custom revenue collection.

Smith’s Group PLC (UK), founded in 1851 and headquartered in London, UK is another major player. The company has 5 major divisions: John Crane, Smiths Medical, Smiths Detection, Smiths Interconnect, and Flex-Tek. Smith’s Detection division offers a sensor for detecting narcotics, weapons, biohazards. In June 2018, Smith’s Detection started new product development with the Department of Defense to further refine the performance of the Chemical Explosives Detector (CED) Adapter for use with the M4A1 Joint Chemical Agent Detector (JCAD).