



# Databases

INTERPOL provides all its member countries with instant, direct access to a wide range of criminal information through a variety of databases. This enables the global law enforcement community to connect seemingly unrelated pieces of data, thereby facilitating investigations and enhancing international police co-operation. The databases share the following features:

- accessible through the I-24/7 secure police communications system
- in compliance with international standards
- legally founded
- technologically advanced
- embedded with security features
- flexible and can be customized

## *I-24/7: Gateway to international police data*

All databases, except the one of child sexual abuse images, are accessible through the I-24/7 Dashboard, a restricted-access Internet portal. An automated search facility (e-ASF) enables member countries to conduct simultaneous searches in the following databases:

- nominal
- stolen and lost travel documents
- stolen administrative documents
- stolen motor vehicles
- fingerprints
- stolen works of art

## *Integrated solutions*

INTERPOL is developing web server solutions to extend access to its databases beyond its National Central Bureaus to officers in the field. These include mobile and fixed network databases, known as MIND/FIND. FIND is a server-to-server system while MIND uses a mobile device and can be used offline. Both solutions allow an officer to submit a query simultaneously to a national database and an INTERPOL database. The officer receives responses from both within seconds. An electronic alert system notifies member countries concerned of potential matches.

These integrated solutions are now being offered to frontline law enforcement officers, such as border guards in member countries, to search the databases on wanted persons, stolen and lost travel documents and stolen motor vehicles.

## *Main databases currently available*

**Nominal Data** – contains some 175,000 records on known international criminals, missing persons and dead bodies, with their criminal histories, photographs, fingerprints, etc.

**Notices** – INTERPOL uses a system of notices to alert police to fugitives, suspected terrorists, dangerous criminals, missing persons or weapons threats. In 2008 more than 5,600 arrests were made on the basis of a notice or diffusion (a similar but less formal type of alert).

# INTERPOL



***Child sexual abuse images*** – the INTERPOL Child Abuse Image Database (ICAID) contains more than 550,000 images submitted by member countries. It uses image recognition software to connect images from the same series of abuse or same location and has helped investigators identify and rescue more than 870 victims throughout the world.

***Stolen and Lost Travel Documents*** – holds information on more than 16.7 million travel documents reported lost or stolen by 145 countries. This database enables INTERPOL National Central Bureaus and other authorized law enforcement entities (such as immigration and border control officers) to ascertain the validity of a suspect travel document in seconds.

***Stolen Administrative Documents*** – contains information on almost 190,000 official documents which serve to identify objects, for example, vehicle registration documents and clearance certificates for import/export.

***Stolen Motor Vehicles*** – provides extensive identification details on approximately 4.7 million vehicles reported stolen around the world. In 2008, almost 3,000 stolen motor vehicles were identified a month using the database.

***Stolen Works of Art*** – allows member countries to research records on nearly 33,000 pieces of artwork and cultural heritage reported stolen all over the world.

***DNA Profiles*** – contains around 83,000 DNA profiles from 48 countries. DNA profiles are numerically coded sets of genetic markers unique to every individual and can be used to help solve crimes and identify missing persons and unidentified bodies.

***Fingerprints*** – INTERPOL manages an Automated Fingerprint Identification System which contains about 86,000 sets of fingerprints and 1,800 crime scene marks. Member countries submit fingerprints and crime scene marks either electronically or by mail.

***Fusion Task Force*** – a database of more than 13,000 persons suspected of being linked to terrorist activities. Some 120 member countries currently contribute to terrorism related matters.

***Counterfeit Payment Cards*** – holds images of counterfeit cards and corresponding data. Seized cards are categorized and form a standard reference library against which suspect cards can be checked.



**Contact information**

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For matters relating to specific crime cases, please contact your local police or the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in your country.