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# Entrust Selected for Cloud ePassport System for the British Overseas Territories

## Challenge

In the past, each British Overseas Territory (BOT) issued their own machine-readable passports from local systems in each Territory. The UK Cabinet instructed the territories to move to electronic passports; however, to issue ePassports would require a significant expenditure if done using conventional on-premises IT systems. An innovative cost-effective solution was needed, which at the same time would meet the stringent IT and data security requirements of the United Kingdom's Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO), the ePassport personalization partner on the project.

## Solution

In May of 2015, six British Overseas Territories: Anguilla, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, the Turks and Caicos, and the Virgin Islands, began using the first cloud-based software-as-a-service (SaaS) passport issuance system. This implementation was initiated following close consultations with all six territories, as well as in coordination with the United Kingdom's HMPO.

### Markets and capabilities

Government travel and citizen services

### Products deployed

- ePassport as a Service

### Project facts

- Awarded: December 2014
- Operational: Since May 2015 (St. Helena added in February 2018)
- Renewed: March 2021 for an additional 10 years

### Technology development

- Microsoft .NET
- Web application
- Photo QA microservice

### External integration

- Integration with HMPO Back Office



# British Overseas Territories ePassport System Case Study



**Entrust was an excellent choice for our passport project. Entrust understands our needs, provides a very solid and cost-effective technical solution, and they are extremely responsive whenever we have any questions or concerns.**



Dr. Danette Ming, Chief Immigration Officer, Government of Bermuda

## THE TRANSFORMATION

### Issuing ICAO-compliant ePassports at scale

ePassport as a Service was developed and implemented by WorldReach Software, a part of Entrust Corporation since 2021. The hybrid system, comprised of both locally installed equipment and a cloud-hosted server component, was used to take advantage of common processes and procedures used in all overseas territories. With this new system, the electronic passports would be aligned with the ICAO's Document 9303 standards.

In February of 2018, St. Helena became the seventh British Overseas Territory added to take advantage of the capabilities and cost efficiencies of our cloud-based BOT ePassport system.

A cloud-based system boasts the advantages of requiring minimal infrastructure and setup costs, lower maintenance costs and effort (compared to locally installed servers), high availability, and high elasticity, allowing for scalability in peak times. The British Overseas Territories involved in this project issue collectively fewer than 100,000 passports annually, which makes a cloud-based system extremely suitable.

## MEASURES OF SUCCESS

### Performance tops expectations; system is future-ready

Despite the significant distance separating the client PCs and the UK-based servers hosting the system, performance has exceeded all client expectations.

The system used in the British Overseas Territories could also accommodate a biometric matching system upon the request of the client.



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