

# IDEMIA extends R&D footprint in Australia; Canberra Innovation Lab to support quantitative immunity testing for COVID-19 through partnership with ORBIS DIAGNOSTICS

# TRAVEL

POSTED ON 01.27.21

IDEMIA today announced the extension of its R&D and innovation efforts in Australia and New Zealand with the use of its Canberra Innovation Lab to support quantitative immunity testing conducted by Orbis Diagnostics.

Orbis Diagnostics, a New Zealand-based immunity-detection company will supply an immunity screening platform, allowing for rapid testing and quantifying of a travelers' level of immunity against COVID-19 with high accuracy. The combination of Orbis' innovative screening procedures paired with border control processes is being explored to accelerate the safe reopening of regional and international borders.



Now that the world is deploying the first-generation of COVID-19 vaccines, we expect immunity screening to become a crucial element of the complete solution supporting the safe resumption of international travel.

Xavier Assouad, Managing Director of Oceania in IDEMIA

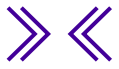
With IDEMIA's global expertise in Border Risk Management, Passenger Flow Facilitation and Digital Identity, paired with Orbis' scientific, expert medical diagnostics and research team, both firms will work closely with governments and border control agencies to jointly address the pressing problems of health checks at international airports. This immunity screening platform is likely to be first introduced to Australian and New Zealand airports as early as mid-2021, before a wider release to the Asia Pacific region.



One of our missions at IDEMIA is to actively seek out innovation and to bring ideas to airports and border control agencies on the integration of immigration, security, safety and health checks as part of a streamlined passenger journey. As part of the innovation process, we are exploring an integration of the Orbis solution with IDEMIA's Mobile ID and border control platform, notably for risk assessment purposes. This would reduce the probability of fraudulent immunity certification and enable trusted results to be shared with border agencies using the ICAO-defined Digital Sealing IDEMIA provides. IDEMIA aims to provide a global response and explore the integration with IDEMIA's passenger flow facilitation platform, in order to provide a seamless, end to end

solution covering all steps of the journey at both departure and arrival.

Xavier Assouad, Managing Director of Oceania in IDEMIA



Accurately testing whether a traveler is immune to COVID-19 will determine whether they are safe to enter their country of destination without quarantining, and without fear of infecting others or being infected themselves. This platform has been designed specifically for high-volume and non-laboratory environments, such as airports. The process is fast, and once a person's immunity has been accurately determined, they could bypass quarantine with the assurance there is no substantial risk of causing a fresh outbreak.

IDEMIA is a global leader in providing secure and trusted environments for people as they move around the world. We're thrilled to be partnering with them to take this ground-breaking technology and transform it into an integrated high-tech solution that can be deployed at the borders.

CEO of Orbis Diagnostics, Brent Ogilvie

**About us** - IDEMIA, the global leader in Augmented Identity, provides a trusted environment enabling citizens and consumers alike to perform their daily critical activities (such as pay, connect and travel), in the physical as well as digital space.

Securing our identity has become mission critical in the world we live in today. By standing for Augmented Identity, an identity that ensures privacy and trust and guarantees secure, authenticated and verifiable transactions, we reinvent the way we think, produce, use and protect one of our greatest assets – our identity – whether for individuals or for objects, whenever and wherever security matters. We provide Augmented Identity for international clients from Financial, Telecom, Identity, Public Security and IoT sectors. With close to 15,000 employees around the world, IDEMIA serves clients in 180 countries.

For more information, visit [www.idemia.com](http://www.idemia.com) / Follow @IdemiaGroup on Twitter

**About Orbis Diagnostics** - The Orbis immunity testing platform has been developed by a world-leading research team based in the United States and New Zealand and addresses the need for accurate immunity testing through a quantitative, medical grade ELISA that can be deployed at points of need, such as airports, to rapidly report results within 15 minutes for a large number of individuals.

The team includes Professor David Williams who founded the world's first digital at-home pregnancy test, Clearblue Digital. The Orbis system will provide automation and speed at a low fixed and variable cost, thereby enabling testing at scale for COVID-19 antibodies from a finger-prick of blood, with minimal user intervention. By making medical laboratory precision testing widely and cost-effectively available, Orbis intends to enable population-level access to COVID-19 immunity screening.

[www.orbisdiagnostics.com](http://www.orbisdiagnostics.com)



your press contact(s).

**BRONWYNNE HOWSE**

Orbis Diagnostics  
+64 274 583 198

**MARIE DOWLING**

IDEMIA  
+61 478 151 088