



INTERPOL

FACT SHEET

I-link: connecting investigations worldwide

As international crime is becoming increasingly sophisticated, a fast and automatic response system is essential for all types of criminal investigations throughout the world.

I-link is a unique and dynamic web-based operational system developed by INTERPOL to improve the exchange of information among law enforcement officers in member countries and help connect investigations. I-link represents the next generation of INTERPOL's commitment to support the world's police, by centralizing and innovating current database functionalities.

► 21ST-CENTURY TECHNOLOGY

I-link is the hub of criminal information transfer and communication between the Organization's member countries. It is available to National Central Bureaus (NCBs) and to authorized law enforcement agencies through I-24/7, the secure global police communications system which connects all INTERPOL's member countries.

► ENHANCED SEARCH AND RESPONSE

Law enforcement officers in member countries around the world exchange thousands of messages every day using I-24/7; these messages are often urgent and the volume of police information exchanged is increasing all the time.

I-link delivers a number of important enhancements for the effective exchange of police information. The system:

- Establishes a structured communication standard to facilitate the exchange of police information across borders, ensuring greater consistency in the format of data and its operational relevancy;
- Puts data submission and control functions directly into the hands of officers in NCBs, allowing them to record the most up-to-date police data directly into INTERPOL's criminal database. Not only does this ensure the accuracy and completeness of data, but it virtually eliminates information processing times;
- Gives member countries the option of adapting the structured forms to their national systems, thereby increasing the quality and the quantity of information available;
- Is available in all four of INTERPOL's official languages: Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

► CURRENT STATUS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The development of I-link is ongoing, with certain features already in place and other enhancements in progress.

All international alerts of an INTERPOL Notice or a Diffusion are now submitted through I-link. In a matter of seconds, member countries can draft and submit an alert seeking the arrest of a wanted criminal or warning of a potential threat, with the information recorded instantly into the Organization's criminal database, and immediately visible to police around the world.

The ultimate aim is that all criminal information exchanged through INTERPOL will be done in the form of structured, highly searchable messages.

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Each NCB retains ownership of its information and is able to amend or delete its data as appropriate. The management of information within I-link is in line with INTERPOL's rules on data processing and is backed up by comprehensive documentation and user training sessions.

► **CONNECTING INVESTIGATIONS**

Many crimes transgress national borders but investigating officers may not realize their crime is connected to others. I-link offers the opportunity to close this gap and identify common threads – such as bank accounts, phone numbers or addresses – to link crimes together.



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► **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Contact us via our web site. For matters relating to specific crime cases, please contact your local police or the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in your country.

► **Twitter:** @INTERPOL_HQ

► **YouTube:** INTERPOLHQ

► **WWW.INTERPOL.INT**

