

[The Truth is Where?](#)

The truth is out there, these days it's a little harder to find. Things are never how they seem.

- [Home](#)
- [Art-Culture-Architecture](#)
- [Cartoons](#)
- [Cinema + TV](#)
- [Conspiracy](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Government](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Internet](#)
- [Middle East](#)
- [Money](#)
- [NASA & Space](#)
- [News of the moment](#)

- [Nuclear Energy](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Protest](#)

- [Religion](#)
- [South America](#)
- [Surveillance](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [The Politics of War](#)
-



[Home](#) > [Government](#), [Surveillance](#) > Never Forgetting a Face

Never Forgetting a Face

June 4, 2014 [The Truth is Where](#) [Leave a comment](#) [Go to comments](#)

By [NATASHA SINGER](#) May 17th, 2014. [Find Full Article Here:-](#)



Minh Uong/The New York Times

Joseph J. Atick cased the floor of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington as if he owned the place. In a way, he did. He was one of the organizers of the event, a conference and trade show for the biometrics security industry. Perhaps more to the point, a number of the wares on display, like an airport face-scanning checkpoint, could trace their lineage to his work.

A physicist, Dr. Atick is one of the pioneer entrepreneurs of modern face recognition. Having helped advance the fundamental face-matching technology in the 1990s, he went into business and promoted the systems to government agencies looking to identify criminals or prevent identity fraud. “We saved lives,” he said during the conference in mid-March. “We have solved crimes.”

Thanks in part to his boosterism, the global business of biometrics — using people’s unique physiological characteristics, like their fingerprint ridges and facial features, to learn or confirm their identity — is booming. It generated an estimated \$7.2 billion in 2012, according to reports by Frost & Sullivan.



Joseph Atick, a pioneer in the industry, now fears that if face-matching is taken too far, it could allow mass surveillance, “basically robbing everyone of their anonymity.”

Making his rounds at [the trade show](#), Dr. Atick, a short, trim man with an indeterminate Mediterranean accent, warmly greeted industry representatives at their exhibition booths. Once he was safely out of earshot, however, he worried aloud about what he was seeing. What were those companies’ policies for retaining and reusing consumers’ facial data? Could they identify individuals without their explicit consent? Were they running face-matching queries for government agencies on the side?

Now an industry consultant, Dr. Atick finds himself in a delicate position. While promoting and profiting from an industry that he helped foster, he also feels compelled to caution against its unfettered proliferation. He isn’t so much concerned about government agencies that use face recognition openly for specific purposes — for example, the many state [motor vehicle departments that scan drivers’ faces](#) as a way to prevent license duplications and fraud. Rather, what troubles him is the potential exploitation of face recognition to identify ordinary and unwitting citizens as they go about their lives in public. Online, we are all tracked. But to Dr. Atick, the street remains a haven, and he frets that he may have abetted a technology that could upend the social order.

Face-matching today could enable mass surveillance, “basically robbing everyone of their anonymity,” he says, and inhibit people’s normal behavior outside their homes. Pointing to the intelligence documents made public by Edward J. Snowden, he adds that once companies amass consumers’ facial data, government agencies might obtain access to it, too.

Advertisements

Security Savers Online



READ MORE



Die meisten PC-Besitzer kennen diesen...

REPORT THIS AD

Share this:

Like

Be the first to like this.

Related

[New facial scanners at Heathrow to check the identity of millions.](#)

In "News of the moment"

[Silk Road: the online drug marketplace that officials se... powerless to stop.](#)

In "Government"

[Facebook Facial Recognition Software Has Almost Human Accuracy.](#)

In "Surveillance"

Categories: [Government](#), [Surveillance](#) Tags: [Facial Recognition Software](#)
[Comments \(0\)](#) [Trackbacks \(0\)](#) [Leave a comment](#) [Trackback](#)

1. No comments yet.

1. No trackbacks yet.

Leave a Reply

[Harvard and MIT Students Launch ‘NSA-Proof’ Email Service. HMRC to sell UK taxpayers’ financial data](#)
[RSS feed](#)

Categories

- [Art-Culture-Architecture](#) (140)
- [Cartoons](#) (265)
- [Censorship](#) (71)
- [Cinema + TV](#) (41)
- [Conspiracy](#) (40)
- [Education](#) (9)
- [Environment](#) (276)
- [Government](#) (305)
- [Health](#) (241)
- [Internet](#) (6)

- [Middle East](#) (141)
- [Money](#) (43)
- [NASA & Space](#) (36)
- [News of the moment](#) (896)
- [Nuclear Energy](#) (7)
- [Obituaries](#) (1)
- [Protest](#) (69)
- [Religion](#) (18)
- [South America](#) (17)
- [Surveillance](#) (85)
- [Technology](#) (9)
- [The Politics of War](#) (124)
- [World of the Strange – Weird Science](#) (374)

Postings

June 2014

M T W T F S S

1

2 3 [4](#) 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 [21](#) 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30

[« May](#) [Jul »](#)

Most Recent Posts

- [This snooper's charter makes George Orwell look lacking in vision.](#)
- [By inflating Islamic extremism, David Cameron has lost sight of what really threatens us.](#)
- [Sunscreen contributing to decline of coral reefs, study shows.](#)
- [Indonesia is burning. So why is the world looking away?](#)
- [Vaccine Whistleblower Gave Congress Thousands of Documents, Claims CDC Destroyed Proof of MMR-Autism Link.](#)
- [Steve Bell's If ... on l'artiste who paints God.](#)
- [Leon Brittan Videoed at Paedo Orgy.](#)
- [BBC retrospective on the Iraq War.](#)
- [Inevitable Payback.](#)
- [NASA's Dawn Closes in on Dwarf Planet Ceres.](#)
- [Our 'impartial' broadcasters have become mouthpieces of the elite.](#)
- [The Truth About Climate Change.](#)
- [Irony: 1,700 Private Jets Descend on Davos Economic Forum to Discuss Climate Change.](#)
- [Prince Andrew arrives in Davos to answer claims of 'sex orgy with nine teenagers'.](#)

- [NASA's 'Largest Picture Ever' Taken.](#)

Archives

- [November 2015](#)
- [January 2015](#)
- [December 2014](#)
- [November 2014](#)
- [October 2014](#)
- [July 2014](#)
- [June 2014](#)
- [May 2014](#)
- [March 2014](#)
- [February 2014](#)
- [January 2014](#)
- [December 2013](#)
- [October 2013](#)
- [September 2013](#)
- [August 2013](#)
- [July 2013](#)
- [June 2013](#)
- [May 2013](#)
- [April 2013](#)
- [March 2013](#)
- [February 2013](#)
- [January 2013](#)
- [November 2012](#)
- [October 2012](#)
- [September 2012](#)
- [August 2012](#)
- [July 2012](#)
- [June 2012](#)
- [May 2012](#)
- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [April 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)
- [February 2011](#)
- [January 2011](#)
- [December 2010](#)
- [November 2010](#)

[Top](#)

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#)

