You have volunteered to try backscatter whole body imaging as an alternative to a physical pat-down. This machine can detect weapons, explosives and other metallic and non-metallic threat items concealed under multiple layers of clothing without physical contact.

Is Backscatter Safe?
Yes. The radiation from one backscatter scan is about the same as the amount of radiation you will be exposed to while flying for two minutes at cruising altitude. Backscatter is safe for all passengers, including pregnant women, children and infants.

Unlike medical x-rays that penetrate the skin, backscatter uses a low power x-ray that is 1,000 times less intense, penetrating only clothing.

Backscatter and Privacy?
TSA has installed a privacy filter on the backscatter image that transportation security officers view. This image resembles a chalk outline of a person which shows concealed weapons and other items but obscures your identity. The image is viewed at a remote viewing location away from the machine and the officer at the machine cannot view the image. No images are saved, stored or transmitted. Privacy and security are not mutually exclusive.

Additional Info?
For additional on backscatter and other whole body imagers, please visit www.tsa.gov