



In October 2006, Congress authorized and required the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to regulate security at chemical facilities that DHS determines are high-risk.¹ To implement this authority, DHS issued the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards regulation (CFATS) in 2007. Under CFATS, facilities that have been finally determined by DHS to be high-risk are required to develop and implement Site Security Plans (SSPs) or Alternative Security Programs (ASPs) that meet applicable risk-based performance standards (RBPS).



What are the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards?

CFATS is a risk-based performance program that sets the standards for security at the Nation's highest risk chemical facilities.

- High-risk facilities contain Chemicals of Interest (COI) that give rise to one or more security issues, to include the release of toxic chemicals, the theft or diversion of chemicals, and chemicals that can be used for sabotage or contamination.
- CFATS-covered facilities are required to have a Site Security Plan that addresses risk-based performance standards (RBPS).
- Facilities subject to CFATS include but are not limited to:
 - Chemical manufacturing
 - Mining operations
 - Storage and distribution
 - Electronics
 - Energy and utilities
 - Agriculture and food
 - Paints and coatings
 - Healthcare
 - Colleges and universities
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Warehouses
 - Repackaging facilities

What is the Role of the Emergency Responder?

Collaboration between CFATS facilities and emergency responders is critical to ensuring a secure and resilient community. Emergency responders play an important role as CFATS-covered facilities develop and implement their Site Security Plan. The SSP is created in coordination with the emergency response community, adhering to DHS risk-based performance standards. Several risk-based performance standards may impact the emergency response

¹ Section 550 of the DHS Appropriations Act of 2007, Pub. L. 109-295

community including:

- Detect, deter, delay
- Specific threats, vulnerabilities, or risks
- Response
- Identifying security incidents
- Training
- Reporting security incidents

How is Chemical-Terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI) Protected?

Chemical-terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI) is a new category of information protection authorized by Congress for this regulation. CVI protects information about CFATS-covered facilities and security operations.

Although most information needed by emergency responders is not CVI, DHS anticipates that certain situations will arise where emergency responders and CFATS-covered facilities would need to share some CVI. In these instances, the emergency responder would need to complete the CVI training and DHS would make a determination on their need to know prior to sharing the information.

Civil penalties may apply for the improper use or disclosure of CVI. More information on this category of information and CVI training can be accessed at www.dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity.

DHS Compliance Assistance and Outreach

DHS has developed a variety of tools to facilitate compliance with CFATS:

- **The CSAT Help Desk** provides timely support to chemical facility owners and operators as well as a CFATS tip-line for anonymous chemical facility security reporting. It can be reached at 1-866-323-2957, or at csat@dhs.gov
- **The CFATS Knowledge Center** is an online repository of Frequently Asked Questions, articles, and documents relating to CFATS and Ammonium Nitrate Programs. It can be found by visiting <http://csat-help.dhs.gov/>.
- **Chemical Security Inspectors and other DHS subject matter experts** are available to provide guidance to facilities through outreach meetings, calls, and other engagements.

Contact Information

For more information visit: <http://www.dhs.gov/critical-infrastructure>. To ask a Department representative to speak on the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) regulatory program, please contact cfats@hq.dhs.gov.