



Homeland Security

Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards and the Infrastructure Protection Gateway

On August 1, 2013, the Executive Order (EO) 13650: Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security was signed to improve the safety and security of chemical facilities and reduce the risks of hazardous chemicals to workers and communities. The EO directed Federal agencies to improve coordination and information sharing with State and local governments, and community stakeholders to ensure they have access to key information to prevent, prepare for, and respond to chemical incidents.

In response, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Labor, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Justice, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Transportation, as part of an interagency Working Group, worked with stakeholders to establish priority actions, modernize policies, regulations and standards, and implement findings based on lessons learned and feedback from industry.



What is CFATS?

The Chemical Facility Anti-terrorism Standards (CFATS) is a DHS regulatory program established in 2007 that addresses chemical security by regulating high-risk facilities that possess chemicals of interest (COI). Appendix A of the CFATS regulation (6 CFR Part 27) lists more than 300 COI and their respective screening threshold quantities (STQ) that are categorized into three main security issues: release, theft or diversion, and sabotage. Facilities that possess COI at or above STQ must complete a Top-Screen survey to report their chemical holdings. DHS reviews this information to determine which facilities are high-risk and assigns them a tier. Tiered facilities are required to implement security measures that reduce the risks of their COI being exploited in an attack.

What is the IP Gateway?

Information systems play a vital role in allowing Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT), and private sector partners identify, analyze, and manage risk to protect the Nation. DHS established the IP Gateway to improve information sharing and coordination among Federal and SLTT agencies. This centrally-managed repository of data and capabilities allows stakeholders to easily access, search, retrieve, visualize, analyze, and export infrastructure data from multiple sources. The IP Gateway maintains three layers of information protection:

- Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII);
- Chemical-terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI); and
- For Official Use Only (FOUO).

These protections are role-based (or permissions-based), giving DHS stakeholders confidence that sharing their information with the Federal Government and other stakeholders will not expose sensitive or proprietary data.

What CFATS information is available on the IP Gateway?

Through the IP Gateway, DHS currently shares certain CFATS data elements on a geospatial map to help communities identify and prioritize risks and develop a contingency plan to address those risks. CFATS data is available in a FOUO layer and a CVI layer with an established “need-to-know” to authorized Federal, SLTT, and first responders as determined by DHS’s Office of Infrastructure Protection within the National Protection and Programs Directorate.

FOUO access allows users to view information on a chemical facility (such as name, location, and geospatial information) within their State, county, and surrounding counties, whereas CVI access includes additional information, such as CFATS tiers.

This permission-based system allows DHS to share CFATS information while appropriately balancing security risks and ensuring regulators will not have access to existing PCII data.

Who can access CFATS information on the IP Gateway?

To obtain access to the IP Gateway, all users must be Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) certified and must complete required IP Gateway training. For access to CFATS data on IP Gateway, all users must complete CVI training.

How do I gain access to the IP Gateway?

To request access, please call the Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) Help Desk at 1-866-323-2957 or email csat@dhs.gov.

For PCII Training, please visit www.dhs.gov/pcii-authorized-user-training

For CVI Training, please visit www.dhs.gov/cvi-authorized-user-training

Tools and Resources

- DHS IP Gateway: www.dhs.gov/ipgateway
- PCII Program: www.dhs.gov/pcii
- CFATS Program: www.dhs.gov/chemical-facility-anti-terrorism-standards
- The CFATS Knowledge Center is a repository of CFATS FAQs, articles, and more: csat-help.dhs.gov/

Contact Information

For any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact CFATS@hq.dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity.