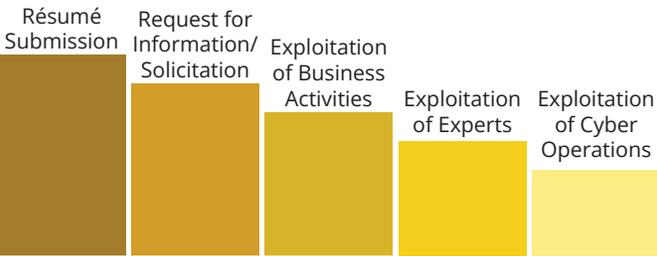


WHAT IS THE VALUE OF MOs AND MCs?

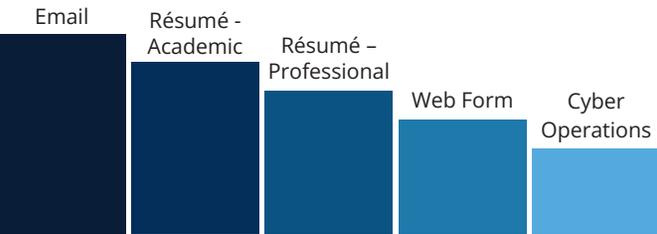
Knowing the methods used by foreign intelligence entities and how they contact targeted personnel or facilities aids in the early identification of possible foreign targeting of technologies resident in cleared industry. This is vital in our efforts to identify, assess, and disrupt foreign intelligence entity threats to DCSA, the trusted workforce, and the cleared national industrial base.

FY2023 MOST COMMONLY REPORTED

METHODS OF OPERATION



METHODS OF CONTACT



REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 32 Part 117, National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM) requires reporting suspicious contacts, behaviors, and activities.

If you suspect you or your company have been targeted, report it immediately. Recognizing and reporting indicators is critical to disrupting counterintelligence (CI) threats and mitigating risks.

BE ALERT! BE AWARE!

Report suspicious activities to your facility security officer



DCSA
<https://www.dcsa.mil>

DCSA, Counterintelligence and Insider Threat Directorate
<https://www.dcsa.mil/mc/ci>

Center for Development of Security Excellence
<https://www.cdse.edu>

METHODS OF OPERATION AND
METHODS OF CONTACT



Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency

WHAT ARE METHODS OF OPERATION (MOs) AND METHODS OF CONTACT (MCs)?

- **MOs:** Distinct patterns or methods of procedure thought to be characteristic of or habitually followed by an individual or organization involved in intelligence activity
- **MCs:** Approaches used to connect the foreign actor to the targeted individual, information, network, or technology in order for the foreign actor to execute the MO

METHODS OF OPERATION



Attempted Acquisition of Technology

Acquiring protected information in the form of controlled technologies, via direct contact or through the use of front companies or intermediaries, including the equipment itself or diagrams, schematics, plans, spec sheets, or the like.



Exploitation of Business Activities

Establishing a commercial relationship via joint ventures, partnerships, mergers and acquisitions, foreign military sales, or service providers; leveraging an existing commercial relationship in order to obtain access to personnel or protected information and technology.



Exploitation of Cyber Operations

Foreign intelligence entities or other adversaries compromising the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of targeted networks, applications, credentials, or data with the intent to gain access to, manipulate, or exfiltrate personnel information or protected information and technology.



Exploitation of Experts

Gaining access to personnel or protected information and technology via requests for, or arrangement of, peer or scientific board review of academic papers or presentations; requesting a consult with faculty members or subject matter experts; or attempting to invite or otherwise entice subject matter experts to travel abroad or consult for foreign entities.



Exploitation of insider Access

Trusted insiders exploiting their authorized placement and access within cleared industry or causing other harm to compromise personnel or protected information and technology.



Exploitation of Relationships

Leveraging existing personal or authorized relationships to gain access to protected information.



Exploitation of Security Protocols

Visitors or unauthorized individuals circumventing or disregarding security procedures or behaviors by cleared or otherwise authorized persons that indicate a risk to personnel or protected information and technology.



Exploitation of Supply Chain

Compromising the supply chain, which may include the introduction of counterfeit or malicious products or materials into the supply chain with the intent to gain unauthorized access to protected data, alter data, disrupt operations, or interrupt communications.



Résumé Submission

Foreign persons submitting résumés for academic or professional placement that would facilitate access to protected information to enable technological or economic advancements by the foreign entity.



Request for information/Solicitation

Collecting protected information by directly or indirectly asking or eliciting personnel or protected information and technology.



Search/Seizure

Temporarily accessing, taking, or permanently dispossessing someone of property or restricting freedom of movement via tampering or physical searches of persons, environs, or property.



Surveillance

Systematically observing equipment, facilities, sites, or personnel associated with contracts via visual, aural, electronic, photographic, or other means to identify vulnerabilities or collect information.



Theft

Acquiring protected information with no pretense or plausibility of legitimate acquisition.

METHODS OF CONTACT



Conferences, Conventions, or Tradeshows

Contact regarding or initiated during an event, such as a conference, convention, exhibitions, or tradeshow.



Cyber Operations

Activities taken directly against a targeted system; to include cyber network attack, cyber network exploitation, and collection.



Email

Unsolicited requests received via email for information or purchase requests.



Foreign Visit

Activities or contact occurring before, during, or after a visit to a contractor's facility.



Mail

Contact initiated via mail or post.



Personal Contact

Person-to-person contact via any means where the foreign actor, agent, or co-optee is in direct or indirect contact with the target.



Phishing Operation

Emails with embedded malicious content or attachments for the purpose of compromising a network including spear phishing, cloning, and whaling.



Résumé — Academic

Résumé or CV submission for academic purposes.



Résumé — Professional

Résumé or CV submissions for professional purposes (e.g. seeking a position with a cleared company).



Social Networking Service

Contact initiated via a social or professional networking platform.



Telephone

Contact initiated via a phone call by an unknown or unidentified entity.



Web Form

Contact initiated via a company-hosted web submission form.