



# DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

# VOICE OF INDUSTRY DCSA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2023

Dear FSO (sent on behalf of your ISR),

Industrial Security publishes this monthly newsletter to provide recent information, policy guidance, and security education and training updates for Facility Security Officers (FSOs) in the National Industrial Security Program (NISP). Please let us know if you have any questions or recommendations.

Voice of Industry (VOI) Newsletters are posted in the National Industrial Security System (NISS) Knowledge Base. Look for a monthly announcement on your NISS dashboard for each new VOI. VOI Newsletters are also posted on the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) website on the [NISP Tools & Resources](#) page under the Voice of Industry Newsletters tab. For more information on personnel vetting, industrial security, training, and other topics from the VOI, visit [www.dcsa.mil](http://www.dcsa.mil).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SECURITY RATING SCORE (SRS) PILOT</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>COUNTERINTELLIGENCE SVTC</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>NATIONAL ACCESS ELSEWHERE SECURITY OVERSIGHT CENTER (NAESOC)</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>NISS OVERSIGHT TEAM UPDATES</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>NATIONAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SERVICES (NBIS)</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>NBIS HIERARCHY CHANGE REQUEST COMING SOON TO ESD</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>HISTORICAL SF-86 ARCHIVAL COPIES</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>NBIS TRAINING RESOURCES</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>SEARCHING FOR NBIS JOB AIDS ON STEPP</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>CONSOLIDATED ADJUDICATION SERVICES (CAS)</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>CAS CALL CENTER NOW ACCEPTING INDUSTRIAL PCL INQUIRIES</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>VETTING RISK OPERATIONS (VRO)</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>REMINDER ON TIMING OF ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINT TRANSMISSION</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>DISS TRANSITION TO NBIS</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SECURITY EXCELLENCE (CDSE)</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>DECEMBER PULSE NOW AVAILABLE</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING INDUSTRY CONFERENCE</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>SIGN UP FOR THE BTAC BULLETIN</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>UPCOMING WEBINARS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>UPCOMING VILT COURSE</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>CDSE NEWS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b> .....	<b>8</b>



## SECURITY RATING SCORE (SRS) PILOT

---

In September 2021, DCSA deployed the current security review and rating process. In the spring of 2023, we announced our intention to refine the security rating process by adding a numeric value, resulting in a score. Over the past six months, DCSA has worked with a National Industrial Security Program Policy Advisory Committee (NISPPAC) industry working group to develop the provisional scoring process and refine security rating criteria requirements to address quality and consistency concerns. Thanks to Industry's invaluable feedback, we are ready to pilot these provisional refinements at the beginning of calendar year 2024.

NISP facilities who have a scheduled security review between January and March 2024 are subject to inclusion within the SRS pilot; included facilities will not be notified individually. DCSA pilot activities are independent from security review activities and no action is required on the part of cleared industry. Inclusion in the pilot does not impact the security review or the issued security rating in any way. DCSA will continue to use the current security review and rating process to assess and formally rate all facilities throughout fiscal year 2024.

For pilot purposes only, DCSA will use data already collected and knowledge gained as part of approximately 40 security reviews to independently calculate a security rating score under the provisional design. The consolidated data will help validate if the provisional score design works as intended and assess if additional refinements are needed prior to full deployment.

The score sheet will not change the current security review process at all and is being developed at the request of Industry to better document how regulatory requirements and policy are demonstrated in the current security review process. Data from the pilot program will be fully reviewed with the NISPPAC industry working group. A training and communication plan is being developed for future implementation of the security review score.

We appreciate Industry's continued partnership and assistance in helping us refine the security review rating process. Our goal is to begin issuing security ratings based on a numeric score beginning on October 1, 2024. If you have any questions related to the pilot, please reach out to [dcsa.quantico.dcsa.mbx.isd-operations@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.quantico.dcsa.mbx.isd-operations@mail.mil).

## COUNTERINTELLIGENCE SVTC

---

DCSA invites cleared industry and academia personnel to participate in a Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC) entitled "Threats from Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)." On Thursday, January 11, 2024, the Cyber Mission Center, Counterintelligence and Insider Threat Directorate (CI & InT), will provide a classified briefing on threats from Generative AI. During the SVTC, there will be a presentation on the aspects of Generative AI followed by an open Q&A session between the speakers and the audience. This event is intended for cleared personnel including but not limited to FSOs, executive officers, key management personnel, engineers, business development personnel, industrial security personnel, and cyber security professionals. The SVTC is an in-person event and will be held January 11 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. ET at most DCSA field office locations. Please register [here](#).



# NATIONAL ACCESS ELSEWHERE SECURITY OVERSIGHT CENTER (NAESOC)

---

## NISS OVERSIGHT TEAM UPDATES

As a reminder, all facilities within the NISP are subject to Security Reviews to include facilities currently under NAESOC. NISS users may receive notifications from NISS related to internal updates to support the proper identification of the local DCSA Oversight Team based on the updated regional field office locations. Facilities may also temporarily be reassigned to the local DCSA field office to support the communication and task workflows within NISS during Security Review activities. NISS users may reference their NISS profile to identify their current DCSA Oversight Team. If you have any questions about your oversight team or notifications you have received in NISS, please feel free to contact us directly at the NAESOC Help Desk:

- Phone (888) 282-7682, Option 7  
Monday through Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET  
Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET
- Or email [dcsa.naesoc.generalmailbox@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.naesoc.generalmailbox@mail.mil)

# NATIONAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SERVICES (NBIS)

---

## NBIS HIERARCHY CHANGE REQUEST COMING SOON TO ESD

In NBIS, users may have Parent and Child Organizations. The NBIS Industry Team has been working with several Industry Organization Managers to ensure all ORGs are being managed by the highest Parent Organization in NBIS and matches the company's hierarchy in the Defense Information System for Security (DISS).

In January, DCSA will post a "Hierarchy Change Request" (HCR) template and guide in Enterprise Service Delivery (ESD) (formerly ServiceNow) at <https://esd.dcsa.mil/> for consolidating and creating Child ORGs under the identified Parent ORG and renaming or deactivating existing Child ORGs.

The HCR guide and template will be available in ESD in mid-January 2024.

## HISTORICAL SF-86 ARCHIVAL COPIES

Due to Industry's need to obtain subjects' historical SF-86 Archival Copies, DISS will be reopening the Investigation Request Link to initiate investigations through e-QIP. This function will be part of DISS update 13.22 which is scheduled to be released in late January 2024. This will provide subjects with the ability to log into e-QIP and download historical archival copies. DISS will automatically cancel these requests in both DISS e-QIP after 7 days. It is important to note that requests should only be initiated to pull historical copies until the function moves over to NBIS. New requests for background investigations or Continuous Vetting updates/enrollments should continue to be completed via NBIS.



## NBIS TRAINING RESOURCES

All NBIS training resources are now accessible via the Security Training, Education, and Professional Portal ([STEPP](#)). Visit STEPP for NBIS training materials including job aids, e-learnings, video shorts, learner paths, and registration for live webinars. Access to STEPP requires an account, and the site is now accessible via a more secure Smart Card Login. If you have not done so, please set up your account by following the prompts on the STEPP homepage by selecting Create New Account with DoD CAC or Non-DoD CAC.

Once logged into STEPP, navigate to the NBIS Training Homepage by selecting “Training” in the top left, and select “NBIS” from the drop-down list.

Once on the [STEPP NBIS Training Homepage](#), select the Federal & Industry Onboarding image to access a catalog of videos and recordings on a variety of topics including Organization Management, Order Form Templates, and User Provisioning. Additionally, users may select the End User Training image to land on courses, learner paths, and webinar registration. The live webinars are conducted via Zoom, and they demonstrate NBIS functionality as well as provide an opportunity for Q&A. The learner paths are merely recommended and provide an overall learning experience on NBIS

NBIS Training regularly assesses training needs in each NBIS release through its alignment with the iterative NBIS development. Needs are prioritized based on mission and user impacts, as well as level of effort to update or create new materials.

Be on the lookout for the latest edition of the NBIS Training Newsletter, which is sent via email to all NBIS users. Previous NBIS Training Newsletters can also be found on <https://www.dcsa.mil> under NBIS Training. For questions about NBIS Training or if users require customer support, contact the NBIS Training Program at [dcsa.quantico.nbis.mbx.training@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.quantico.nbis.mbx.training@mail.mil).

## SEARCHING FOR NBIS JOB AIDS ON STEPP

1. Navigate to the Job Aid page on STEPP: <https://cdse.usalearning.gov/course/view.php?id=1221>.
2. Select “Expand All” on the right side of the screen. (this will open the Job Aid menus and make all job aids & knowledge articles visible)
3. Type CTRL+F on the keyboard (this will activate a search block in the top right)
4. Type the topic (initiate, attachments, user roles, etc.) in the search block and hit enter on keyboard

\*There is also a “Search Courses” bar on the NBIS Training landing page that will locate other resources.



## CONSOLIDATED ADJUDICATION SERVICES (CAS)

---

### CAS CALL CENTER NOW ACCEPTING INDUSTRIAL PCL INQUIRIES

Effective October 1, the CAS Call Center will provide information and/or assistance regarding industrial personnel security clearances (PCLs) and status inquiries to Industry FSOs. The CAS Call Center is available from Monday through Friday between 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET to answer phone and email inquiries from FSOs only.

Contact the CAS Call Center by phone at 301-833-3850 (SMOs and FSOs ONLY; no subject callers), Option 5 – Industry, or via email at [dcsa.meade.cas.mbx.call-center@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.meade.cas.mbx.call-center@mail.mil).

For Industry PIN Resets, contact the Applicant Knowledge Center at 878-274-5091 or via email at [DCSAAKC@mail.mil](mailto:DCSAAKC@mail.mil).

As a reminder, CAS Call Center will continue to provide direct support and timely adjudicative updates to senior management officials (SMOs) and FSOs worldwide. The CAS Call Center is available to answer phone and email inquiries from SMOs/FSOs, provide instant resolution on issues identified by Security Offices when possible, and serves as the POC for HSPD12/Suitability Inquiries.

## VETTING RISK OPERATIONS (VRO)

---

### REMINDER ON TIMING OF ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINT TRANSMISSION

As we move closer to full implementation of Trusted Workforce (TW) 2.0, VRO continues to work diligently to partner with Industry to get cleared people to work faster and more efficiently all while effectively managing risk. To maintain our interim determination timeliness goals, we ask that electronic fingerprints be submitted at the same time or just before an investigation request is released to DCSA in DISS.

Fingerprint results are valid for 120 days, the same amount of time for which eApp signature pages are valid. Therefore, submitting electronic fingerprint at the same time or just before you complete your review for adequacy and completeness, should prevent an investigation request from being rejected for missing fingerprints.

### DISS TRANSITION TO NBIS

As you continue to conduct swivel chair activities within DISS and NBIS please review the following guidance in the event the scenarios apply.

Below are some scenarios to illustrate:

- Scenario 1 – Revised by FSO
  - If the FSO initiated an investigation request in DISS prior to October 1, the subject completes the investigation request and submits it to the FSO via DISS on or after October 1 and the FSO revises the investigation request to the subject for updates/corrections, then the subject will



be able to make the updates/corrections in eApp. The FSO will be able to review and submit the investigation request via DISS to VRO after October 1, 2023.

- Scenario 2 – Revised by VRO
  - If VRO revises an investigation request submitted via DISS to the FSO on or after October 1, the subject will be able to make the updates/corrections in eApp. The FSO will be able to review and submit the investigation request via DISS to VRO on or after October 1.
- Scenario 3 – Unacceptable/Discontinued
  - If the investigation request submitted via DISS is deemed Unacceptable or Discontinued on or after October 1, the FSO will need to initiate the new investigation request via NBIS.

As a reminder, 32 CFR Part 117 (d) requires the electronic version of the SF-86 to be completed in eApp or its successor system by the contractor employee and reviewed by the FSO or other contractor employee(s) who has (have) been specifically designated by the contractor to review an employee SF-86.

For further information on setting up an NBIS account, please visit [Industry Onboarding](#).

## CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SECURITY EXCELLENCE (CDSE)

### DECEMBER PULSE NOW AVAILABLE

We recently released the CDSE Pulse, a monthly security awareness newsletter that features topics of interest to the security community. In addition, we share upcoming courses, webinars, and conferences. The December newsletter focused on “Security Awareness.” Check out all the newsletters in [CDSE's Electronic Library](#) or subscribe/update your current subscription to get the newsletter sent directly to your inbox by submitting your email address from [CDSE News](#).

### SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 2024 DCSA Virtual Security Conference for Industry from February 28 to 29, 2024! The conference is open to cleared industry under the NISP. Stay tuned for more details.

### SIGN UP FOR THE BTAC BULLETIN

The BTAC Bulletin is produced by the DOD Insider Threat Management Analysis Center's (DITMACs) Behavioral Threat Analysis Center (BTAC) on a monthly basis and responds to observed Insider Threat trends. The BTAC is a multidisciplinary team composed of experts in Threat Assessment/Threat Management, Law Enforcement, Counterintelligence, Behavioral Science, Employee Management Relations, and Cybersecurity. The newsletter offers timely and relevant Insider Threat guidance on applicable issues and contains links and references to research and publications.

[November's Topic - Disgruntlement](#)



Please sign-up and share the newsletter with your government and industry contacts and encourage them to sign-up to receive the BTAC Bulletin and other updates by contacting the BTAC at: [dcsa.quantico.dcsa.list.ditmac-sme@mail.mil](mailto:dcsa.quantico.dcsa.list.ditmac-sme@mail.mil).

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

Sign-up is available for the following upcoming live webinars:

Social Engineering: The Manipulated Insider

January 11, 2024

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET

Safeguarding Science: Addressing the Convergence of Emerging Technologies

January 18, 2024

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET

Visit the [webinar webpage](#) to register for these events and join the discussion!

## UPCOMING VILT COURSE

Sign up for one of CDSE's virtual instructor-led training (VILT) industrial security courses! Training is free and the VILT eliminates travel expenses. Complete CDSE courses to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) toward maintenance of Security Professional Education Development (SPeD) Program certifications and credentials. Select courses have the American Council on Education (ACE) credit recommendations that may earn transfer credits at participating universities. Classes fill quickly, so register today! Registration for the following course is now open:

Getting Started Seminar for New Facility Security Officers (VILT)

April 16 – 19, 2024

This course allows new FSOs and security personnel to learn and apply fundamental NISP requirements in a collaborative environment. It also serves as a refresher on industrial security basics for experienced FSOs.

## CDSE NEWS

CDSE offers an email subscriber news service to get the latest CDSE news, updates, and information. You may be receiving the Pulse through a subscription, but if you were forwarded this newsletter from another source and would like to subscribe to the Pulse or one of our other products, visit [CDSE News](#) and sign up or update your account to receive:

- The Pulse
- Insider Threat Bulletins
- The Weekly Flash
- Quarterly Product Report



## SOCIAL MEDIA

---

Connect with us on social media!

DCSA Twitter: [@DCSAGov](https://twitter.com/DCSAGov)

CDSE Twitter: [@TheCDSE](https://twitter.com/TheCDSE)

DCSA Facebook: [@DCSAGov](https://www.facebook.com/DCSAGov)

CDSE Facebook: [@TheCDSE](https://www.facebook.com/TheCDSE)

DCSA LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dcsagov/>

CDSE LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/cdse/>