DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

VOICE OF INDUSTRY DCSA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Dear FSO (sent on behalf of your ISR),

Industrial Security (IS) Operations 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.

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2023 TARGETING U.S. TECHNOLOGIES

DCSA has published the 2023 Targeting U.S. Technologies: A Report of Threats to Cleared Industry (Trends). This annual assessment provides a critical lens to shape our understanding of the foreign threat to cleared industry. We provide it as an aid for developing, maintaining, and updating security measures to mitigate the risk posed by foreign collectors. The complexity of today's full-spectrum conflict requires everyone's effort. The Report is found here on DCSA's Counterintelligence & Insider Threat homepage.

A BRIEFING ON ANOMALOUS HEALTH INCIDENTS (AHI)

DCSA invites cleared industry and academia personnel to participate in a Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC) entitled, "A Briefing on Anomalous Health Incidents (AHI)." On Thursday, November 9, experts from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (OUSD(P)) will provide a classified briefing on AHIs. During the SVTC, there will be a presentation on the aspects of AHIs 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 November 9 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET at most DCSA field office locations. Please register using this eInvitation.

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.

For Industry PIN Resets, contact the Applicant Knowledge Center at 878-274-5091 or via email at 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.

NATIONAL ACCESS ELSEWHERE SECURITY OVERSIGHT CENTER (NAESOC)

SECURITY REVIEW UPDATE

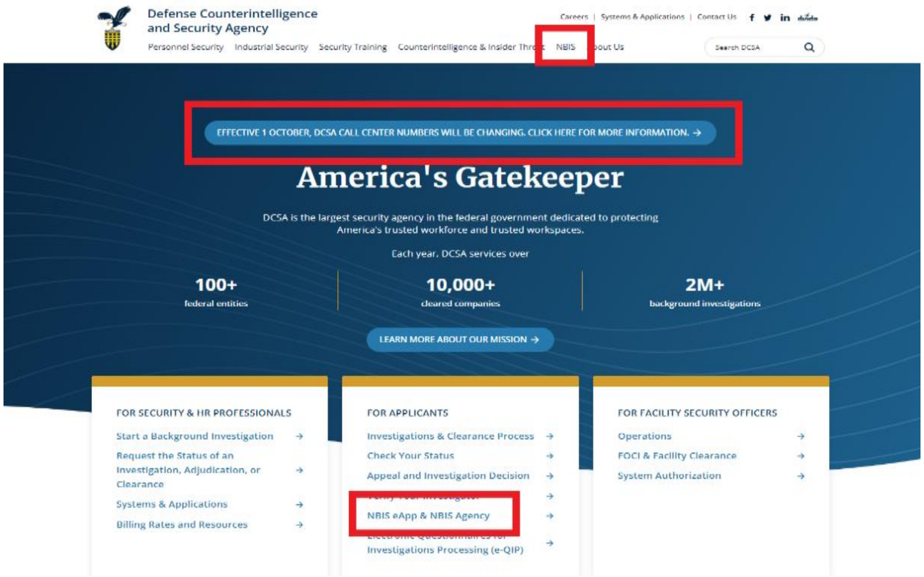
As the NAESOC conducts and supports Security Reviews, you may see activity is NISS that would look like your ISR or Field Office assignment has changed. Please disregard that activity you see. It is an internal function of the NISS. Your oversight office has not changed. If you have any questions about this, or believe it may affect your mission, 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

NATIONAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SERVICES (NBIS)

NBIS TAB ADDED TO THE DCSA HOMEPAGE

The DCSA Office of Communications & Congressional Affairs has expanded NBIS information on DCSA's public website. The screen shot below highlights three key areas:


Defense Counterintelligence
and Security Agency
Careers | Systems & Applications | Contact Us
Personnel Security
Industrial Security
Security Training
Counterintelligence & Insider Thre
NBIS
out Us
Search DCSA
LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR MISSION →
FOR SECURITY & HR PROFESSIONALS
Start a Background Investigation →
Request the Status of an Investigation, Adjudication, or Clearance →
Systems & Applications →
Billing Rates and Resources →
FOR APPLICANTS
Investigations & Clearance Process →
Check Your Status →
Appeal and Investigation Decision →
NBIS eApp & NBIS Agency →
Investigations Processing (e-QIP) →
FOR FACILITY SECURITY OFFICERS
Operations →
FOCI & Facility Clearance →
System Authorization →

EFFECTIVE 1 OCTOBER, DCSA CALL CENTER NUMBERS WILL BE CHANGING. CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION. →

America's Gatekeeper

DCSA is the largest security agency in the federal government dedicated to protecting America's trusted workforce and trusted workspaces.

Each year, DCSA services over

100+ federal entities

10,000+ cleared companies

2M+ background investigations

- A permanent "NBIS" tab has been added to the top menu. The tab includes sub-menus for NBIS including NBIS Industry Onboarding
- A banner notice has been added with new phone numbers at the Boyers processing center
- A link for NBIS eApp & NBIS Agency that takes the user to the landing page to log into both applications.

The update to the webpage will enable DCSA and our Industry partners to communicate important updates, training opportunities, and notifications. Please view the News and Publications section of the homepage which includes a September 27 promotional message from NISPPAC (the National Industrial Security Program Policy Advisory Committee) on the importance of NBIS. Keep checking our page for more information in 2024.

NISPPAC VISIT TO DCSA-BOYERS FOR NBIS SUMMIT

On October 11 and 12, DCSA hosted nine members of the NISPPAC at the Federal Investigation Processing Center in Boyers, PA. During the visit, the NISPPAC team toured the facility to review the lifecycle of a background investigation and met with DCSA members from the Federal Investigation Records Enterprise (FIRE), Customer Service and Engagements (CSE), and the NBIS Program Executive Office (PEO). The conversation focused heavily on the deployment and future of NBIS, and the NISPPAC and DCSA teams collaborated to identify system issues, errors, and enhancements as well as future development of system capabilities and data migration.

The theme of improved communication was ever present throughout the discussions and the teams laid out improvement plans for the new fiscal year. The NBIS Training team provided an outline of training materials, job aides, videos, and webinars available and in-development. The CSE and NBIS Planning and Deployment Office (PDO) outlined customer support, outreach, and system notifications.

The NISPPAC team provided valuable input and suggestions for future planning, outreach, and system capabilities, and committed to a continued partnership with DCSA in testing, communication, and support.

SUBJECT AFFILIATION DATA IS NOW AVAILABLE IN NBIS

DCSA has developed and deployed a solution to migrate all Industry subject affiliations in DISS to NBIS. The subject affiliations are now present in the Subject Management tab of NBIS. Please look at your Subject Management tab and verify you have all the required information. If you have questions on any missing information, please submit a ticket through Enterprise Service Delivery platform for tracking, or contact the Customer Engagement Team at dcsa.ncr.nbis.mbx.contact-center@mail.mil or 878-274-1765.

As a reminder, FSOs should verify that members are affiliated in NBIS if they require a case initiation and ensure that new subjects are affiliated in both NBIS and DISS:

- Affiliation is required in DISS for VRO verification (must be assigned to a SMO to authorize/enroll the request).

- Affiliation is required in NBIS to enable the workflow during initiation.

The DCSA team is continuing to improve the automatic transfer of subject and affiliation data between DISS and NBIS. DCSA will continue to inform Industry of this ongoing effort. In the meantime, FSOs should continue to verify subject and affiliation data in both systems is up to date.

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 (a STEPP account is required; Create a New Account here).

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 available on a first-come, first-served basis, and are conducted via Zoom. The learner paths are merely recommended and provide an overall learning experience on NBIS. Recent additions to the training catalog include microlearning videos and short podcast discussions on NBIS topics which includes the NBIS eApp (electronic application).

Check back on STEPP often as products are frequently added and updated to reflect the most recent features and enhancements in NBIS. Be on the lookout for the latest edition of the NBIS Training Newsletter, which is sent via email to all NBIS users.

For questions about NBIS Training or if users require customer support, contact the NBIS Training Program at dcsa.quantico.nbis.mbx.training@mail.mil.

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 the Defense Information System for Security (DISS).

Fingerprint results are valid for 120 days, the same amount of time for which Electronic Questionnaires for Investigations Processing (e-QIP) 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 e-QIP. 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 e-QIP. 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 e-QIP 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)

RECORDINGS AVAILABLE FOR 2023 DCSA INSIDER THREAT CONFERENCE

The DCSA Conference for Insider Threat in support of National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM) was held September 7. This event provided insider threat practitioners in DoD, federal agencies, private industry, critical infrastructure sectors, and academia with a virtual conference to engage with senior leadership on the topic of insider threat. This year's NITAM theme was "Bystander Engagement." The agenda included topics such as counter-insider threat professionalization, organizational resources, toolkits for insider threat mitigation, and more.

If you missed the conference or would like to revisit the presentations, the recordings are available now in the CDSE Conference Archive.

NEW INDUSTRIAL SECURITY POSTERS NOW AVAILABLE

Check out CDSE's recently released Security Awareness Posters:

"Make Sure It's Secure"

"Critical Information Protects Our Nation"

"Think Before You Sync"

"Change Your Security Mindset"

"Don't Be Quick to Click"

UPCOMING WEBINARS

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

An Alternative View of Preventing Insider Threats: Taking Culture Seriously
Thursday, November 2, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET

DC3 Mission Brief and Current Cyber Threats
Thursday, November 16, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET

The Enemy Within: A Case Briefing
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET

Visit the webinar webpage to register for this event and join the discussion!

UPDATED CYBERSECURITY CURRICULUM

The curriculum, Risk Management Framework (RMF) CS100.CU, which introduces the RMF and explores how it is used to manage the overall risk to an organization from different sources, was updated with the release of seven new courses:

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Prepare Step CS101.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Categorize Step CS102.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Select Step CS103.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Implement Step CS104.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Assess Step CS105.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Authorize Step CS106.16

Risk Management Framework (RMF) Monitor Step CS107.16

Students examine the framework components individually, enabling them to understand the entire process as it relates to their information system's entire lifecycle. This program focuses on providing practical guidance on completing and maintaining the certification and accreditation process and on obtaining formal authority to operate. Learn more about the curriculum here.

NEW INDUSTRIAL SECURITY WEBCAST AVAILABLE

CDSE just released a new recorded webcast "Tips for Submitting a Change Condition Package (CCP)." This 18-minute webcast provides guidance on acceptable NISS change condition package submissions for entities in the NISP. It also discusses the submission requirements for the following key areas: Changes in Ownership, Legal Structure, Name including DBA & AKA, Address, Essential Key Management Personnel, and Foreign Ownership, Control or Influence (FOCI).

OCTOBER 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 October newsletter focused on "National Insider Threat Awareness Month." 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.

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

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