



**THIS  
MONTH'S  
FOCUS**

# SECURITY AWARENESS

## THE STATE OF SECURITY AWARENESS IN 2021

### DID YOU KNOW?

*Per DoD Directive 5105.42, part of CDSE's mission is to "Establish and operate a program to provide security awareness products and services to DoD and other USG personnel, contract employees supporting the USG and, when sponsored by authorized DoD Components, representatives of selected foreign governments."*

Throughout 2021, CDSE continued to provide security awareness products and services in the COVID-19 working environment. This included onsite, returning, and remote workers. Telework and hybrid work environments, using approved collaborative virtual tools became established routines. CDSE supported these individuals, regardless of their work location, by making available security awareness products for security professionals and the workforce, as well as participating in multiple monthly security awareness initiatives.

The scope of threats to U.S. security can range from counterintelligence and insider threats (espionage/kinetic violence/unauthorized disclosure) to cybersecurity incidents (phishing emails/ransomware/large-scale cyber-attacks). Earlier this year, major cyberattacks caused issues throughout the supply chain. One



### SECURITY TIP:

To protect your information, use unique passwords for each device and keep all passwords in a secure location.

example of this was the BlackMatter ransomware cyber intrusions that targeted multiple U.S. critical infrastructure entities, including two U.S. food and agriculture sector organizations.

Organizations and individuals have several ways to combat security threats and strengthen security within their organizations. Organizations enhance their security postures by developing strong and

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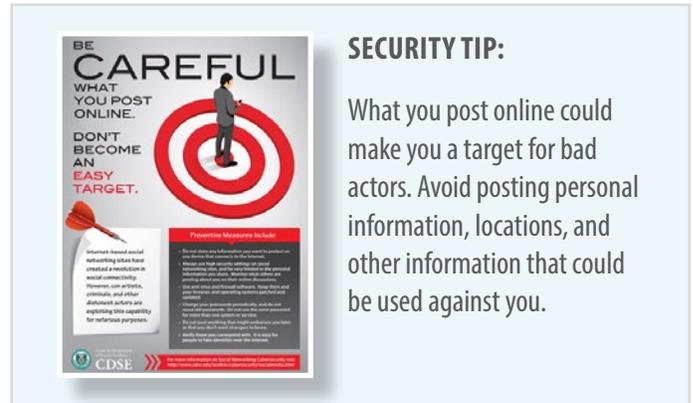
## THE STATE OF SECURITY AWARENESS IN 2021 (CONT'D)

active security education and training programs. These programs provide policies, guidance, training, and awareness to the workforce regarding security requirements and best practices. Individuals support the organizations security program by taking training, adhering to security policies/guidance, reporting issues/incidents, and practicing security vigilance. Actions such as remembering to take your Common Access Card (CAC) out of your work computer, securing containers that contain classified information, and creating strong passwords are all ways for people to make security part of their everyday routine. These examples of individual security practices add up to enhance the overall security within an organization if everyone plays their part.

It is part of CDSE's mission to provide security awareness products to DOD and Industry personnel. CDSE has a variety of products and services available to promote security awareness. The **Security Awareness Hub (SAH)** hosts security awareness training to include frequently-assigned courses, such as mandatory annual training assigned to DOD and other

U.S. Government and defense industry personnel. You do not need an account or any registration or sign-in information to take an SAH course. If you need to account for your completion, a certificate will appear on the screen at the end of the course and you must save it on your hard drive because it is not retained on the website. The subsections of SAH include Counterintelligence, Cybersecurity, General Security, Insider Threat, and Operations Security.

The SAH is not the only way CDSE provides security awareness training. CDSE.edu, our primary website, hosts a variety of security and awareness **eLearning**, **Instructor-led**, and **Virtual Instructor-led** courses and products for DOD personnel, DOD contractors, employees of other federal agencies, and approved foreign governments. We present training through a variety of streamlined learning platforms to meet performance requirements and accommodate the busy schedules of today's students. Some of the training resources include case studies, job aids, games, posters, shorts, training videos, toolkits, and webinars.



### SECURITY TIP:

What you post online could make you a target for bad actors. Avoid posting personal information, locations, and other information that could be used against you.

We also have a monthly security awareness newsletter, CDSE Pulse, which focuses on one security area of interest. In the Pulse newsletters, CDSE shares our training and resources as well as products from DOD and other federal agencies such as the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Personnel may **subscribe** to the newsletter and access past issues in the **CDSE Electronic Library**. CDSE also supports security awareness by promoting the different annual security month observances. Utilizing the CDSE Pulse, social media, conferences and events, and other avenues, CDSE participated in the following security awareness months in 2021:

- April: **Supply Chain Integrity Month**
- August: **Antiterrorism Awareness Month**

- September: **Insider Threat Awareness Month**
- October: **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**
- November: **Critical Infrastructure Awareness Month**

Threats to DOD and Industry will continue and so will CDSE's work to provide the training and tools to assist organizations and personnel in combatting and mitigating those threats. As we look toward 2022, we will continue to provide security awareness training for security professionals, DOD, and Industry personnel. Security is everyone's responsibility, so do your part to keep yourself and your organization safe and secure.



## CDSE SECURITY AWARENESS RESOURCES

RESOURCES	URL
Case Studies	<a href="https://securityawareness.usalearning.gov/cdse/case-studies/index.php">https://securityawareness.usalearning.gov/cdse/case-studies/index.php</a>
CDSE Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/TheCDSE">www.facebook.com/TheCDSE</a>
CDSE Insider Threat Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/CDSE-Insider-Threat-Awareness-604498590023561/">https://www.facebook.com/CDSE-Insider-Threat-Awareness-604498590023561/</a>
CDSE Twitter	@TheCDSE
CDSE Insider Threat Twitter	@InT_Aware
CDSE YouTube	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/dsscdse#p/u">https://www.youtube.com/user/dsscdse#p/u</a>
Security Awareness Hub	<a href="https://securityawareness.usalearning.gov/">https://securityawareness.usalearning.gov/</a>
Developing a Security Education and Training Program eLearning Course	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/eLearning/GS104/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/eLearning/GS104/</a>
Pulse Newsletter Sign Up	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/CDSE-News/">https://www.cdse.edu/CDSE-News/</a>
Security Awareness Games	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Awareness-Games/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Awareness-Games/</a>
Security Shorts	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Shorts/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Shorts/</a>
SETA Toolkit	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Toolkits/Security-Education-and-Training-Awareness-Toolkit/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Toolkits/Security-Education-and-Training-Awareness-Toolkit/</a>
Additional Toolkits	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Toolkits/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Toolkits/</a>
Posters	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Posters/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Security-Posters/</a>
Webinars and Conferences	<a href="https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Webinars-and-Conferences/">https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Webinars-and-Conferences/</a>





## CISA SECURITY AWARENESS RESOURCES

RESOURCE	URL
Telework Guidance and Resources	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/telework">https://www.cisa.gov/telework</a>
National Cyber Awareness System	<a href="https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas">https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas</a>
CISA Cybersecurity Resources	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/cisa-cybersecurity-resources">https://www.cisa.gov/cisa-cybersecurity-resources</a>
CISA Cybersecurity Awareness Program	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/cisa-cybersecurity-awareness-program">https://www.cisa.gov/cisa-cybersecurity-awareness-program</a>
Critical Infrastructure Training: Security Awareness Training Courses	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/critical-infrastructure-training">https://www.cisa.gov/critical-infrastructure-training</a>
Insider Threat – Training and Awareness	<a href="https://www.cisa.gov/training-awareness">https://www.cisa.gov/training-awareness</a>

## ANNUAL PLANNERS/ CAMPAIGNS

One way you can promote security awareness at your office/facility is with some of our annual planners and campaigns. These provide tools and resources for you to use, divided by months, for the entire coming year. For calendar year 2022, we have the **Insider Threat Vigilance Campaign** and the **Industrial Security Annual Planner** for your use.

## POSTERS

One of the best ways that we can spread security awareness is with eye-catching visuals and short phrases that will stick in the minds of employees. We have created a library of security posters that you can hang around your office spaces, share on websites, and save to your desktops. View and download all the posters [here](#).

## WEBINARS AND EVENTS

CDSE hosts many live webinars and events throughout the year that promote security awareness. We host interviews from subject matter experts, share policy updates, and allow the audience to ask questions. In addition, most of these events are recorded for personnel to view later. To register for upcoming webinars or to watch one of our recorded webinars, please visit the [webinar page](#).



**SECURITY TIP:**

When travelling, make sure you stay safe, especially overseas! CDSE's [foreign travel briefing](#) has some helpful tips on how to keep yourself, and those around you, safe.



## REGISTER FOR SPRING EDUCATION CLASSES

Registration is now open for the spring semester of CDSE Education classes that run from January 10 to May 6, 2022. Classes are open to U.S. government civilian personnel and military service members. They fill up quickly so register early to secure your spot in the spring semester.

### CDSE Education Program offers:

- Tuition-free, flexible
- Real-world practical assignments
- 100% virtual instructor-led courses
- Virtual networking with professionals throughout the security community
- Five Security Education Certificate programs

You can learn more about the available classes and register for them by accessing the links here:

<https://www.cdse.edu/education/courses.html>. To register, log into STEPP via:

<https://cdse.usalearning.gov/login/index.php>. If you

have any questions, or need additional information, contact the CDSE

Education Program at: [dss.ncr.dss-cdse.mbx.cdseeducation@mail.mil](mailto:dss.ncr.dss-cdse.mbx.cdseeducation@mail.mil)



## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE GETTING STARTED SEMINAR

The next Getting Started Seminar for FSOs (GSS) is scheduled to start February 8, 2022 and it is entirely virtual! This course is not only a great way to get started as a new Facility Security Officer (FSO), but also a way for experienced FSOs to keep informed of policy changes, procedural changes, emerging trends, threats, concerns, etc. Students work in collaboration with other security professionals to explore security topics through practical exercises. To learn more and register today, visit <https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Virtual-Instructor-led-Courses/IS121/>

## NEW SAP COURSE

CDSE retired the SAP Nominations Process short and has launched the new Special Access Program Personnel Security Official (SPO) eLearning course. The course provides DOD military, civilian, and DOD contractors who perform the duties of a SPO the knowledge required to engage in the Special Access Program (SAP) Nomination Process as outlined in DODM 5205.07 Volume 2, Personnel Security. To learn more information and register for the course, visit <https://www.cdse.edu/Training/eLearning/SA106/>.

For additional information on SAP Nominations in general, please check out our job aids <https://www.cdse.edu/Training/Job-Aids/Special-Access-Programs-Job-Aids/>.

### Do you know your financial reporting requirements?

- Inheritance over \$10,000
- Filing for Bankruptcy
- Excessive Indebtedness
- Gambling winnings over \$10,000

If any of these occur, you MUST self-report

### SECURITY TIP:

Have you recently come into some money? If it falls under any of these categories, make sure you report it!



## CDSE.EDU – A FIX IS ON THE WAY

When the cdse.edu website migrated to a new platform in September 2021, some users experienced certificate errors trying to reach the site. After investigating this issue, the root cause appears to be related to a web content filter (WCF) put in place to protect DOD users from inappropriate or unsafe content.

CDSE is working with numerous entities to remedy this issue and hope to have it fixed soon. In the meantime, <https://www.cdse.edu> is accessible from your personal computer or non-DOD system. Stay tuned to the Pulse and other CDSE communications for updates.



### WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

**Course: Cybersecurity Awareness (CS130.16)  
eLearning Course**

*“Excellent course, the best I have taken on this topic. The course was very user friendly and contained pertinent information.”*

– Student, Cybersecurity Awareness



All of us at CDSE would like to wish you and your loved ones happy holidays.

## 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 your subscription, but if you were forwarded this newsletter from another source and would like to subscribe to the Pulse or one of our other publications, visit our news page to sign up or update your account today -<https://www.cdse.edu/news/index.html>.

**Insider Threat  
Bulletins**

**Flash**

**Quarterly  
Product Report**