CDSE COLLABORATORS: THE IMPORTANCE OF STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

The Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) is able to accomplish our goals of delivering training, education, and certification to the security workforce thanks to the contributions of our stakeholders and partners. These organizations help CDSE provide the products and services needed to help safeguard the nation. Whether it’s meetings, working groups, or awareness month collaboration, CDSE stays engaged with our stakeholders and partners throughout the year.

One example of stakeholder engagement is CDSE’s participation in the DOD Security Training Council (DSTC), which acts as a governance board for the SPēD Certification Program, as well as an advisory board for DOD security training and education. CDSE works closely with the DSTC to make sure we are providing the training, education, and certifications the security community needs in order to develop and maintain a professionalized security workforce.

In addition to the DSTC, CDSE maintains an active relationship with the Adjudicator Certification Governance Board (ACGB), which serves as an advisory group for the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security OUSD(I&S) and is the decision-making body for certification policy coordination and oversight of the Adjudicator Professional Certification (APC) Program. The ACGB represents the interests of all stakeholders concerned with the APC design, management, and maintenance. In conjunction with CDSE, this board also provides timely coordination between the DCSA Consolidated Adjudication Facility (CAF) and DOD/Intelligence Community (IC) CAFs for policies and procedures affecting adjudicator professional certification and professionalization.

DID YOU KNOW?
Although CDSE’s primary mission is to support DOD and cleared industry, CDSE also collaborates with and provides training support to government agencies outside of DOD such as the Department of Homeland Security, State Department, Department of Treasury, White House, and National Archives and Records Administration.
Another way we engage policy makers and stakeholders is through our annual Curriculum Review Meetings (CRM), hosted by CDSE to discuss and validate existing curriculum, identify perceived training gaps, identify shared current offerings, and communicate available workforce training. This past year’s CRM saw more than 86 attendees representing over 40 organizations, including the Army, Air Force, Navy, Defense Contract Audit Agency, Defense Logistics Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigations, OUSD(I&S), and the Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC).

Then there is the Government and Industry Security Training (GIST) committee, established in August 2020. The GIST is comprised of Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) representatives and industry-partner representatives who seek to enhance the availability of security products and services and foster a proactive, risk-mitigating culture. Participants are charged with evaluating policy changes and updates that impact the National Industrial Security Program (NISP), identifying existing and emerging training needs, discussing the development of relevant and innovative content and services that support security awareness, and expanding the delivery of security training products and services.

In addition to meeting and communicating with stakeholders, CDSE also partners with other organizations to collaborate and share information. CDSE’s insider threat team maintains a close partnership with the National Insider Threat Task Force (NITTF). NITTF regularly hosts forums, working groups, and tech talks for practitioners and policymakers within the insider threat community. We support NITTF initiatives by sharing information and products in CDSE’s publications, website, and security app throughout the year. These efforts play an essential role in promoting National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NITAM).

CDSE participates in the planning and execution of NITAM, which occurs every September. The goal of NITAM is to help organizations detect, deter, and mitigate insider threats by increasing awareness and promoting reporting. In support of this event, CDSE works with the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC), NITTF, OUSD(I&S), and insider threat community stakeholders. Additionally, every April, CDSE supports NCSC’s National Supply Chain Integrity Month with the goal of raising awareness about growing supply chain threats and providing access to resources to help mitigate the risks. CDSE plays a pivotal role in supporting this effort with awareness products and educating stakeholders about the threats and risk management. CDSE coordinates with NCSC regarding messaging and shares their resources in the counterintelligence toolkit and CDSE communications. NCSC has also provided information through the CDSE Speaker Series.

There is an old proverb that states “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” Accomplishing CDSE’s mission to develop, deliver, and exchange security knowledge to ensure a high-performing workforce capable of addressing our nation’s security challenges is done only through understanding the needs of our stakeholders. CDSE will continue to collaborate with stakeholders and partners in order to raise the level of security training and excellence to new heights.
SPOTLIGHT ON PARTNERS

DAU

The Defense Acquisition University (DAU) provides a global learning environment to develop qualified acquisition, requirements, and contingency professionals who deliver and sustain effective and affordable warfighting capabilities. The acquisition community has recognized that a foundation of strong security is necessary in order to develop and deliver uncompromised products and services critical to our national defense and economy.

DAU and CDSE partnered to improve the acquisition community’s knowledge and understanding of the acquisition process. The goal is to ensure security becomes the foundation of the acquisition process. To achieve that goal, CDSE collaborated with DAU to launch two toolkits and host eight courses on our learning management system (LMS), Security Training, Education, and Professionalization Portal (STEPP).

The Acquisition Toolkit, at cdse.edu, contains the DAU courses listed to the right, as well as other relevant CDSE courses. Additional DAU resources include the Defense Acquisition Guidebook, Glossary of Defense Acquisition Acronyms and Terms, and the ACQuipedia. This toolkit benefits the DCSA workforce, as well as our industry partners.

DAU COURSES HOSTED ON STEPP

- Contracting for the Rest of Us
- Counterfeit Prevention Awareness
- Cybersecurity throughout DOD Acquisition
- DOD Supply Chain Fundamentals
- Life Cycle Logistics for the Rest of Us
- Preventing Counterfeit Electronic Parts from Entering the DOD Supply System
- Program Manager Introduction to Anti-Tamper
- Program Protection Planning Awareness

The Security Resources Toolkit helps acquisition professionals learn more about the importance of security throughout the acquisition process. It contains case studies, webinars, job aids, security shorts, eLearning courses, and security training videos on subjects such as insider threat, counterintelligence, industrial security, cybersecurity, information security, special access programs, physical security, and personnel security. CDSE maintains the toolkit, but it is only accessible on the DAU LMS.

PERSEREC

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) is part of the Office of People Analytics, which is a component of the Defense Human Resources Activity under the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness). PERSEREC is a DOD entity dedicated to improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and fairness of DOD personnel suitability, security, and reliability systems. In furtherance of this mission, PERSEREC established The Threat Lab in 2018 to realize the DOD Counter-Insider Threat Program Director’s vision to integrate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. CDSE works with PERSEREC to help promote their products to the insider threat community.

On CDSE’s website, there is an insider threat toolkit where you will find PERSEREC’s products in the “research” tab. These products include white papers, job aids, reports, and PERSEREC’s newsletter BLUF (Bottom Line Up Front) Volume 1, Issues 2-9 and Volume II, Issues 1-3. The toolkit also includes a card game called “Deadlines and Deliverables” and a graphic novel titled, “Dangerous Disclosure.”

Last year, CDSE hosted a webinar for PERSEREC to provide a capabilities briefing on their Threat Lab. During last September’s NITAM, we used social media to help promote the 2020 Social and Behavioral Science Summit, also hosted by PERSEREC’s Threat Lab.
CDSE WINS MULTIPLE AVA DIGITAL AWARDS

At the beginning of 2021, CDSE won five AVA Digital Awards:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDSE Commercial Videos: Highlighting CDSE Courses</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Video Production (Commercials, 503. Education/ College/ University/Trade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insider Threat Resilience Video</td>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>Web-Based Production (Creativity (Web Video), 352. Graphics/Design)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insider Threat Vigilance Series Season 2</td>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>Video Production, Long Form Video, (629c. Video Series)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDSE Education Division Video</td>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Web-Based Production (Short Form Web Video &lt; 3 Minutes, Informational)</td>
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AVA Digital Awards is an international competition that recognizes excellence by creative professionals responsible for the planning, concept, direction, design, and production of digital communication.

UPCOMING SPEAKER SERIES AND WEBINARS

CDSE invites you to sign up for our upcoming Speaker Series and Webinars:

**EPMO and Insider Threat**
Thursday, March 4, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1 p.m. ET

**Insider Threat and the Effects of COVID-19**
Thursday, March 18, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ET

**Organizational Culture and Countering Insider Threat: Best Practice Examples from the Marine Corps Insider Threat Hub**
Thursday, July 29, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ET
NOW AVAILABLE: NEW STEPP FEATURE

Thanks to popular demand, CDSE added a new course reset feature to retake courses and receive an updated certificate of completion, often need for agency and other requirements. Students will also have an enduring record of their completed eLearning courses.

This new feature is available for most eLearning courses in STEPP. Students will be required to retake examinations to meet the course completion criteria.

Going forward, students will be presented with a pop-up notice affirming their previous course completion and prompting them to confirm that they would like to reset the course for an updated certificate. Upon successful completion of the course, the student’s updated certificate, along with their historical completion records, will be available in their “My Transcript” section in STEPP.

COURSE RESET FAQS:

1. **Which courses does this apply to?** This change is applicable to the majority of eLearning Courses in STEPP.

2. **Do I have to retake the course examination?** Yes. When a course is reset, you must retake the corresponding course examination and meet the course completion requirements to receive an updated Certificate of Completion.

3. **What if this course is a prerequisite for a curricula?** BEFORE THE COURSE IS RESET, you must enroll in, and be approved for, the follow-on course PRIOR to resetting the prerequisite course. After your successful registration and approval by the CDSE Registrar Office, you may execute the “Course Reset” feature on the prerequisite course(s). If done in the proper order, a course reset will not impact your approved registration status for the follow-on course.

4. **What happens if I fail the retake?** If you reset and fail a course, no additional course reset will be needed. Simply try again to complete the course completion criteria (i.e., examination).

5. **How often can I reset a course?** The course can be reset as many times, and as often, as you would like.

WHAT THE SECURITY COMMUNITY IS SAYING

“We really appreciate your willingness to support our local Security Council and its membership. We could not be great security professionals without our collaboration with you and CDSE. We are so fortunate to have you as a resource for the Seminars. At times it is hard finding presenters that are experts in their fields and good at relaying that information to their audience.”

– Northeast Maryland Security Council (NMSC)

“Thank you for taking the time to prepare and share your knowledge about insider threat with us. We are more prepared because of your teachings. It was a successful event; the audience loved your presentation and how relevant the topic was; your content was funny and to the point. Thank you. Please keep doing what you do.”

– Industry Partner