



DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE
27130 TELEGRAPH ROAD
QUANTICO, VA 22134-2253

JAN 19 2018

Industry Partners,

2018 will be the year of transition! Over the past year and a half, the work we have done together to develop and refine the new methodology under DSS in Transition has established a solid foundation on which to build the next layer. Thanks to your involvement and feedback, which have been invaluable, we are ready to begin rolling out the new process in an incremental way that educates both DSS and industry as we continuously improve on it.

This incremental process — a phased implementation — will start with four facilities (one for each region) over the next month. We will then pause to assess the process and incorporate lessons learned. I want to note that this phased implementation begins with what we used to call “pilots,” which we will now call “Phase 1 assessments” (comprehensive risk-based security reviews). This is a small but meaningful shift in terminology that better conveys our readiness for the next step.

After assessing the initial four facilities under the DiT methodology, we will use the expertise and insights gained to improve on the process and begin incrementally expanding the number of facilities, while training and leading the next set of personnel and facilities through the process. By the end of this year, we anticipate:

- the majority of DSS personnel will be trained on the approach;
- we will have significantly refined the process along the way; and
- a number of facilities will have developed a tailored security plan (TSP).

These Phase 1 assessments will not be rated until we return to assess those facilities in fiscal year 2019. At that time, they will demonstrate their efforts to implement their TSPs, and we will score them under a new model that will be developed with your involvement in FY 2018.

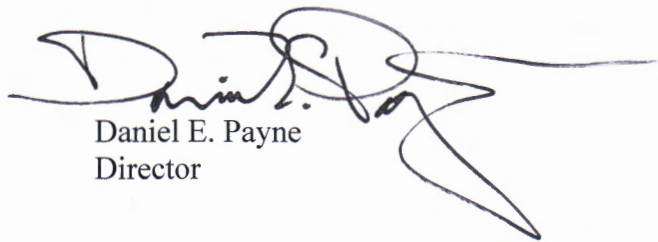
For facilities that are not involved in the Phase 1 efforts, we will continue to assess and rate them under the traditional security vulnerability assessment model as we have in the past, but during these assessments we will also:

- ask selected facilities to partner with us to identify and document their critical assets;
- collaborate with those facilities to understand and document their business processes and security measures around those assets; and
- educate facility security officials on a new threat assessment tool known as the “12x13” matrix, which documents threat methods of operation and methods of contact.

These efforts will help the facilities prepare for implementing the new methodology during a future phase that will include development of a TSP. However, facilities may choose to independently develop a proposed TSP for DSS review at a later date.

We will continue to seek your feedback and expertise as we move into phased implementation of the DiT methodology. I look forward to a year of strengthened partnership as we work toward our shared goal of protecting our nation's most important technologies and capabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel E. Payne", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel E. Payne
Director

cc:

Director, Information Security Oversight Office

Director, Counterintelligence and Security, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence