



# Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards: First Steps

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program identifies and regulates facilities determined to be high-risk to ensure they have security measures in place to reduce the risk of certain hazardous chemicals from being weaponized. High-risk facilities are assigned to one of four risk-based tiers and must develop a security plan tailored to their tier level and unique circumstances. If your facility possesses any chemicals, complete the following steps to determine if there are chemicals of interest (COI) that must be reported to CISA as required by the CFATS regulation.

## Check Your Chemicals of Interest (COI)

Chemicals are vital to our economy. They are used to develop medicines that maintain our health, provide refrigeration for our food supply, manufacture fuel for our vehicles and build the microchip that runs our smartphones. However, in the hands of a terrorist, some chemicals could potentially be weaponized.

Under CFATS, a chemical facility is any establishment—from a large facility to an individual person—that possesses or plans to possess any COI at or above a specified concentration and screening threshold quantity (STQ). If your facility possesses any chemicals, review Appendix A of the CFATS regulation, which lists more than 300 COI and their respective STQ, concentration, and main security issues.

- Locate any COI that is or will be present at your facility.
- Review the Appendix A COI list: [www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list).
- Review the STQ and concentrations for each COI.
- If your facility possesses COI that meets or exceeds the STQ, you have 60 days from the time of possession to report its holdings via an online survey called a Top-Screen. This requirement applies regardless of how long your facility possesses the COI, unless an extension or exclusion applies to them.



## Exclusions and Extensions

Certain facilities are excluded from the CFATS regulation by statute if they are:

- A Public Water System under the Safe Drinking Water Act
- A Treatment Works under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
- Regulated by the U.S. Coast Guard under the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA)
- Regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) or by a state with an NRC agreement
- Owned or operated by the Department of Defense or Energy

Agricultural production facilities that use the COI solely on crops, feed, land, livestock, or poultry have a time extension to report their COI. Read the CFATS Agricultural Production Facilities fact sheet to learn more about this extension: [www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-agricultural-production-facilities](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-agricultural-production-facilities).



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## Chemical-terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI) Training

In order to begin the process of reporting your COI to CISA, you need to complete the CVI Authorized User Training and submit a CVI Authorized User application.

- Complete the training and application: [www.dhs.gov/cvi-authorized-user-training](http://www.dhs.gov/cvi-authorized-user-training).
- CISA will email you to confirm your status, and provide a unique CVI Authorized User number and certificate.



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## Register to Access the Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT)

CSAT is a secure, web-based system accessible to CVI-certified individuals that houses the Top-Screen survey and other CFATS-related applications. You must first register your facility to access CSAT.

- Review the CSAT Portal User Manual: [www.dhs.gov/publication/csat-portal-user-manual](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/csat-portal-user-manual).
- Register your facility for a user identification and password: [csat-registration.dhs.gov/](http://csat-registration.dhs.gov/).
- CISA will validate your facility's registration and notify you on how to access CSAT.



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## Submit a Top-Screen

After logging into CSAT, your facility will have access to the Top-Screen. The information your facility submits in the Top-Screen is reviewed by CISA to determine if it is considered high-risk and covered under CFATS. CFATS-covered facilities must develop a security plan.

- Review the CSAT Top-Screen Instructions: [www.dhs.gov/publication/csat-ts-instructions](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/csat-ts-instructions).
- Log in to CSAT to submit a Top-Screen: [csat.dhs.gov/industry](http://csat.dhs.gov/industry).
- After submitting a Top-Screen, CISA will determine if your facility is high-risk using a risk tiering methodology and then notify you about the facility's status.



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## Tools and Resources

- CFATS Process: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-process](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-process)
- CFATS Resources: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-resources](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-resources)
- Appendix A COI List: [www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list](http://www.dhs.gov/publication/cfats-coi-list)
- CVI: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-cvi](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-cvi)
- Request a CFATS Presentation: [www.dhs.gov/request-cfats-presentation](http://www.dhs.gov/request-cfats-presentation)
- Request a Compliance Assistance Visit: [www.dhs.gov/cfats-request-compliance-assistance-visit](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats-request-compliance-assistance-visit)
- CFATS Knowledge Center: [csat-help.dhs.gov/](http://csat-help.dhs.gov/)
- CSAT Help Desk (technical assistance): Call 1-866-323-2957 or email [csat@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:csat@hq.dhs.gov)



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## Contact Information

For questions or comments, email [CFATS@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:CFATS@hq.dhs.gov) or visit [www.dhs.gov/cfats](http://www.dhs.gov/cfats).