

Webinar Questions and Answers

DSS CI Products

Question: Why does DSS apply Intelligence Community standards to its products? Is DSS a member of the Intelligence Community?

Answer: Although, DSS is not a formal member of the Intelligence Community, DSS is subordinate to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence. In addition, DSS CI is a member of the DoD Counterintelligence Production council which also adheres to IC standards. As such DSS CI products must adhere to those standards. Finally, DSS CI collaborates and shares information with the IC agencies, and since much of our work resides on Intelligence Community infrastructure, it is more efficient to apply these standards to our material.

Question: What is the DSS Information Sharing portal and how do I get access.

Answer: The DSS Information Sharing portal is a password protected portal hosted on the Homeland Security Information Network. We use it to disseminate useful unclassified products to security personnel in cleared industry. Access is limited to security personnel at cleared facilities. To get an account to access the portal, you must be nominated by a DSS field representative. Contact your local DSS Industrial Security Representative or Field CI Specialist if you require access to the portal.

Question: Why doesn't DSS counterintelligence directorate send unclassified products out attached to emails?

Answer: Sadly, as we learned in elementary school, one bad apple spoils everything for everyone - there are nefarious people out there, that spoof legitimate emails and include attachments with malicious codes, you know malware and viruses. We want to avoid spoofed emails made to resemble a DSS email from being a vector for this malware. Thusly, if you know we do not disseminate through mass email, you know not to open an attachment from an apparent DSS email with this quarter's edition of the Scarlet Sentinel. This is for general dissemination. If you contact a DSS representative and ask the rep to send a specific document, the rep will likely send you the document as an attachment. I am saying beware of mass emailing or those claiming to be disseminating a DSS CI product.