



JOB AID

Implementing Effective Physical Security Countermeasures



CDSE Center for Development
of Security Excellence

A hand holding a credit card near a payment terminal keypad. The keypad has numbers 1-9, *, and 0. The background is dark and out of focus.

Contents

Click the individual links to view each topic. You may also use the forward and backward arrows to navigate through each topic in order.

[Purpose of Physical Security](#)

[Definitions of Measures and Countermeasures](#)

[Examples of Countermeasures](#)

[Additional Information](#)

Purpose of Physical Security

The purpose of physical security is to protect Department of Defense (DOD) assets. Identifying categories of DOD assets is critical to implementing effective physical security countermeasures. The first step is to determine the criticality of an asset to the organization. Within DOD, we categorize assets using the acronym PIE-FAO:

- People
- Information
- Equipment
- Facilities
- Activities
- Operations



To protect DOD assets, we implement physical security measures and countermeasures to mitigate vulnerabilities. Vulnerabilities are weaknesses, if left unchanged, it could lead to the loss, theft, or destruction of an asset. Vulnerabilities present criminals, terrorist, and other threats to render assets inoperable thus impacting our mission.

Physical security measures are used to create security-in-depth (SID). They will deter, detect, delay, document, and defend/deny access to assets. The measures should safeguard personnel, prevent unauthorized access to equipment, installation, materials, and document. In addition, they should mitigate against espionage, sabotage, damage, and theft. Finally, the measures are designed to control movement within a facility.

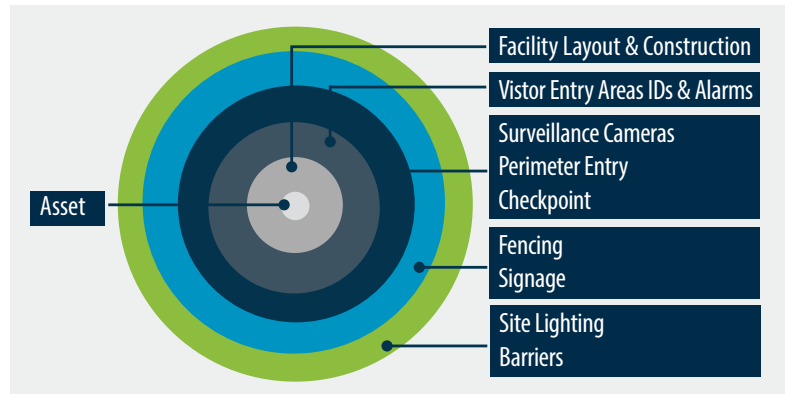
Physical security countermeasures are measures used to counter specific threats to an asset. A countermeasure is either requirement based or cost-benefit analysis based. A General Service Administration (GSA)-approved security container is an example of a requirement base countermeasure. It is used to protect and secure classified information. A jersey wall barrier is an example of a cost-benefit analysis countermeasure. Barriers could be used to provide stand-off distance. The requirement is stand-off distance and by using a cost-benefit analysis, the barrier is used to achieve the requirement.

The following are examples of physical security countermeasures used to protect assets:

- Security-in-Depth (SID)
- Security Forces
- Access Control Systems (ACS)
- Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)
- Physical Barriers
- Signage
- Security Lighting

Definitions

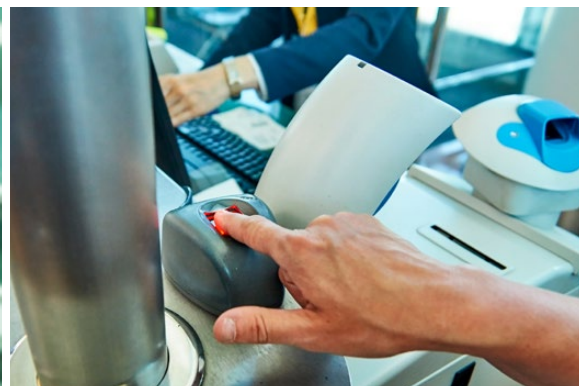
Security-in-Depth (SID) is a multilayered approach employing humans and other physical security measures to create countermeasures against potential threats. Some examples of SID layers of security are barriers, fence signage, site lighting, visitor control center, CCTV, and facility layout & construction.



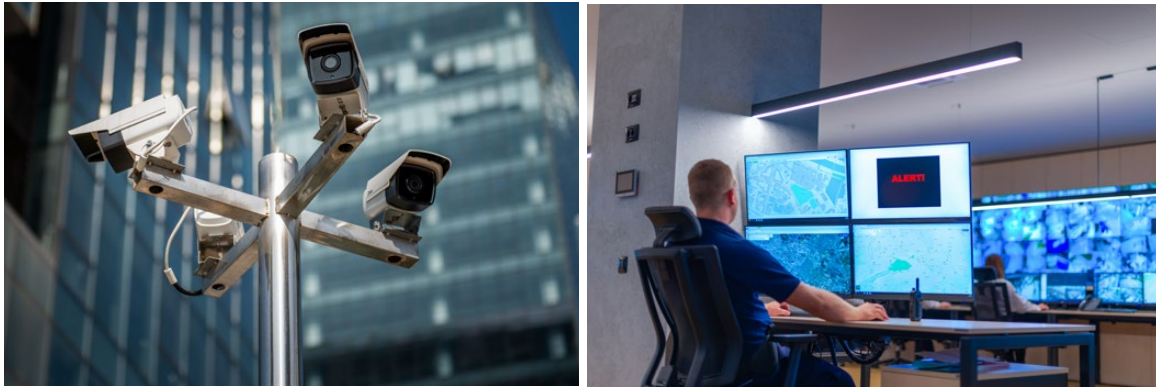
Security Forces provide the enforcement element of the physical security program. Some examples are military police, DOD civilian or contract guards, and military working dogs teams.



Access Control System (ACS) ensure only authorized personnel gain access to controlled or restricted areas. Usually the ACS is integrated with other systems, such as an intrusion detection systems and CCTV. Some examples are locks, card readers, biometric readers, alarms, and computers to monitor and control access.



Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) is the integration of cameras, recorders, switches, keyboards, and monitors to allow viewing and recording of security events. They are utilized for alarm-assessment and surveillance. Some parts examples are pan-tilt-zoom (PTZ) cameras, cables, and monitors.



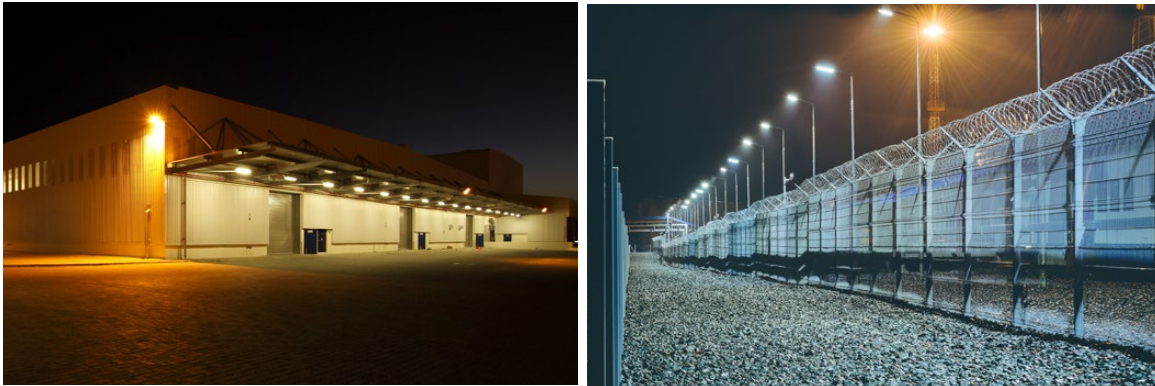
Physical Barriers facilitates the control and movement of pedestrians and vehicles access. They define the physical perimeter. In addition, they establish a psychological deterrent to adversaries attempting unlawful or unauthorized entry. The two types of physical barriers are natural and man-made. An example of a natural barrier is a berm, while a man-made barrier is a fence with outriggers topped with concertina wire.



Signage is positioned to assist with controlling authorized entry, deterring unauthorized entry, and precluding accidental entry. They are clearly displayed and legible from any reasonable approach to the perimeter. In those geographical areas where multiple languages are spoken, the signs should be in bilingual text. Example are warning and directional.



Security Lighting is a psychological deterrent installed along perimeter fences to aid with observation. The lighting should discourage or deter intruders from attempting illegal entry. The design of the lighting includes glare considerations. It should not impede observation from security forces or CCTV. Lighting is used in conjunction with fixed security posts, patrols, fences, and electronic security systems. Examples are continuous, stand-by, emergency, and moveable.



Additional Information

For additional information, see the following policy documents:

DODI 5200.08, Security of DOD Installations and Resources and the DOD Physical Security Review Board (PSRB)

DODM 5200.08-R, Physical Security Program

DODM 5200.08, Volume 3, Physical Security Program: Access to DOD Installation



CDSE

Center for Development
of Security Excellence

938 Elkridge Landing Road Linthicum, MD 21090

www.cdse.edu



HOME