CDSE pulse
VOLUME 5 ISSUE 10
October 2024

THIS MONTH'S FOCUS

CYBERSECURITY

DID YOU KNOW?

This month marks the 21st Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Education, awareness, and training are the best way to reduce risks and stay safe online.

CDSE – Center for Development of Security Excellence

@TheCDSE

Center for Development of Security Excellence

Center for Development of Security Excellence

CDSE Pulse

Published by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) Outreach and Engagement Office.

DCSA Leadership

David M. Cattler
Director, DCSA

Daniel J. Lecce
Deputy Director, DCSA

Kevin Jones
Assistant Director, Security Training

Erika Ragonese
Deputy Assistant Director, Security Training

CDSE Leadership

Glenn Stegall
Acting Director

Pulse Staff

Cashmere He
Chief Content Officer

Isaiah Burwell
Content Writer

Matthew Wright
Tammi Bush
Content Contributors

Marc Pulliam
Content Designer

CYBERSECURITY: SECURING OUR WORLD

Since 2004, the President of the United States and Congress have declared the month of October to be Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a dedicated month for the public and private sectors to work together to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity. Over the years, the partnership has grown into a collaborative effort between Government and industry to enhance **cybersecurity awareness**, encourage actions by the public to reduce online risk, and generate discussion on cyber threats on a national and global scale. This October marks the 21st Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

"**Secure Our World**" was chosen to be the enduring theme for all future Cybersecurity Awareness Months after the launch of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) cybersecurity awareness program in 2023. This theme recognizes the importance of taking daily action to reduce risks when online and using internet-enabled devices. With so many dangerous cyber criminals lurking online, it crucial for Americans to be aware of safe cyber practices.

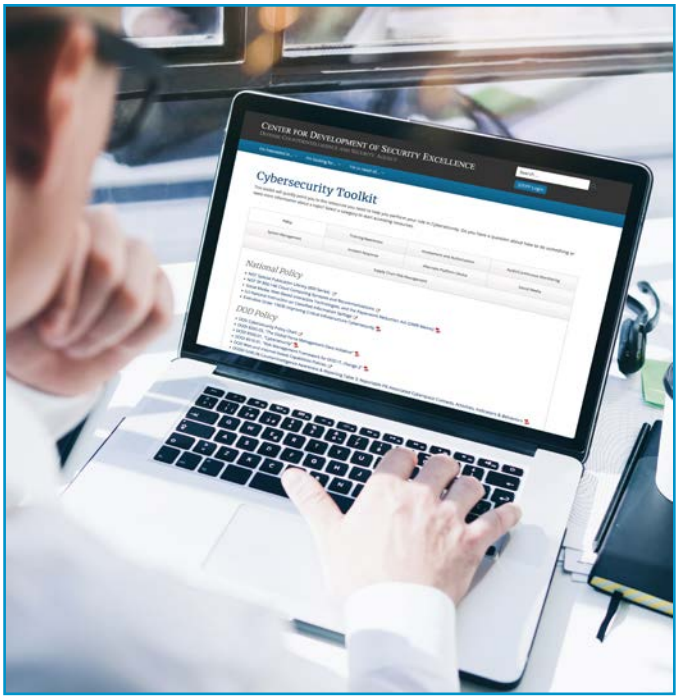
In August, a hacking group claimed to have stolen millions of social security numbers and other private records. According to the National Cybersecurity Alliance's 2023 Oh Behave! Report, 84 percent of people considered online safety a priority, but only 38 percent of people use unique passwords

for all their accounts. In addition, only 36 percent of people always install software updates when they become available.

For this year's Cybersecurity Awareness Month, CISA is highlighting four easy ways to stay safe online. The first is recognizing and reporting phishing, which warns people to be cautious of unsolicited messages asking for personal information and to avoid sharing sensitive information or credentials with unknown sources. The second way to stay safe online is to use strong passwords that are long, random, unique, and include all four-character types (uppercase, lowercase, numbers, and symbols). The third way to stay safe online is to turn on multi-factor authentication (MFA), which makes it harder for hackers to access your data because it requires more than a single password. Finally, the fourth way to stay safe online is to update software, providing the latest security patches and updates on your devices.

CDSE has a **cybersecurity toolkit** with numerous links to job aids, posters, games, and videos that can assist an organization in preparing a cybersecurity campaign. Courses range from the "**Cyber Awareness Challenge**" to "**Using Mobile Devices in a DOD Environment**." Job aids range from "**DOD Cybersecurity Policy Chart**" to "**Twitter Smartcard (Configuration Guide)**."

Cybersecurity is crucial to the protection of both the individual and the Nation. Cyber threats are ever present and will evolve, so our vigilance must evolve with it. Resources offered by CDSE and CISA will help you and your organization defend yourselves against the cyber threats of today and tomorrow.



CISA will offer two October trainings related to cybersecurity awareness:

- October 7, Cyber Threat Intelligence Development IR117 | **Register for this training**.
- October 8-10, Cyber Threat Intelligence Development IR217 | **Register for this training**.

INSTRUCTOR-LED CYBERSECURITY COURSE AT CDSE IN DECEMBER

CDSE is offering an instructor-led course on Assessing Risk and Applying Security Controls to NISP Systems (CS301.01) in December. This tuition-free course runs December 2-5 in Linthicum, MD. Students should have completed enrollment (prerequisites and registration) by November 15.

The target audience for this training includes Information System Security Managers, Information System Security Officers, and Facility Security Officers (FSOs) involved in the planning, management, and execution of security programs for cleared industry. This five-day course provides students with guidance on applying policies and standards used throughout the U.S. Government to protect information within computer systems, as delineated by the risk management framework process.

Go **here** to learn more, register, and view the required prerequisites.

CYBERSECURITY CASE STUDY

Shannon Stafford was sentenced to 12 months and one day in federal prison for illegally accessing and damaging a computer network. Stafford worked in the IT department of a global company. He had access to the system login credentials of other employees and was authorized to use them during his technical support duties. He was also responsible for disabling users' network access credentials at the end of their employment. In August 2015, Stafford made multiple attempts to remotely access company networks using credentials that were not his. He was able to erase all file storage drives used by the Washington, D.C., office, then changed the credentials for the storage management system. Washington users were unable to access their stored files for approximately three days until the data could be restored from backups. He was convicted in 2020 and ordered to pay over $190,000 to his former employer. For more information, read his case study **here**.

CYBER ESPIONAGE NEW JOB AID

Check out CDSE's new job aid! This month's new job aid features **cyber espionage**.

This job aid provides a general understanding of cyber espionage and guidance on how organizations can protect their missions and priorities. Use it as a reminder of the exceptional duty of care vested in those with access to information and critical infrastructure systems.

SECURITY POSTERS

Did you know CDSE can provide security posters for your workplace? On August 19, the Industrial Security team released two new security posters, "Know Security! No Incidents!" and "Get in Sync with Security." Our posters are available for you to download and promote security awareness in the workplace. To access these posters, click **here**. Need other security discipline posters? Check them out **here**.

PERSONNEL VETTING SEMINAR

CDSE is presenting the Virtual-led Personnel Vetting Seminar on November 19-21. This seminar addresses the requirements associated with the reform of the Federal Government's personnel vetting system, known as Trusted Workforce 2.0 (TW 2.0). Its purpose is to aid personnel vetting practitioners in DOD, federal agencies, and private industry to understand TW 2.0 requirements, identify gaps between current and future procedures, and support implementation. The seminar covers end-to-end personnel vetting operations, including the federal background investigations program, National Security Adjudications, Continuous Vetting, and Insider Threat analysis in a collaborative environment.

This three-and-a-half day course is intended for U.S. Government security professionals, military personnel, cleared industry Facility Security Officers (FSOs), and other federal personnel performing personnel vetting security-related duties and for personnel executing security programs for cleared industry. Visit the **course page** to learn more and register.

INSIDER THREAT DETECTION AND ANALYSIS COURSE

Insider threats are one of the biggest risks to national security. Learn the latest analytic techniques with CDSE's virtual instructor-led "Insider Threat Detection Analysis Course" (ITDAC) training. During this five-day course, attendees will apply critical thinking skills and applicable structured analytic techniques to potential insider threat indicators.

This course also allows learners to obtain and use holistic data in conjunction with the application of critical pathway theory. Some prerequisites apply. Below is the 2024 and 2025 course schedule:

Oct. 21-25, 2024 (Virtual)
Nov. 18-22, 2024 (Virtual)
Dec. 2-6, 2024 (Virtual)
Jan. 13-17, 2025 (Virtual)
Feb. 10-14, 2025 (Virtual)
March 17-21, 2025 (Virtual)
April 7-11, 2025 (Virtual)
May 12-16, 2025 (Virtual)
June 23-27, 2025 (Virtual)
July 21-25, 2025 (Virtual)
Aug. 18-22, 2025 (Virtual)
Sept. 22-26, 2025 (Virtual)

Register for the ITDAC course.

SECURITY TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Security Training (ST) Directorate will undergo a reorganization, an initiative designed to address the demand for more training and the imperative for greater integration across DCSA. Effective Oct. 1, 2024, ST is restructuring from two Learning Centers providing training and education to three Learning Centers - the National Center for Credibility Assessment (NCCA), the Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE), and the newly created DCSA Security Academy. These three centers will be under the umbrella of the Security Training Directorate, led by Kevin Jones as the Assistant Director, and Erika Ragonese as the Deputy Assistant Director.

The NCCA will continue to serve 30 federal agency partners with curriculum for credibility assessment professionals, oversight of polygraph programs, and advancement through innovative techniques and technologies. Amy Kiefer was named the Director of NCCA in February 2024. She has held various positions in NCCA including the Deputy Director, Senior Polygraph Instructor, Compliance Inspector, and Chief of the Quality Assurance Program.

The CDSE will focus efforts on their existing mission of providing security education and training for the Defense Security Enterprise security professionals and practitioners, the general DOD population, and Insider Threat Programs and Operations. Dr. Audrey Gutierrez will be Director CDSE, effective Sept. 8, 2024. Dr. Gutierrez is coming to us from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services where she is currently serving as the Deputy Director of Workforce Development for the Health Resources Services Administration Learning Institute. She also has experience supporting the DOD Education Activity as the Chief of Organizational Performance and Chief of Strategic Talent Development.

The DCSA Security Academy is a new element within ST and will continue to expand over time to provide security education and training for our DCSA security professionals across the DCSA missions. Rebecca Morgan was recently selected as Director and onboarded on Aug. 11, 2024. Morgan has over 30 years of experience in counterintelligence, security, and insider threat including investigations, operations, and analysis and has served in many key roles across DOD.

One last change that ST is implementing on Oct. 1, 2024, is the establishment of a Central Services structure to enable serving all three centers with common functions. This change enables ST to optimize its structure, enhance efficiencies, and foster cross-functional collaboration across ST. Organized into three offices - Learning and Development Office, Operations Office, and Strategy and Integration Office, this centralized entity will provide strategic and operational support to NCCA, CDSE and the DCSA Security Academy. The result will consolidate resources, expertise, and processes, with standard workflows and reporting structures.

These organizational enhancements will better enable ST to provide its varied customers and stakeholders with products and services that target their respective training needs. ST will continue to strive for efficiencies considering constrained resources but most importantly, it looks forward to partnering with DCSA mission areas and supporting elements to enhance security training opportunities for DCSA security professionals. Although it will take time, the goal is to provide an enduring DCSA Security Academy for DCSA security gatekeepers today and years to come.

THE SECURITY TRIANGLE: SECURITY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND INTELLIGENCE COURSE

CDSE's Education Program released its newest virtual instructor-led course, ED402, **The Security Triangle: Security, Law Enforcement (LE), and Intelligence**. It focuses on the three components of the security triangle. Through the review of case studies, this course explores how the DOD security professional collaborates with and supports LE and intelligence communities to prevent future security failures. This new eight-week course runs between October 14 and December 15 and is open to all federal civilians and military personnel (active and reserve) with or without an undergraduate degree. The course is unavailable to contractors. Students will receive 80 professional development units (PDUs) upon successful completion. Visit the course webpage to learn more and the Security Training, Education, and Professionalization Portal to **register**.

TRUSTED WORKFORCE 2.0 OVERVIEW FOR NATIONAL SECURITY ADJUDICATORS WEBINAR

CDSE is presenting the Trusted Workforce 2.0 Overview for National Security Adjudicators on October 22, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET. This virtual instructor-led webinar will cover the changes and reforms driven by Trusted Workforce (TW) 2.0 that impact National Security trust determinations. These Federal personnel vetting (FPV) reforms aim to better support agencies' missions by reducing the time required to bring new hires on-board, enabling mobility of the Federal workforce, and improving insight into workforce behaviors. This webinar contains exercises in identifying and defining FPV Framework, Adjudicative Process Framework, FPV Investigative Standards, Trust Determinations, FPV Scenarios, and Unconscious Bias. Participation is limited to 400 attendees, so please sign up today! **Register** for this webinar.

CDSE NEWS

CDSE offers an email subscriber news service to get the latest CDSE news, updates, and information. You may be receiving the Pulse through your subscription, but if you were forwarded this newsletter from another source and would like to subscribe to the Pulse, Insider Threat Bulletins, or the Weekly Flash, visit our **news page** and sign up or update your account today.