

# Self Inspection Handbook for NISP Contractors



 **DSSA**Academy  
*Security Through Knowledge*

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# Self-Inspection Handbook for NISP Contractors

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# SELF-INSPECTION HANDBOOK FOR NISP CONTRACTORS

## The Contractor Security Review Requirement

“Contractors shall review their security system on a continuing basis and shall also conduct a formal self-inspection at intervals consistent with risk management principles.” [1-206b, NISPOM]

## The Contractor Self-Inspection Handbook

The National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM) requires all participants in the National Industrial Security Program (NISP) to conduct their own security reviews (self-inspections). The Self-Inspection Handbook is designed as a job aid to assist you in complying with this requirement. It also suggests various techniques to help you enhance the quality of your self-inspections.

## The Elements of Inspection

The Self-Inspection Check List contained within this handbook addresses basic NISPOM requirements through a series of questions arranged according to “Elements of Inspection.” Before beginning your self-inspection, review the “Elements of Inspection” to determine which ones are applicable to your facility’s involvement in the NISP. Use those elements which you have identified as pertaining to your security program to create your self-inspection check list.

The first three Elements of Inspection: (A) Facility Security Clearance (FCL), (B) Access Authorizations, and (C) Security Education apply to all facility security programs and should be covered during the self-inspection. Any remaining elements need only be covered if they relate to your security program. If you have questions about the relevancy of any element of inspection for your facility, please contact your Industrial Security Representative (IS Rep) for guidance. A look at your Standard Practice Procedure (SPP), if you have one, may also provide clues. Of course, as your program becomes more involved with classified information (e.g., changing from a non-possessing to a possessing facility), you will have to expand your self-inspection checklist to include those additional elements of inspection. Also remember that not all of the questions (requirements) within each element may relate to your program. Since each question includes a NISPOM paragraph citation, review each requirement against the context of your industrial security program. If your involvement with classified information invokes the requirement, your procedures should comply with it and your self-inspection should assess your compliance. Reading all questions in the relevant elements of inspection will help you become more knowledgeable of the NISPOM requirements. In all cases, the regulatory guidance takes priority over company established procedures.

## Inspection Techniques

To get a clear picture of your facility's security posture, you must (1) know the requirements by which you are inspected (this is where the check list will help), (2) know your facility's physical layout (i.e., where the classified material is stored, worked on, etc.), and (3) have knowledge of the processes involved in the classified programs at your facility. Remember, your primary sources of information are **documents** and **people**.

Your job as the FSO is to *verify* and *validate* that your facility security program is properly protecting classified material and information. To do this, simply review the self-inspection questions against the appropriate documentation (including the classified information) and the people (including their actions) involved in the facility's industrial security program. This is where the self-inspection check list comes in handy. It not only provides you with the NISPOM requirements, but organizes them into elements of common security concern. These elements should not be viewed independently during your self-inspection, but interdependently, as it will become obvious to you that they frequently interrelate.

## Interview Techniques

A quality self-inspection depends on your ability to ask questions which may identify security problems. Seek information about *current* procedures and *changes* which could affect future actions. Get out of your office and into the facility working environment. Talk to the people!

- All questions should be considered in the present and future sense.
- Let people tell their story. Ask open ended questions (using who, what, where, when, why and how).
- Let people show you how they perform their jobs that involve compliance with a security program requirement.
- Follow-up the check list questions with your own questions.
- Keep good notes for future reference and document corrective actions.

## The Self-Inspection Check List

### A. FACILITY CLEARANCE

NISPOM REF:	Question:	YES	NO	N/A
1-302g(3)	Have all changes (e.g. changes in ownership; operating name or address; KMP information; previously reported FOCI information or action to terminate business) affecting the condition of the FCL been reported to your DSS IS Rep?			
2-100c	Has the fact that the company has an FCL been used for advertising or promotional purposes?			
2-104	Are the senior management official, the FSO, and other Key Management Personnel cleared as required in connection with the FCL?			
2-106a-b	Have the proper exclusion actions been conducted for uncleared company officials?			
2-108	Does the home office have an FCL at the same or higher level than any cleared facility within the Multiple Facility Organization?			
2-111	Are the DD Forms 441 and/or 441-1, SF 328, and DD Form 381-R, available, properly executed and maintained in current status?			

### B. ACCESS AUTHORIZATIONS

NISPOM REF:	Question:	YES	NO	N/A
	Have you validated all the information in JPAS / JCAVS pertaining to your cleared employees?			
	Does each employee's JPAS / JCAVS record indicate an appropriate "eligibility" and "access?"			
	Have all JPAS / JCAVS users and account managers been officially appointed, issued unique user names and passwords and given the appropriate level in the JPAS /JCAVS?			
	Have all JPAS / JCAVS users received training appropriate for their duties and responsibilities?			
2-200d	Are the number of clearances held to a minimum consistent with contractual requirements?			
2-202a	Are employees in process for security clearances notified in writing that review of the SF 86 is for adequacy and completeness only and that the information will be used for no other purpose within the company?			
2-202b	Are procedures in place to ensure that the applicant's SF 86 and fingerprint cards are authentic, legible and complete to avoid clearance processing delays?			
2-202b	Are original, signed copies of the SF 86 and releases retained until the applicant's eligibility for access to classified has been granted or denied, and then destroyed?			
2-205	Are all pre-employment offers based on acceptance to begin employment within 30 days of granting eligibility for a PCL?			
2-207	Has citizenship been verified for each PCL applicant?			
1-302	Have reports on all cleared employees been submitted to the DISCO or the DSS IS Rep as required? NOTE: JPAS / JCAVS may be used for submission of some of these reports.			

<b>C. SECURITY EDUCATION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>3-102</b>	Have you, as the FSO, completed security training considered appropriate by the CSA ?			
<b>3-103, 9-202</b>	Have you, as the FSO, received special security briefings and debriefings provided by DSS or GCA when required?			
<b>3-104</b>	Do cleared persons at other locations receive the required security training?			
<b>3-105</b>	Are SF 312's properly executed by cleared employees prior to accessing classified and forwarded to DISCO for retention?			
<b>3-105</b>	Are refusals to execute the SF 312 reported to DISCO?			
<b>3-106</b>	Do initial security briefings contain the minimum required information?			
<b>3-107</b>	Does the security education program include refresher security briefings?			
<b>1-205, 3-100, 3-108</b>	Are all cleared employees provided with security training and briefings commensurate with their involvement with classified information?			

*Interview personnel throughout the work place to determine the effectiveness of your security education program. What do the employees remember from the last security briefing? Have them demonstrate the application of security procedures in the performance of their jobs.*

<b>3-108</b>	Are cleared employees debriefed at the time of a PCL's termination, suspension, revocation, or upon termination of the FCL?			
<b>1-300</b>	Are there established internal procedures that ensure cleared employees' awareness of their responsibilities for reporting pertinent information to the FSO as required?			
<b>1-301,302</b>	Is there an effective procedure for submission of required reports to the FBI and to DSS?			
<b>1-304</b>	Is there a graduated scale of administrative disciplinary action in the event of violations or negligence?			
<b>1-204 6-103</b>	Do you cooperate with officially credentialed representatives of Federal Agencies conducting inspections, audits and investigations?			
<b>1-207</b>	Are employees aware of the Defense Hotline?			

**The Defense Hotline  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1900**

**(800) 424-9098  
(703) 604-8569**

<b>D. CONSULTANTS</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>2-212</b>	Have you and your consultants jointly executed a “consultant certificate” setting forth your respective security responsibilities?			
<b>2-212</b>	Does the consultant possess classified material at his/her place of business?			

*For security administrative purposes, the consultant shall be considered an employee of the using contractor.*

<b>E. STANDARD PRACTICE PROCEDURES (SPP)</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>1-202</b>	Do you have an SPP?			
<b>1-202</b>	Is the SPP current and does it adequately implement the requirements of the NISPOM?			

*Remember that a written SPP must be prepared when the FSO or the CSA believes it is necessary for the proper safeguarding of classified. 1-202*

<b>F. SUBCONTRACTING</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>7-101</b>	Are all required actions completed prior to release or disclosure of classified information to sub-contractors?			
<b>7-101b(1)</b>	Are the clearance status and safeguarding capability of all subcontractors determined as required?			
<b>7-101b(2)</b>	Do requests for facility clearance or safeguarding include the required information?			
<b>7-101c</b>	Is sufficient lead-time allowed between the award of a classified subcontract and the facility clearance process time for an uncleared bidder?			
<b>7-102</b>	If your company is the prime on a contract, have you incorporated adequate security classification guidance into each classified subcontract?			
<b>7-102</b>	Are contractor-prepared <i>Contract Security Classification Specifications</i> (DD 254) certified (signed) by a designated contractor official?			
<b>7-102a</b>	Are original <i>Contract Security Classification Specifications</i> (DD 254) included with classified solicitations?			
<b>7-102b</b>	Are revised <i>Contract Security Classification Specifications</i> (DD 254) issued as necessary?			
<b>7-103</b>	If your company is the prime on a contract, have you obtained approval from the Government Contracting Activity for subcontractor retention of classified information associated with a completed contract?			

<b>G. VISIT CONTROL</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
6-101	Are classified visits held to the minimum?			
6-101	Are procedures established to ensure positive identification of visitors prior to disclosure of classified?			
6-101	Are procedures established to ensure that visitors are only afforded access to classified information consistent with their visit? (need-to-know)			
6-102	Is disclosure of classified information based on need to know (a contractual relationship) or an assessment that the receiving contractor has a bona fide need to access classified information?			
6-104	Are visit authorization requests sent and received through JCAVS whenever possible?			
6-104	Do visit authorization requests include the required information and are they updated to reflect changes in the status of that information?			
6-105	Are long-term visitors governed by the security procedures of the host contractor?			

<b>H. CLASSIFIED MEETINGS (Sponsored by the Government)</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
6-201	Has the government agency sponsoring the meeting approved all security arrangements, announcements, attendees, and the meeting location?			
6-201a	Did your request for authorization include all required information?			
6-201c	Have all security arrangements been approved by the authorizing agency?			
6-201c (2)	Is attendance limited to persons appropriately cleared who have the need-to-know?			
6-201c (3) and 6-202	Is prior written authorization obtained, from the relevant Government Contracting Activity, before disclosure of classified information?			

**Remember that classified presentations can be delivered orally and/or visually. Copies of classified presentations, slides, etc. shall not be distributed at the meeting, but rather safeguarded and transmitted commensurate with the level of classification.**

6-202b	Has a copy of the disclosure authorization been furnished to the Government agency sponsoring the meeting?			
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**Authority to disclose classified information at meetings, whether by industry or government, must be granted by the Government Contracting Activity having classification jurisdiction. [6-202]**

6-203	Are your employees properly screened for clearance and need-to-know prior to attending classified meetings?			
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<b>I. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>4-102</b>	Are employees designated to perform derivative classification actions sufficiently trained and do they have access to appropriate classification guidance?			
<b>4-102b</b>	Is all derivatively classified material appropriately marked?			
<b>4-103</b>	Is all classification guidance adequate and is the <i>Contract Security Classification Specification</i> (DD254) provided as required?			
<b>4-103</b>	Do you possess a <i>Contract Security Classification Specification</i> (DD 254) for every classified contract issued to your company?			
<b>4-103c</b>	Upon completion of a classified contract, did proper disposal of the relevant classified information take place or is the classified material being retained for two years?			
<b>4-104</b>	Is improper or inadequate classification guidance being challenged?			
<b>4-105</b>	Is contractor-developed information such as unsolicited proposals or other information not supporting the performance of a classified contract appropriately classified, marked, and protected?			
<b>4-107</b>	Are downgrading and declassification actions accomplished as required, and is action taken to update records when changing the classification markings?			

<b>J. EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-410b</b>	Do personnel possess the required identification card or badge when employed as Couriers, Handcarriers or Escorts?			
<b>5-313a</b>	Did the manufacturer of your automated access control devices provide written assurance that it meets NISPOM 5-313 standards?			

*Security procedures should maximize the use of personal recognition verification for access to classified material. Note that the NISPOM makes only passing reference to IDs and badges for use in specific instances. When such programs are employed as part of your security-in-depth procedures, the specifics should be reviewed with your IS Rep.*

<b>K. FOREIGN OWNERSHIP, CONTROL, OR INFLUENCE (FOCI)</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>The following questions apply to all contractors:</b>			
<b>2-302</b>	Have there been changes in any of the information previously reported on your SF 328, <i>Certificate Pertaining to Foreign Interests</i> ?			
<b>2-302a</b>	Has the presence of any/all FOCI factors been reported to your IS Rep in the manner prescribed?			
<b>2-302b</b>	Does the SF 328 contain current and accurate information?			
<b>2-302b</b>	Has the most current information pertaining to the SF 328 been provided to your DSS IS Rep?			
<b>2-302b</b>	Has your DSS IS Rep been notified of negotiations for merger, acquisition, or takeover by a foreign interest?			

*The Guide to Completion of the SF 328 should be used to ensure your SF 328 contains current and accurate information. Visit the FOCI webpage found on the DSS website – [www.dss.mil](http://www.dss.mil) – to access an electronic copy of the SF 328 with instructions, FOCI Mitigation Instruments, and a Technology Control Plan.*

<b>The following questions apply to facilities involved with FOCI:</b>				
<b>2-302b</b>	Has a FOCI Negation Plan been submitted to your DSS IS Rep?			
<b>2-303c - (2a)</b>	If cleared under a Special Security Agreement, has your company received a National Interest Determination (NID) for access to “proscribed information?” <i>Proscribed information is TOP SECRET/Restricted Data/Communications Security/Special Access Programs and Sensitive Compartmented Information. The special authorization must be manifested by a favorable national interest determination that must be program/project/contract specific from the appropriate GCA.</i>			
<b>2-306</b>	Has a Government Security Committee been appointed from the Board of Directors under a Voting Trust, Proxy Agreement, Special Security Agreement (SSA), or Security Control Agreement (SCA)?			
<b>2-307</b>	Have you developed a Technology Control Plan (TCP), approved by the DSS, when cleared under a Voting Trust, Proxy Agreement, SSA, or SCA?			
<b>2-308a</b>	If operating under a Voting Trust, Proxy Agreement or SCA, do your senior management officials meet annually with the DSS to review the effectiveness of the arrangement?			
<b>2-308b</b>	Is an annual Implementation and Compliance Report submitted to your DSS IS Rep?			

<b>L. PUBLIC RELEASE</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-511</b>	Was approval of the Government Contracting Activity obtained prior to public disclosure of information pertaining to a classified contract?			
<b>5-511a</b>	Is a copy of each approved “request for release” retained for one inspection cycle for review by your DSS IS Rep?			

<b>M. CLASSIFIED STORAGE</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-101</b>	Do your cleared employees know where they can and can't hold classified discussions?			
<b>5-102a</b>	Is there a system of security checks at the close of each working day to ensure that classified material is secured?			
<b>5-103</b>	Is a system of perimeter controls maintained to deter or detect unauthorized introduction or removal of classified from the facility?			
<b>5-103</b>	Are signs posted at all entries and exits warning that anyone entering or departing is subject to an inspection of their personnel effects?			
<b>5-104</b>	Are procedures developed for the safeguarding of classified material during an emergency?			
<b>5-302</b>	Is TOP SECRET classified stored only in GSA- approved security containers, approved vaults, or approved Closed Areas with supplemental controls?			
<b>5-303, 307</b>	Are supplemental controls being used during non-working hours for all SECRET material NOT stored in GSA containers or approved vaults?			
<b>5-306</b>	Are Closed Areas constructed in accordance with the requirements of the NISPOM?			
<b>5-306b</b>	Has DSS approval been granted for the open storage of documents in Closed Areas?			
<b>5-308</b>	Is the number of people possessing knowledge of the combinations to security containers minimized?			
<b>5-308a</b>	Is a record of the names of people having knowledge of the combinations to security containers maintained?			
<b>5-308b</b>	Are security containers, vaults, cabinets, and other authorized storage containers kept locked when not under direct supervision of an authorized person?			
<b>5-308c-d</b>	When combinations to classified containers are placed in written form, are they marked and stored as required?			
<b>5-309</b>	Are combinations to security containers changed by authorized persons when required?			
<b>5-311a</b>	If any of your approved security containers have been repaired, do you have a signed and dated certification provided by the repairer setting forth the method of repair that was used?			
<b>5-313a</b>	Do ID cards or badges used in conjunction with Automated Access Control Systems meet NISPOM standards?			

*The CSA may grant self-approval authority for closed area approvals. [5-306]*

<b>N. CONTROLLED ACCESS AREAS</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-303</b>	Are supplemental controls in place for storage of SECRET material in Closed Areas?			
<b>5-305</b>	Do Restricted Areas have clearly defined perimeters and is all classified material properly secured when the area is unattended?			
<b>5-306</b>	Are persons without the proper clearance and need-to-know escorted at all times when in a Closed Area?			

*Supplemental controls are not required for SECRET classified storage during non-working hours if Security-in-Depth has been approved. See definition of Working Hours in NISPOM Appendix C.*

<b>5-306</b>	Are Closed Areas afforded supplemental protection during non-working hours?			
<b>5-312</b>	If Supplanting Access Control Systems are used, do they meet NISPOM criteria, 5-313 & 5-314, and were they approved by the FSO prior to installation?			

*Watch entrances to Closed Areas to determine the procedures followed when supplanting access control devices are utilized. Are authorized users allowing unauthorized persons to piggy-back into the area?*

<b>5-900</b> <b>5-901</b>	Is IDS approved by DSS prior to installation as supplemental protection and does it meet NISPOM or UL 2050 standards as required?			
<b>5-307</b> <b>5-900</b>	Do intrusion detection systems (IDS), utilized as supplemental protection, meet NISPOM requirements?			

*When guards are authorized as supplemental protection [5-307b], required patrol is two hours for TOP SECRET and four hours for SECRET.*

*GSA approved security containers and approved vaults secured with locking mechanisms meeting Fed. Spec. FF-L-2740 and located in areas determined by the CSA to have security-in-depth do not require supplemental protection, NISPOM 5-307c.*

<b>5-902b</b>	Are trained alarm monitors cleared to the SECRET level in continuous attendance when the IDS is in operation?			
<b>5-902d</b>	Are alarms activated at the close of business?			
<b>5-902d-e</b>	Are alarm records maintained as required?			
<b>5-903a</b> <b>(3)</b>	Does the Central Alarm Station report failure to respond to alarm incidents to the CSA as required?			

*Commercial Central Station Alarm Company guards do not require PCLs unless their duties afford them the opportunity to access classified material when responding to those alarms. [5-903a(2)]*

<b>5-904</b> <b>5-905</b>	Are all IDS at the contractor facility installed by UL-listed installers and so certified?			
<b>5-904,</b> <b>905</b>	Has a UL 2050 CRZH certificate been issued?			

<b>O. MARKINGS</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>4-200 4-201</b>	Is all classified material, regardless of its physical form, marked properly?			
<b>4-202, 203</b>	Is all classified material conspicuously marked to show the name and address of the facility responsible for its preparation, the date of preparation and overall security markings?			
<b>4-206</b>	Are all portions of classified documents properly marked?			
<b>4-207</b>	Are subject line and title markings placed immediately following the item?			
<b>4-202, 4-208</b>	Are all additional markings applied to classified as required?			
<b>4-210</b>	Are special types of classified material marked as required?			

*Special types of classified material include: 1) files, folders or groups of documents; 2) E-mail and other electronic messages; 3) messages; 4) microforms; and 5) translations.*

<b>4-213</b>	Are appropriate classification markings applied when the compilation of unclassified information requires protection?			
<b>4-216</b>	Are downgrading/declassification notations properly completed?			

*Contractors must seek guidance from the GCA prior to taking any declassification action on material marked for automatic declassification. If approved by the GCA, all old classification markings shall be cancelled and new markings substituted whenever practical. [ 4-216a]*

<b>5-203</b>	When classified working papers are generated are they dated when created, marked with the overall classification and annotated "Working Papers," and destroyed when no longer needed?			
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<b>P. TRANSMISSION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-202 5-401</b>	Are procedures established for proper receipt and inspection of classified transmittals?			
<b>5-401</b>	Is classified information properly prepared for transmission outside the facility?			
<b>5-401</b>	Are receipts included with classified transmissions when required?			
<b>5-401b</b>	Is a suspense system established to track transmitted documents until the signed receipt is returned?			
<b>5-402 5-403 5-404</b>	Are authorized methods used to transmit classified outside the facility?			

*The requirement to maintain receipt and dispatch records has been eliminated.*

*Remember that transmission of TOP SECRET outside of the facility requires written authorization from the Government Contracting Authority. [5-402]*

*Additionally, TOP SECRET material may NEVER be transmitted through the U.S. Postal Service.*

2-100	Is the facility clearance and safeguarding capability of the receiving facility determined prior to transmission of classified?			
5-408	Does the contractor use a qualified carrier, authorized by the Government, when shipping classified material?			
5-408 5-409	Are classified shipments made only in accordance with the NISPOM or instructions from the contracting authority?			
5-410	Are Couriers, Handcarriers, and Escorts properly briefed?			
5-410	Is handcarrying of classified material outside the facility properly authorized, inventoried, and safeguarded during transmission?			
5-411	Is handcarrying aboard commercial aircraft accomplished in accordance with required procedures?			
5-412 5-413	Are sufficient numbers of escorts assigned to classified shipments and are they briefed on their responsibilities?			

**Change:** *The requirement for escorts applies only when an escort is necessary to ensure the protection of classified information during transport. [5-412]*

*For information concerning international transmission of classified, see International Operations. NISPOM 10, Sec. 4*

Q. CLASSIFIED MATERIAL CONTROLS				
NISPOM REF:	Question:	YES	NO	N/A
5-100	Do your cleared employees understand their safeguarding responsibilities?			

**Facility walk-throughs are a good way to determine employees' knowledge of in-use controls for safeguarding classified. Interview and observe how classified is handled in the work place.**

5-200	Is your information management system (IMS) capable of facilitating the <u>retrieval</u> and <u>disposition</u> of classified material as required?			
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**Evaluation of your IMS may be accomplished by conducting employee interviews. Your interview results, classified contract administration, and the results of classified materials reviewed at your facility will indicate whether or not your IMS is consistent with the NISPOM requirements.**

5-201a	Are TOP SECRET control officials designated at facilities possessing TOP SECRET information?			
5-201a	Are TOP SECRET accountability records maintained as required and is an annual inventory conducted?			
5-202	Is all classified material received directly by authorized personnel?			
5-102	Are security checks to ensure proper storage of classified materials conducted at the end of each working day?			
5-103	Does your system of controls deter or detect unauthorized introduction or removal of classified from the facility?			
1-300 1-303	Are your cleared employees aware of their responsibility to promptly report the loss, compromise, or suspected compromise of classified?			
5-104	Are procedures adequate to protect classified during emergencies?			

**Conduct a walk-through inspection during lunch breaks, after hours or on late work shifts when classified is being accessed, to determine the actual security posture at your facility.**

<b>R. REPRODUCTION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	Does the equipment used for classified reproduction have any sort of memory capability? If yes, the equipment may require accreditation as an information system.			
<b>5-600</b>	Is reproduction of classified material kept to a minimum?			
<b>5-600</b>	Is the reproduction of classified accomplished only by properly cleared, authorized, and knowledgeable employees?			
<b>5-601</b>	For Top Secret material, is reproduction authorization obtained as required?			
<b>5-602</b>	Are reproductions of classified material reviewed to ensure that the markings are proper and legible?			
<b>5-603</b>	Is a record of reproduction maintained for TS material and is it retained as required?			

*Any review of classified reproduction should include concern for waste (copy overruns, etc.), any materials used in production which may retain classified information or images requiring destruction or safeguarding, and type of copier used. A copier that includes any sort of memory may have to be accredited as an information system rather than a copier.*

*Remember, the NISPOM requires a formal accountability system for Top Secret material, and an Information Management System (IMS) for Secret and Confidential material. [5-201; 5-203]*

<b>S. DISPOSITION</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>5-700b</b>	Are procedures established to review classified holdings on a recurring basis for the purpose of reduction?			
<b>5-701 5-703</b>	Is the disposition of classified material accomplished in accordance with the required schedule?			
<b>5-701 5-702</b>	Is retention authority requested as required?			
<b>5-704</b>	Is classified material destroyed as soon as possible after it has served its purpose?			
<b>5-705</b>	Is an effective method of destruction employed that meet NISPOM standards?			
<b>5-706</b>	Is classified material destroyed by appropriately cleared authorized personnel who fully understand their responsibilities? (may include appropriately cleared subcontractor personnel)			

*The NISPOM requires two persons for the destruction of TOP SECRET and one person for the destruction of SECRET and CONFIDENTIAL.*

<b>5-707</b>	Are proper records maintained for the destruction of TOP SECRET classified and do those who sign have actual knowledge of the material's destruction?			
<b>5-708</b>	Is classified waste properly safeguarded until its timely destruction?			

<b>T. INFORMATION SYSTEMS</b>				
<b>System No.</b>	<b>Overall Review Finding:</b>	<b>Reviewed By:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Administrative</b>				
<b>NISPOM</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>8-202</b>	Has written accreditation for the SSP been obtained from DSS?			
<b>8-202a</b>	If no, was interim approval granted? Up to 180 Days <input type="checkbox"/> 181 to 360 Days <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>8-202</b>	Did the user begin processing classified information before interim approval or written accreditation?			
<b>8-202a</b>	If interim approval was granted, has the specified time period expired?			
<b>8-202g</b>	Has the Information System Security Manager (ISSM) been authorized self-certification authority?			
<b>8-202g</b>	If yes, does the ISSM certify all IS under the Master SSP?			
	If yes, does the ISSM provide notification to DSS?			
<b>8-202d</b>	Does the IS require reaccreditation based on 3 year limit?			
<b>8-202e</b>	Has accreditation been withdrawn?			
<b>8-202f</b>	Has accreditation been invalidated?			
<b>8-202e</b>	If withdrawn or invalidated, has memory and media been sanitized?			
<b>Responsibilities</b>				
<b>8-101b</b>	Has management published and promulgated an IS Security Policy?			
<b>8-101b</b>	Has an ISSM been appointed?			
<b>8-103</b>	If yes, are the ISSM's duties and responsibilities identified and being carried out?			
<b>8-104</b>	Has the ISSM designated one or more Information System Security Officer(s) (ISSOs)?			
<b>8-104</b>	If yes, are the ISSO(s) duties and responsibilities identified and being carried out?			
<b>8-307</b>	Are the privileged users' duties and responsibilities identified and understood?			
<b>8-307</b>	Are the general users' responsibilities identified and understood?			
<b>System Security Plan (SSP)</b>				
<b>8-402</b>	What protection level (PL) is authorized? PL 1 <input type="checkbox"/> PL 2 <input type="checkbox"/> PL 3 <input type="checkbox"/> PL 4 <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>8-401</b>	Highest level of data processed? Confidential <input type="checkbox"/> Secret <input type="checkbox"/> Top Secret <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>User Requirements</b>				
<b>Table 4</b>	Clearance level of privileged users? Confidential <input type="checkbox"/> Secret <input type="checkbox"/> Top Secret <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Table 4</b>	Clearance level of general users? Confidential <input type="checkbox"/> Secret <input type="checkbox"/> Top Secret <input type="checkbox"/>			

<b>Table 4</b>	Do the users understand the need-to-know requirements of the authorized PL?			
<b>8-303a</b>	How is the user granted access to the IS? User-IDs <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification <input type="checkbox"/> Biometrics <input type="checkbox"/> If passwords are used, does the user understand his/her responsibility for password creation deletion, changing, and length?			
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>8-311</b>	Is the “user” involved in configuration management (i.e., adding/ changing hardware, software, etc)?			
<b>8-311</b>	If yes, does the user understand and following the configuration management plan?			
<b>IS Hardware</b>				
<b>8-311a</b>	Does the SSP reflect the current hardware configuration?			
<b>8-311d</b>	If not, do the maintenance logs reflect changes in the hardware configuration?			
<b>8-306a</b>	Does the IS equipment bear appropriate classification markings?			
<b>Physical Security</b>				
<b>8-308</b>	How is the IS physically protected? (Check all that apply) Closed Area <input type="checkbox"/> IS Defined Perimeter <input type="checkbox"/> PDS [1] <input type="checkbox"/> Boundary Area (Restricted Area) Approved Containers <input type="checkbox"/> Access Control <input type="checkbox"/> Devices <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Locks <input type="checkbox"/> Alarms <input type="checkbox"/> Guards <input type="checkbox"/> Patrols <input type="checkbox"/> Seals <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>  [1] Protected Distribution System Intrusion Detection System <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>5-800</b>	If closed area, are all construction requirements met?			
<b>5-306</b>	Is access controlled by cleared employee, guard or supplanting access control device?			
<b>5-306</b>	If access is controlled by cleared employee, what criteria is used before granting access?			
<b>5-312</b>	If access is controlled by a supplanting access control device, are all requirements met?			
<b>5-307</b>	If required, is supplemental protection provided by guards or an approved IDS?			
<b>5-307b</b>	If supplemental protection is provided by guards, are all requirements met?			
<b>5-900</b>	If supplemental protection is provided by an IDS, are all requirements met?			
<b>5-306b</b>	Is open shelf or bin storage of classified information, media or equipment approved?			

<b>NSTISSI 7003</b>	If classified wirelines leave the closed area, are all PDS construction requirements met?			
<b>NSTISSI 7003</b>	If PDS is used, are all inspection requirements followed?			
<b>NSTISSI 7003</b>	If PDS is used, do they contain unclassified wirelines?			
	If closed area has false ceilings or floors, are transmission lines not in a PDS inspected at least: Monthly (Security In-Depth) <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly (No Security In-Depth) <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>8-502b</b>	If restricted or IS protected area, is the IS downgraded before/after use?			
	If seals are used to detect unauthorized modification, are the website guidelines followed?			
	If seals are used, does the audit log reflect why the seal was replaced?			
<b>8-308c</b>	Is visual access to the IS or classified information obtainable by unauthorized individuals?			
<b>Software</b>				
	Are contractor personnel that handle system or security related software appropriately cleared?			
<b>8-302a</b>	Are the installation procedures identified in the SSP being followed?			
<b>8-306c</b>	Is the media on which software resides write-protected and marked as unclassified?			
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>8-306c</b>	Is non-changeable media (e.g. CD read-only) appropriately handled and marked?			
<b>8-202c</b>	Is security relevant software evaluated before use?			
<b>8-305</b>	Is software from an unknown or suspect origin used?			
<b>8-305</b>	If used, is the software from an unknown or suspect origin validated before use?			
<b>8-305</b>	Is software tested for malicious code and viruses before use?			
<b>8-305</b>	Are incidents involving malicious software handled in accordance with SSP procedures?			
<b>8-502d</b>	Is separate media maintained for periods processing?			
<b>Media</b>				
<b>8-306</b>	Is media marked to the classification level of the data?			
<b>5-300</b>	Is media appropriately safeguarded when not in use?			
	Are approved procedures followed when unclassified media is introduced into the system?			

<b>Security Audits</b>				
	Are all appropriate Audit entries recorded?			
<b>8-602a</b>	Are processing times reasonable (i.e., hours between breaks)?			
<b>8-602</b>	Are the protection requirements for each audit requirement recorded?			
<b>8-602a</b>	Are the Audit Logs/Records reviewed: Weekly? <input type="checkbox"/> Daily? <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>8-602a</b>	Is the reviewer authorized and briefed on what and how to review the audit records?			
<b>8-602</b>	Does the reviewer understand his/her responsibility for handling audit discrepancies?			
<b>8-602</b>	Are audit Logs/Records retained for 12 months?			
<b>Security Awareness</b>				
<b>8-103a</b>	Has the contractor implemented an IS training program?			
<b>8-103a</b>	Are users briefed before access is granted?			
<b>IS Operations</b>				
<b>8-502</b>	If possible, have the user demonstrate the security level upgrading procedures.			
<b>8-502</b>	Is the user responsible for clearing memory and buffer storage?			
<b>8-502</b>	If yes, does the user know how to clear memory and buffer storage?			
<b>8-502</b>	Is magnetic media cleared/sanitized before and after classified processing?			
<b>8-310</b>	Does the user understand his/her responsibility for handling/reviewing data and output (in-use controls)?			
<b>8-310</b>	Does the user follow approved procedures when doing a trusted download?			
<b>8-310</b>	If possible, have the user demonstrate the security level downgrading procedures.			
<b>Maintenance and Repair</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>8-304a</b>	Is maintenance done at your facility with cleared personnel?			
<b>8-304a</b>	If yes, is need-to-know enforced?			
<b>8-304b</b>	Is maintenance done at your facility with uncleared personnel?			
<b>8-304b</b>	If yes, are the maintenance personnel U.S. citizens?			
<b>8-304b</b>	Does the escort understand his/her responsibilities?			
	Does the audit log reflect the escort's name?			
	Is diagnostic or maintenance done from a remote location using secured / nonsecured communication lines?			
	Is maintenance physically done away from your facility?			

<b>8-304b (4)</b>	If uncleared maintenance personnel are being used, is a dedicated copy of the operating system software maintained?			
<b>8-304b</b>	Is the system and diagnostic software protected?			
<b>8-304b</b>	Is the entire IS or individual components sanitized before / after maintenance?			
<b>8-103</b>	Has the ISSM approved the use of maintenance tools and diagnostic equipment?			
<b>Media Cleaning, Sanitization and Destruction</b>				
<b>8-502</b>	Is the user responsible for clearing memory (volatile / nonvolatile)?			
<b>8-502</b>	Is the user responsible for sanitizing memory (volatile / nonvolatile)?			
	If yes, does the user annotate the audit records?			
<b>8-502</b>	Ask the user to describe or demonstrate the procedure.			
<b>8-502</b>	Is the user responsible for clearing magnetic storage media?			
<b>8-502</b>	Is the user responsible for sanitizing magnetic storage media?			
	If yes, does the user annotate the audit records?			
<b>8-502</b>	Ask the user to describe or demonstrate the procedure.			
	Is an approved overwrite utility used to clear or sanitize magnetic media?			
	If yes, does the user annotate the audit records?			
<b>IA Website</b>	Do you have approved procedures for the destruction of non-magnetic media (e.g. Optical Disks)?			
	What level magnetic tape is used? Type I <input type="checkbox"/> Type II <input type="checkbox"/> Type III <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Does the contractor use an approved tape degausser to sanitize magnetic tapes?			
	If yes, what level tape degausser? Type I <input type="checkbox"/> Type II <input type="checkbox"/> Type III <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>			
	If yes, does the user annotate the audit records?			
	If yes, does the tape degausser comply with NSA specifications?			
	Are approved procedures followed for clearing / sanitizing printers?			
<b>STU-III</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	If yes, are users briefed on proper use and security practices?			
	Are installed terminals supported by a COMSEC account or hand carry receipt?			
	Are installed terminals in controlled areas?			
	Does the SSP reflect the outside STU-III connections? If yes, has someone verified that the outside connections are authorized and accredited?			

<b>Networks</b>				
NISPOM REF:	Question:	YES	NO	N/A
8-700	Are all outside network connections known, authorized and accredited?			
8-700e(3)	If the network leaves your facility, are NSA approved encryption device(s) used?			
8-700b	Is this a unified network?			
8-700c	Is this an interconnected network?			
8-700c	If yes, does each participating system or network have an ISSO?			
8-700c	Does the network have a controlled interface?			
8-610a	Is a network security plan being followed?			
8-700	Is this a contractor only network?			
8-700	If no, is a DISN circuit being used or has the customer obtained a waiver from DISA?			
	<b>If the network is not contractor only, has a MOU been coordinated between all DAAs?</b>			
	Are data transfers (receipt and dispatch) across the network audited?			

**Note: NISPOM Chapter 8 and ISL 2007-01.**

<b>U. COMSEC / CRYPTO</b>
<p><i>The primary source of information for COMSEC inspections is the NSA / CSS Policy Manual No. 3-16, November 2005. Requirements exceeding those in the NISPOM must be contractually mandated.</i></p> <p><i>The NISPOM does not provide detailed guidance for protection of COMSEC material.</i></p> <p><i>If you require training and audit information, contact the NSA.</i></p>

<b>V. INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS</b>				
NISPOM REF:	Question:	YES	NO	N/A
	<b>Disclosure of U.S. Information to Foreign Interests</b>			
<b>If YES, Continue!</b>	Does your company have any classified contracts with foreign interests?			
<b>10-200 10-202</b>	Was appropriate export authorization obtained prior to disclosure of classified information?			

**Remember that an export authorization is required before making a proposal to a foreign person that involves eventual disclosure of U.S. classified information. [10-202]**

<b>10-200</b>	Is proper disclosure guidance provided by the Government Contracting Activity?			
<b>10-401d</b>	Are requests for export authorizations of significant military equipment or classified material accompanied by Department of State Form DSP-83, "Non-Transfer and Use Certificate?"			
<b>10-202</b>	Have the required security provisions and classification guidance been incorporated into the subcontract document for all direct commercial arrangements with foreign contractors involving classified information?			

<b>Possession of Foreign Classified Information</b>				
<b>10-300</b>	Has your DSS IS Rep been notified of all contracts, awarded by foreign governments, which involve access to classified information?			
<b>10-302a</b>	Is foreign government information provided protection equivalent to that required by the originator?			
<b>10-304a</b>	Are U.S. documents containing foreign government classified information marked as required by the NISPOM?			
<b>10-306</b>	Is foreign government material stored in a manner that prevents its mingling with other material?			

*The receipt of classified material from a foreign source through non-government channels shall be promptly reported to the DSS IS Rep. [10-311]*

<b>10-312</b>	Is the subcontracting of contracts involving access to foreign government information conducted in accordance with the NISPOM?			
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<b>International Transfers</b>				
<b>10-401</b>	Do all international transfers of classified material take place through channels approved by both governments?			
<b>10-402</b>	Is an appropriate transportation plan prepared for each contract involving international transfer of classified material as freight?			
<b>10-404</b>	Does the use of freight forwarders for the transfer of classified material meet the requirements of the NISPOM?			
<b>10-405</b>	Is classified material hand carried outside of the U.S.? If so, is such action always approved by the CSA?			

<b>10-405 b-c</b>	Are couriers provided with a Courier Certificate and do they execute a Courier Declaration before departure?			
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*Paragraphs 10-405a thru j provide detailed requirements for employees acting as couriers when hand carrying classified across international boundaries.*

<b>10-406</b>	Are all international transfers of classified controlled by a system of continuous receipts?			
<b>10-408</b>	Is adequate preparation and documentation provided for international transfer of classified pursuant to an ITAR exemption? Note: For FMS the GCA is responsible for the preparation and approval of the transportation plan.			

<b>International Visits and Control of Foreign Nationals</b>				
<b>10-500 10-508 10-509 2-306 2-307</b>	Has a TCP been established to control access to all export controlled information? If yes, are these procedures current and effective?			

10-501 10-506 10-507	Have you established procedures to monitor/control international visits by your employees and by foreign nationals?			
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*Visit authorizations shall not be used to employ the services of foreign nationals to access export controlled materials; an export authorization is required in such situations. [10-501b]*

10-506	Are requests for visits abroad submitted on a timely basis?			
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*The Visit Request format is contained in NISPOM Appendix B.*

10-508 10-509	Do you properly control access to classified by on-site foreign nationals?			
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*All violations of administrative security procedures or export control regulations by foreigners shall be reported to the CSA. [10-510]*

<b>Contractor Operations Abroad</b>				
10-600	Do any of your employees have access to classified information outside of the United States?			
10-603	Has all transmission of classified information to cleared employees overseas been conducted through U.S. Government channels?			
10-604	Are employees assigned outside of the US properly briefed on the security requirements of their assignment?			

*The storage, custody, and control of classified information required by U.S. contractor employees assigned outside of the US are the responsibility of the U.S. Government. Contractors are NOT allowed to store classified information overseas – all storage MUST be under the auspices of the U.S. Government.*

<b>NATO Information Security Requirements</b>				
10-706	Are briefings / debriefings of employees accessing NATO classified conducted in accordance with the NISPOM, and are the appropriate certificates and records on file?			

*Remember that a personnel clearance is not required for access to NATO RESTRICTED, although an facility clearance is. [NISPOM 10-702 & 704]*

10-709	Are all classified documents properly marked?			
10-710	Have you received adequate classification guidance?			
10-712a	Are NATO classified documents kept separate from other classified documents?			
10-712b	Have the combinations to containers holding NATO classified been changed annually as a minimum?			
10-713	Has all NATO classified been properly received and transmitted?			
10-717	Are the accountability records for NATO classified maintained as required?			
10-721	Are visits of persons representing NATO properly handled and is the visit record maintained as required?			

<b>W. OPSEC</b>				
<b>NISPOM REF:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>None</b>	Are OPSEC requirements implemented in accordance with contractual documentation provided by the GCA?			

<b>X. SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAMS (SAP)</b>			
<b>Reference:</b>	<b>Question:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
NISPOM, NISPOM Supplement; and DoD Overprint to the NISPOM Supplement	Is this a potential site for arms control inspections under START, OPEN SKIES, Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) or International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)? If Yes: Is the DoD component sponsoring or acting as the executive agent for a SAP providing arms control implementation guidance and direction? Reference: 11-704 DoD Overprint to the NISPOM Supplement.		
	Is there any Special Access Program contract activity at your company? Note: The FSO should discuss this with the senior management official of the facility.		
	<b>If Yes:</b> Remember that such programs are subject to NISPOM, NISPOM Supplement, DoD Overprint to the NISPOM Supplement or the JAFAN 6/0 - Revision 1 <u>and</u> Program Security Guide requirements. A self inspection of the SAP(s) is required annually IAW 1-206e of the DoD Overprint to the NISPOM Supplement or IAW 1-206 of the JAFAN6/0-Revision 1. The Security Review Checklist is found in Appendix 1J of the Overprint and Appendix F of the JAFAN 6/0 – Revision 1.		
	<b>If Yes:</b> During the self-inspection, it is important for you to coordinate with the internal Contractor Program Security Officer (CPSO) to ensure that individual program security requirements are being followed.		

### **Suggested Questions When Interviewing Uncleared Employees:**

- What is classified information?
- Have you ever seen classified information?
- If you found classified information unprotected, what would you do?
- Have you ever heard classified information being discussed?
- Have you ever come into possession of classified materials? How?

### **Suggested Questions When Interviewing Cleared Employees:**

- What is your job title / responsibility?
- What is the level of your security clearance?
- Which contract or program requires the use of your clearance? How?
- How long have you been cleared?
- If recently cleared, what were the process / steps in applying for your security clearance?
- When was your last access to classified information and at what level?
- Have you ever accessed classified information outside of this facility?
- What are the procedures for going on classified visits?
- How about visitors coming here for a classified visit?
- Did anyone else from the facility accompany you on this visit?
- What procedures did you follow prior to your classified visit?
- Did you take any classified notes or bring any classified information back to the facility?
- What procedures were followed to protect this information?
- Where is this information now?
- Have you ever allowed visitors to have access to classified information?
- How did you determine their need-to-know?
- Have you ever been approached by anyone requesting classified information?
- Do you ever work overtime and access classified information?
- When was the last time that you had a security briefing?
- What can you recall from this briefing?

Can you recall any of the following being addressed in briefings?

- Risk Management
- Job Specific Security Brief
- Public Release
- Safeguarding Responsibilities
- Adverse Information
- Counterintelligence Awareness

- What is meant by the term adverse information and how would you report it?
- Can you recall any other reportable items?
- What is meant by the term suspicious contact and how would you report one?
- Have you ever been cited for a security violation, infraction, or incident?
- What would you do if you committed a security violation or infraction or discovered one?
- Do you have the combination to any storage containers, access to any Closed Areas, etc.?
- What are the security requirements regarding combinations regarding combinations to security containers?
- Who other than yourself has access to these containers?
- How do you keep track or maintain your knowledge of the combination?
- Is a record maintained of the safe combination? If so, where?
- Do you generate classified information? Tell me about it.
- What security controls are established?
- How do you know it's classified?
- Where do you typically work on classified information?
- What procedures do you follow to protect classified while working on it?
- What do you do with classified information?
- Do you ever use a computer to generate classified information?
- How do you mark this information?
- What information or references do you use when classifying information?
- Please produce the classification guidance that you used. Is it accurate?
- What would you do if you determined that the classification guidance was not accurate?
- What are the security procedures for publishing classified papers, etc.?
- Do you ever hand carry any classified information outside of your company?
- What procedures do you employ when hand carrying classified material?
- Have you ever reproduced classified information? Describe the procedures.
- Have you ever destroyed classified information? What procedures were used?
- Do you have any questions regarding security?

**NOTE:** In addition to asking questions, it is a good idea to ask cleared employees to demonstrate how they perform their security-related tasks, e.g., “Show me what you do before processing classified information on your computer” or “Show me how you prepare a package for shipment.” This will allow you not only to verify what the correct procedures are, but to ensure those procedures are being carried out and that classified information is being protected.

## **The Program Specific Self-Inspection Process**

Your company may be one of the many NISP contractors performing on numerous classified contracts requiring the administration of a complex security program. The self-inspection of your security program can be time consuming and possibly very challenging. A technique that can facilitate your self-inspection process to help you determine your facility's security posture focuses on one or more classified programs and assesses your compliance with the security requirements involved with those programs. This technique for evaluating your facility's security program describes the program specific self-inspection process.

Are there any benefits to using the program specific approach when conducting your self-inspection? The program specific self-inspection can help you gain a better understanding of what your company's responsibility is for a particular classified program in addition to providing you insight as to what each person contributes to the effort. The following is provided to explain the program specific self-inspection.

Your DSS IS Rep puts great emphasis on providing recommendations and suggestions to *improve* your security practices. But this can only be accomplished when you have a good grasp of your operations and the manner in which classified information is handled. By taking a detailed look at one or more classified programs and interviewing key individuals to determine what they do and how they handle classified information, you will be able to evaluate how well your facility's *overall* security program is functioning. Many classified programs require a variety of tasks such as manufacturing, report writing, testing, researching, and transmitting, etc. In a program specific inspection, you select one or more programs to be closely examined.

This program specific self-inspection process usually begins with the interview of the program manager (in some facilities this could even be the President) to learn what the program or contract is all about. Start by asking for a layman's overview of the program and question the level of classified access required, the procedures for classifying information, what, if any, problems have been experienced, and who in the facility is responsible for what on the program. Follow these leads to interview other employees including technical, clerical, and secretarial personnel. During these interviews, explore all security requirements connected with the employees' responsibilities in the program such as classified material controls, classified storage, markings, classification management, transmission, disposition, security education, and reproduction. Elements of a more administrative nature, relating to the facility's security program, such as the review of JPAS /JCAVS records and briefing statements, are ordinarily covered by reviewing your records within the Security Office.

*The main rule is: if an element is applicable to your facility's classified involvement, cover the element in your self-inspection and, whenever possible, consider using the program specific techniques illustrated below.*

You may find that exploring one classified program is not enough to give you a “feel” for how well your security program is functioning. One program may represent only a small part of the classified activity that takes place at your facility. If that's the case, you will want to examine several, if not all, of your classified programs in detail. It's important that you explore each inspection element thoroughly to ensure that your facility is in compliance with the NISPOM. Your underlying concern is that classified information and materials are properly protected and that your employees are knowledgeable of their security responsibilities.

## **A Program Specific Self-Inspection Scenario**

The following scenario illustrates a self-inspection conducted on a specific program. For the purpose of this example, it is not an all-inclusive inspection.

Fenster Dinwiddie, FSO of Capabilities Limited (CL) has decided to focus his self-inspection on the SCUD Intercept Countermeasure (SIC) Project, one of three classified contracts awarded to CL. As we join Fenster, he has accomplished most of the administrative portion of the inspection. He has reviewed JPAS / JCAVS records, records of briefings, etc. and has completed his inventory of all classified materials and records. He has already touched base with the President of CL to make sure there were no recent organizational changes or foreign involvement that he should report. Certain elements like Subcontracting, Consulting, COMSEC, and International Operations do not apply.

Emulating the inspection techniques of his IS Rep, Fenster has decided to go out on the floor and find out what the employees do and how knowledgeable they are about their security responsibilities.

### **The Program Manager Interview**

Fenster recalled that his IS Rep began each inspection by interviewing the person most knowledgeable about a particular contract. In this case it means talking to Conrad Floot, the lead engineer on the SIC Project.

Fenster went upstairs to “Engineering Row” to locate Conrad. “Fenster!” cheered the engineers as he entered the department. Fenster is always tickled to receive such a salutation. He feels honored to maintain such a congenial relationship with the engineers. After all, he does represent the security department.

“Say, Conrad, can you fill me in on this SIC Project of yours? I’m doing my recurring self-inspection and decided to focus in on your program.” Conrad is impressed. No one has ever expressed that much interest in his project before and he loves to talk, especially about the SIC Project, his “baby” as he prefers to call it. “Sure, what do you need to know, Fence?”

“Well, why don’t you start by giving me a program update? You know, what we’re doing for the customer, what’s classified about it, and things like that. But keep it simple, okay?” Conrad is thrilled. He proceeds to give Fenster a detailed overview of the program, its history, and current status. Fenster is thinking, “You know this is pretty interesting stuff. I should get out on the floor more often.”

During the interview, Fenster took careful notes. He discovered that eight other engineers plus a contingent of secretarial and support personnel are working on at least some portion of the program. He decided he would interview each individual over the next couple of days. They discussed the classified design modifications which were being tested down the hall. Fenster had Conrad describe each step of the test procedure including whether aspects of the tests themselves were classified. He asked what makes the design modifications classified, how they’re protected, who protects them, how and where they’re tested, etc. To his relief, he found that all the procedures at least appeared to be in conformance with the NISPOM. Later, he would interview key members of the test and evaluation staff individually. He never realized there were so many security considerations!

Conrad identified his customer point-of-contact just in case Fenster or the IS Rep needed to call. They spent a lot of time on classification management. Fenster wanted to know what classification guidance had been provided by the customer and whether he felt that it was adequate. He asked what Conrad would do if they were to experience problems in determining what should be classified. They reviewed classified marking procedures, the kind of classified information that’s been received, who is allowed access, procedures for generating classified information, reproduction, disposition, transmission, public release, and access authorizations. By the time he was done, Fenster had a pretty good idea of what the SIC Project was all about and whom to talk to for more information.

In addition to addressing the program-specific security concerns, Fenster remembered to question Conrad regarding important overall security program-related issues such as security education, adverse information, and foreign travel.

## Employee Interviews

Next, Fenster interviewed each of the engineers on the project. He asked many of the same questions, but this time he was more interested in learning exactly what each person's responsibilities were and how they handled classified information. He already knew a great deal about the program just by talking to Conrad. It was time to "zero in" on the nuts and bolts of the SIC Project. His first stop was at Elmo Platz's office. According to Conrad, Elmo has been involved in the program from the start and, as the assistant program head, has major responsibilities.

First, Fenster asked Elmo to explain his job and how it relates to the SIC Project. Fenster asked what level of access he needed for the job, how he obtained his classification guidance and whether there were any problems in this area that he should be aware of.

There were other questions as well, all designed to determine whether Elmo and his SIC Project staff were following the requirements of the NISPOM. Fenster asked:

- How often and under what circumstances did Elmo access classified information?
- Was he aware of his adverse information reporting responsibilities?
- Did he generate classified material in-house and, if so, on what equipment?
- How was the information protected?
- Did he know the combination to the security container? Was the combination properly safeguarded?
- Did he attend any classified meetings at the customer's site or at CL? Did anyone else from CL attend?
- Did he reproduce classified material? On what equipment?
- Was he familiar with the rules on retention, hand carrying, "need-to-know," marking, accountability, and disposition of classified information?
- Was he aware of any unreported security violations?
- Did any of his classified work require a special briefing, e.g., NATO?
- Was there anything relating to security that he thought Fenster should know about?
- Did he have any classified information that was not logged into the facility's accountability or Information Management System? Where did it come from?

You can see that Fenster was trying to cover all of the relative inspection elements listed in the self-inspection handbook during his interview. This line of questioning was continued with each of the major participants in the SIC Program, from the engineering staff to the mailroom personnel. When he was done, Fenster had covered every pertinent self-inspection element and had discovered only one or two administrative errors. His self-inspection was a success.

**We hope yours is, too!**

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