As the Chemical Sector-Specific Agency, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security leads the national effort to enhance the security and resilience of the nation’s chemical security. The Chemical Risk Management Self-Assessment Model (Chem-SAM) is a no-cost, voluntary chemical risk management tool designed for use by security officers and managers of small and medium chemical facilities or laboratories to evaluate security risks. Developed by Sandia National Laboratories’ International Chemical Threat Reduction Department in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, Chem-SAM helps strengthen risk governance in chemical facilities by providing an assessment method that is standardized, systematic, and replicable.

Chem-SAM uses a guided questionnaire to provide users a visualization of relative security risks for prioritized chemicals of interest (COI) based on unique attributes, as shown below. Owners and operators can also assess a facility’s physical security based on the level of implemented security practices, as defined by industry best practices.

**Features:**
- Chem-SAM can be downloaded onto a user’s local platform, eliminating the need for passwords and personally identifiable information.
- Data is stored directly on a user’s computer.

**Benefits:**
- Provides a detailed risk assessment on chemical theft, diversion, or misuse.
- Assesses risk to personnel and the community due to an intentional or unintentional chemical release.

The Chem-SAM model incorporates International Chemical Threat Reduction (ICTR) and international chemical risk management best practices and is based on a widely accepted, peer-reviewed risk management framework.

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1 Under the voluntary program, small/medium chemical facilities are defined as any chemical facility with fewer than 350 employees that is independently owned and operated, is organized for profit, is not dominant in its field, and has an inventoried chemical listed on EPA’s List of Lists or CFATS Appendix A.
About the Chemical Sector-Specific Agency (SSA)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Office of Infrastructure Protection is designated as the Sector-Specific Agency (SSA) for the Chemical Sector. The Chemical Sector-Specific Agency serves as a lead coordinator between the private sector, through the Chemical Sector Coordinating Council (SCC), and the public sector, through the Chemical Government Coordinating Council (GCC). The Chemical SSA collaboratively develops, coordinates, and implements voluntary programs designed to improve security and resilience within the sector; provides institutional knowledge and specialized expertise; leads, facilitates, and supports the sector’s security and resilience programs; and shares information in an all-hazards environment.

Contact Information

For more information on how to get Chem-SAM for your facility, send an e-mail to chemicalsector@hq.dhs.gov.