



IT Security



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Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards: Nitromethane



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Under the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) regulation, if you possess 400 lb (approximately 42 gallons) or more of nitromethane, you may be required to report it to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

To reduce the risk of more than 300 chemicals of interest (COI) being weaponized, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program identifies and regulates high-risk chemical facilities to ensure appropriate security measures are in place.

Under CFATS, a chemical facility is "any establishment that possesses or plans to possess certain chemicals, at any relevant point in time ..." and can be a large company or a single individual. If in possession of a COI at or above the screening threshold quantity (STQ) and minimum concentration listed in Appendix A of the CFATS regulation, facilities must report those chemicals to CISA within 60 days, regardless of how long the facility possesses COI.

Nitromethane is a COI under CFATS. Nitromethane is an improvised explosive device precursor (IEDP) chemical that was used domestically in the terrorist truck bombing at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on April 19, 1995.

The concentration for nitromethane is ACG or "A Commercial Grade." ACG chemicals must be reported if possessed at or above STQ and at any concentration that can be found for sale under the name of the COI, or that present a similar level of risk as that COI. For more information, visit [cisa.gov/publication/cfats-ao-2016-002](https://www.cisa.gov/publication/cfats-ao-2016-002).

The STQ for nitromethane is 400 lb or approximately 42 gallons. Failure to report possession of a COI at or above the STQ can be subject to civil penalties. For more information, visit [cisa.gov/appendix-chemicals-interest](https://www.cisa.gov/appendix-chemicals-interest).

Resources for Facilities with Nitromethane

CFATS First Steps: If the quantity and concentration of nitromethane at a facility meet or exceed those listed in Appendix A, the facility has 60 days from the time of possession to report those chemicals via an online survey called a Top-Screen. **Get started** by visiting [cisa.gov/cfats-process](https://www.cisa.gov/cfats-process) to learn more about how to comply with CFATS.

Learn more about Chemical-terrorism Vulnerability Information (CVI) and complete CVI Authorized User training to access CISA's Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) at [cisa.gov/chemical-terrorism-vulnerability-information](https://www.cisa.gov/chemical-terrorism-vulnerability-information).

Go to the Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) at csat-registration.dhs.gov to register the facility/facilities. Once registered, you can use CSAT to report COI to CISA at csat.dhs.gov/industry.

Contact the CSAT Help Desk for technical assistance at 1-866-323-2957 or at CSAT@hq.dhs.gov.

Learn more about the CFATS program at [cisa.gov/cfats](https://www.cisa.gov/cfats), including the CFATS regulation, list of COI, frequently asked questions, how facilities' information is protected, and more.

Learn more about the Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program (BMAP) at [cisa.gov/bmap](https://www.cisa.gov/bmap). Resources include training and awareness products on identifying and reporting suspicious purchasing activity or theft of nitromethane and other explosive precursor chemicals.

Prevent Theft or Diversion of Nitromethane

- Never allow any unauthorized person(s) to purchase, receive, and/or store nitromethane. Review your inventory controls, physical controls, procedural measures, and "know your customers."
- Be sure that all nitromethane is stored in a secure location.
- Notify local authorities immediately if, despite your best efforts, nitromethane goes missing.
- Encourage nitromethane retailers to participate in voluntary security measures such as BMAP.

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[cisa.gov/cfats](https://www.cisa.gov/cfats)



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