CFATS Risk-Based Performance Standard (RBPS) 11 – Training

Overview

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program identifies and works with high-risk facilities to ensure security measures are in place to reduce the risk of more than 300 chemicals of interest (COI) being weaponized. High-risk facilities are assigned to one of four risk-based tiers and must develop a security plan meeting the 18 risk-based performance standards (RBPS) criteria. Facilities have flexibility to select measures tailored to the tier level and unique circumstances.

RBPS 11 – Training at a Glance

A strong training program includes personnel-specific exercises and drills, and joint activities involving law enforcement and first responders. Well-trained personnel who practice how to react and who understand the facility's layout and hazards will be more effective at detecting attackers, delaying intruders, initiating response activities, and reducing the consequences of an attack.

RBPS 11 – Training is the performance standard that addresses security and response training, exercises, and drills for facility personnel. By properly training its personnel, a facility prepares them to be able to better identify and respond to suspicious behavior, attempts to enter or attack a facility, or other malevolent acts by insiders or intruders.

Security Awareness Training Program (SATP)

Under RBPS 11, a facility should maintain a SATP—a predefined and documented set of training activities that focuses on relevant security-related issues and enhances facility personnel's overall security awareness. A comprehensive SATP applies to all levels of personnel, including executives, management, and operational and technical employees. Objectives may include reviewing response plans, policies and procedures, and ensuring personnel are familiar with security equipment operations.

A comprehensive SATP should contain:

- **Trainings:** Hands-on activities, orientations, online or interactive programs, and briefings.
- **Exercises:** Predefined, documented set of activities that represent a realistic rehearsal of an emergency.
- **Drills:** Exercises focused on a single specific operation or function.
- **Tests:** Demonstrations that show the correct operation of all equipment, procedures, processes, and systems.
- **Joint Initiatives:** Trainings, exercises, or drills that involve the participation of entities outside of the facility.

Tailoring Training Requirements

A facility should consider creating training specific to its risks and security concerns. For example, all facilities should emphasize reporting a security incident, but a facility with release COI—toxic, flammable, or explosive COI that would affect populations within and beyond the facility if intentionally released—should specifically focus on ensuring the workforce has strong vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) recognition and notification protocols.

Additionally, a facility should consider tailoring training topics to specific classes of employees. For example, detailed training on security procedures, the operation of security equipment, and security laws and regulations is more beneficial for employees with specific security responsibilities. Conversely, certain topics, such as incident identification and notification, are beneficial for the entire workforce.

Training Considerations and Best Practices

- Consider obtaining input from staff on training needs.
- Invite community representatives to provide training.
- Include first responders to improve their understanding of the facility's layout and hazards.
- Align training with other regulatory requirements (e.g., Hazardous Materials Endorsement [HME] program, Occupational Safety and Health Administration [OSHA], etc.), and include existing training.
- Provide formal training on a set schedule (e.g., annually), but also hold more frequent, informal sessions.
- Include regional or location-specific information as part of the facility's training, if applicable.

Well-trained personnel who practice how to react and understand the facility's layout and hazards will be more effective at detecting attackers, delaying intruders, initiating response activities, and reducing the consequences of an attack.

Available Trainings

This is a list of free training tools and resources from security partners and stakeholders that can be used by a facility in the development of a strong training program.

- The Chemical Sector-Specific Agency collaborates with government and sector partners to provide security trainings and resources: cisa.gov/chemical-sector-training or cisa.gov/chemical-sector-resources.
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides national preparedness trainings from emergency response to chemical spills: training.fema.gov.
- The Hazmat School provides online hazardous waste materials and safety training that fully comply with OSHA and Department of Transportation regulations hazmatschool.com.
- National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) advisories provide timely, detailed information about terrorist threats to the American public: dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system.
- The National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Computer Security Resource Center (CSRC) provides resources on computer, cyber, and information security and privacy: csrc.nist.gov.
- CISA's Cyber Resource Hub has a variety of resources and trainings: cisa.gov/cyber-resource-hub.
- Active Shooter Preparedness: cisa.gov/active-shooter-preparedness.
- The Commercial Facilities Sector-Specific Agency has trainings that may be applicable to chemical facilities, such as surveillance detection: cisa.gov/cisa/commercial-facilities-resources
- CISA's Bombing Prevention provides counter-improvised explosive device (C-IED) trainings: cisa.gov/bombing-prevention-training.

Tools and Resources

- RBPS 11 – Training: cisa.gov/rbps-11-training
- RBPS Guidance: cisa.gov/publication/cfats-rbps-guidance
- CFATS Resources: cisa.gov/cfats-resources
- CFATS Knowledge Center: csat-help.dhs.gov
- Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) Help Desk (technical assistance): Call 1-866-323-2957 or email CSAT@hq.dhs.gov