



DSS Monthly Newsletter  
**November 2016 (Special Edition)**

(Sent on behalf of your ISR.)

Dear FSO,

This is a special release in addition to the monthly VOI newsletter. This message contains information, and/or policy guidance of a time-sensitive nature. If you have any questions or recommendations for information to be included, please feel free to let us know.

**DSS in Transition: A New Methodology**

As we approach 2017, one thing is clear; DSS is in transition. The adversaries of the United States are successfully attacking cleared industry at an unprecedented rate. They are using multiple avenues of attack and varying their methods based on the targeted information they seek. DSS must counter this threat with a new methodology that does more than ensure schedule-driven NISPOM compliance. This new DSS methodology will be intelligence-led, asset focused, and threat-driven. It will help cleared industry ensure that contracted capabilities, technologies, and services are delivered uncompromised.

On 19/20 September, the DSS Deputy Director and the four directorate heads met to collaboratively design the new methodology. It consists of four steps:

- Step #1: Identify the assets at each cleared facility.
- Step #2: Prioritize assets based on national intelligence information.
- Step #3: Analyze and apply threat, identify vulnerabilities, and capture NISPOM compliance requirements.
- Step #4: Develop tailored security programs for each cleared facility by working collaboratively with program managers and cleared industry.

On 11/12 October, 44 senior security practitioners representing all directorates within DSS as well as a select cadre of invited guests, reviewed the new methodology, identified gaps, and recommended changes to maximize the effectiveness of the new approach. Subsequently, enterprise-wide integrated project teams (IPT) were formed to validate and pilot each step of this methodology, beginning with asset identification.

Moving forward, DSS is planning to engage with leaders throughout cleared industry to validate, refine, and further develop this new methodology.

Thanks,  
ISR  
Defense Security Service