



**INTERAGENCY  
SECURITY  
COMMITTEE**



# Interagency Security Committee

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## 2020 Annual Report

MARCH 2021

# Message from the Chair



I would like to thank the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) members for their dedication to the collective defense of federal facilities reflected throughout the accomplishments detailed in this calendar year 2020 ISC Annual Report. The Nation faced several challenges in 2020 — from the coronavirus pandemic, to persistent targeted violence, to hurricanes and wildfires — and our federal facilities were no exception. The January 6th Capital Insurrection, as well as the rise in politically motivated shootings and bombings over the past several years, illustrated the need to focus on combating Domestic Extremism in the United States. We will continue to strengthen our abilities, and better protect the American People, as well as their cyber and physical infrastructure. From my vantage point as Chair of the ISC, our members have met these challenges with perseverance, innovation, and resilience.

The ISC is a key component to that resiliency. 2020 also marked the 25th Anniversary of the creation of the ISC. On October 19, 1995, six months after the Oklahoma City bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, mandated by Executive Order (EO) 12977, the ISC was formed to address continuing government-wide security for federal facilities. This past year the ISC demonstrated its ability to provide world class guidance on a range of issues from the traditional *Facility Access Control: An Interagency Security Committee Best Practice* to the emergent *Protecting Against the Threat of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS): An Interagency Security Committee Best Practice*. The ISC confirmed its adaptability and flexibility in converting its Risk Management Process & Facility Security Committee training to a virtual environment to ensure continued capacity building efforts to a federal workforce that was largely working from home. The ISC Regional Advisors' insights and outreach supported our stakeholders across the Nation with invaluable insights and technical assistance. Finally, the second year of Compliance Reporting exceeded all reporting goals and was an overwhelming success.

Once again, I want to thank the members of the ISC who volunteer their time, share their expertise and provide leadership to the collective efforts of the ISC. Your commitment to defend today and secure tomorrow in the face of a challenging year is a testament to your dedication and professionalism.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Mussington".

**David Mussington, PhD CISSP CMMC-RP**  
Executive Assistant Director for Infrastructure Security  
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency

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Richard B. Anderson Federal Building, Port Angeles, Washington  
Credit: U.S. General Services Administration Historic Building Photographs

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# Executive Summary

Despite many challenges presented in calendar year (CY) 2020, the CY 2020 Interagency Security Committee Annual Report demonstrates the agility and perseverance of the ISC. The ISC commemorated its 25th Anniversary, on October 19, 2020, virtually with over 120 representatives from all 64 member departments and agencies (D/As). Swift shifts from in-person to virtual posture was prevalent across all ISC efforts, enhancing collective defense, which the federal community needed more than ever. The ISC continued to collaboratively establish policies, monitor compliance, and enhance the security and protection of federal facilities in 2020 as reflected in the various milestones highlighted in this Report. Each section of the Report includes significant accomplishments organized by major lines of effort: Policies, Standards, & Recommendations; Compliance; Training; ISC Regional Advisors; and Outreach.



U.S. Custom House in New Orleans, Louisiana  
Credit: U.S. General Services Administration Historic Building Photographs

## ISC Mission & Vision

### Mission

The Interagency Security Committee collaboratively establishes policies, monitors compliance, and enhances the security and protection of federal facilities.

### Vision

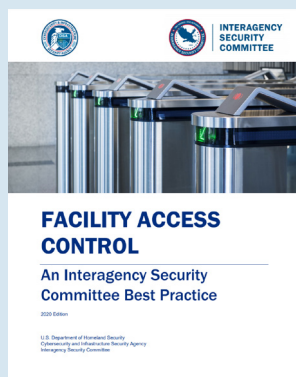
Federal facilities, the people who work at them, and those that visit are safe and secure throughout the country.



# Policies, Standards, & Recommendations

Interagency Security Committee policies, standards, and recommendations (PSR) serves as a collaborative road map to achieving the ISC's vision. ISC member subject matter experts develop these scalable and tailorable resources by volunteering to participate on ISC Subcommittees and Working Groups.

## 2020 Editions



### Facility Access Control: An Interagency Security Committee Best Practice

Provides guidance for Executive Branch federal D/As regarding access control requirements and options for individuals entering federally occupied space. This ISC document provides guidance on addressing facility access control throughout the full access control process, from employee and visitor entry, through security screening, to the first point of authentication into nonpublic space.

#### Complimentary ISC Publications

[REAL ID Act of 2005 Implementation: An Interagency Security Committee Guide](#)

[Items Prohibited from Federal Facilities: An Interagency Security Committee Standard](#)

↓ **Steadily increased download numbers** averaged over one download per day in the first 60 days of publication.



### Protecting Against the Threat of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS): An Interagency Security Committee Best Practices

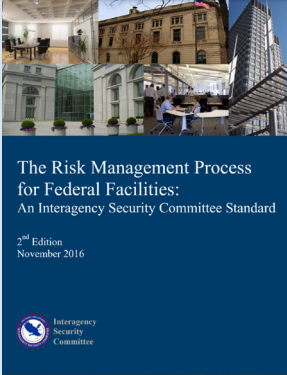
Outlines awareness and mitigation measures for use by federal Executive Branch departments and agencies to protect against malicious UAS operations. Although most agencies do not have the authority to disable, disrupt, or seize control of an unmanned aircraft, there are other effective risk reduction measures they may implement. This document provides best practices that any organization or facility can use to mitigate UAS threats.

#### Complimentary ISC Publications

The Risk Management Process for Federal Facilities: An ISC Standard, Appendix A: Design-Basis Threat (DBT) Report (For Official Use Only) - Contact [ISCAccess@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ISCAccess@hq.dhs.gov) to request access.

[Occupant Emergency Programs: An ISC Guide](#)

↓ Downloaded **over 700 times** in the first month of publication.



The ISC also completed the annual updates for the **Risk Management Process for Federal Facilities, Appendices A, B, and C** reflecting updated threats to include an increase in violent civil disturbances. Users with a need-to-know may access these For Official Use Only documents.

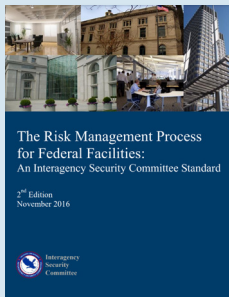


The ISC Staff also led the development of **Critical Infrastructure Operation Centers and Control Rooms Guide for Pandemic Response**, which is applicable for all 16 critical infrastructure sectors.



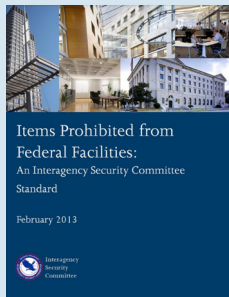
## 2020 Number of Downloads for ISC Policies and Standards Required for Compliance

**The Risk Management Process: An Interagency Security Committee Standard**



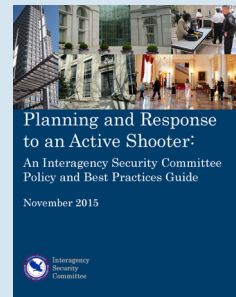
**4,179 downloads**

**Items Prohibited from Federal Facilities: An Interagency Security Committee Standard**



**3,083 downloads**

**Planning and Response to an Active Shooter: An Interagency Security Committee Policy and Best Practices Guide**



**2,894 downloads**




# Compliance

Compliance with ISC standards and policies empowers federal departments and agencies to make defensible, risk-based, and resource-informed decisions that enhance security across the federal community. Compliance monitoring is a specified requirement of EO 12977. Monitoring compliance via the ISC Compliance System (ISC-CS) allows users to identify areas to focus their efforts – individually and collectively. ISC compliance data also provide a resource for member departments and agencies to demonstrate their compliance with ISC standards and policies to government oversight entities.

**84% Member Response Rate\***

\*Not including organizations with exemptions.

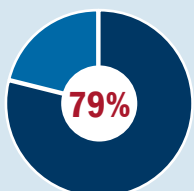
 **12.6%** Increase from 2019

**Percentage of  
ISC Members Reported\***

\*Not including organizations with exemptions.



**Primary**



**Associate**

 Increase from **81%** and **66.7%** in 2019



**Over 190 Organization  
Benchmarks<sup>1</sup>**



**Over 7,450 Facility  
Benchmarks<sup>1</sup>**



Represents the **addition of 2,000 facilities** in 2020

**Overall assistance  
provided to members  
increased by 8 percent  
totaling over  
260 cases.**

The second year of compliance reporting in 2020 was an overwhelming success with an increased number of ISC members participating. 90 percent of Primary Members and 79 percent of Associate Members reported their compliance. Overall, 84 percent of the ISC membership reported their compliance information, which represents an increase of 12.6 percent compared to 2019.

For a comprehensive analysis of compliance throughout the organization, compliance monitoring requires reporting at the parent department and agency level and from their sub-components. In addition to the 53 parent organizations that reported compliance information, another 144 of their sub-organizations or components (e.g. the United States Coast Guard within the Department of Homeland Security [DHS]) entered compliance information. Six of those were organizations that were not required to report compliance but found value in doing so.

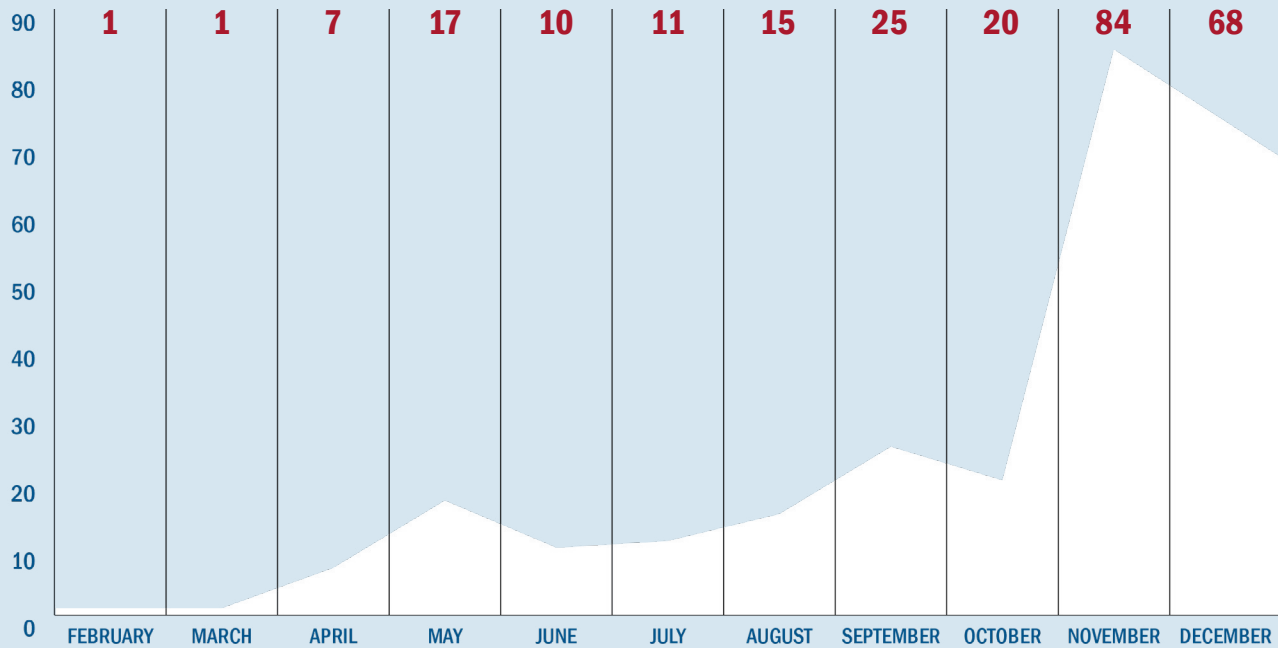
1. The Compliance Benchmarks are a mechanism to assess the degree to which federal facilities have implemented the policies and standards of the ISC. These Benchmarks measure compliance at the organization and facility levels.



Beyond the increase in reporting organizations, there was also a significant number of Benchmarks entered. Over 190 Organization Benchmarks and over 7,450 Facility Benchmarks were reported in 2020. This represents 47 additional sub-organizations or components reporting and the addition of 2,000 facilities.

The exceptional customer service of ISC Staff helped contribute to these gains. Despite only a 50 percent staffing level, overall assistance provided to members increased by 8 percent totaling over 260 cases.

### Compliance Assistance in 2020



1. Primary Members are the 21 federal departments and agencies designated by EO 12977 and modified by EO 13286.  
 2. Associate members petition to join the ISC and are approved by the Steering Subcommittee and the ISC Chair.

The impressive success of the 2020 ISC compliance reporting is indicative of the value members place on compliance reporting as a measure effectiveness in applying ISC policies and standards from the organization to facility level.





# Training

## Virtual Instructor-Led Training

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ISC Staff swiftly shifted its capacity building capabilities to virtual platforms. The first virtual version of the ISC Risk Management Process & Facility Security Committee Virtual Instructor-Led Training (RMP & FSC – VILT) was delivered June 2020. Additionally, Continuing Education Credits are now awarded for this virtual version of the training. The ISC’s agility to shift from in-person to virtual ensured, continued, and in some cases extended, reach across all ten Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) regions covering all 56 states and territories.

## Participant Feedback

“The two-day course was the right balance between training and still meeting my other work requirements.”

“The student workbook material and instructor presenting the material made it easy to follow, allowed for participation, and most importantly helped me pass my exam.”



## Students Give an “A”



RMP & FSC – VILT instructors received a **96% approval rating** from course participants



**93%** of participants agreed RMP & FSC – VILT provided information relevant to their careers.



**96%** of participants were satisfied with the quality of instruction they received.



**94%** of RMP & FSC – VILT participants found online registration easy to navigate.

## Online Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) Trainings

Prior to the development of RMP & FSC – VILT, our online independent study courses on HSIN were the only virtual option. In 2020, this self-paced study saw over a 22 percent increase in the total number of participants compared to 2019, reflecting higher demand as a result of the pandemic environment.

### ISC HSIN Course Breakdown by Sector

**5807** Total Number of Participants



FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

**4,006**



STATE, LOCAL, TERRITORIAL, TRIBAL

**418**



INDUSTRY

**1,381**



## RMP & FSC 2020 Metrics

**55**

**Total Number of Participating Federal and SLTT Departments and Agencies and other Organizations** (e.g. non-profit, private sector, etc.)

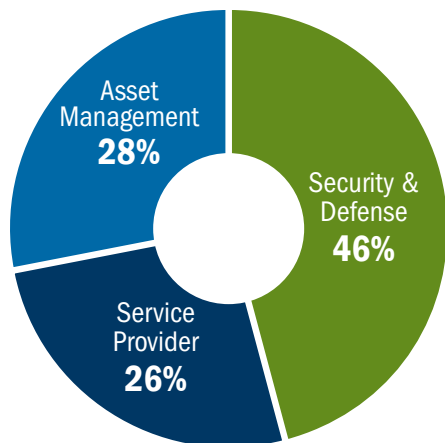
**451**

**Total Number of Participants**



**85%**

**Virtual Participants**



## RMP & FSC 2020 Participants by Mission Area

<b>28%</b>	of trainees represent departments, agencies, or organizations that manage and oversee resources.	General Services Administration (GSA), Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
<b>26%</b>	of trainees represent departments, agencies, or organizations whose mission it is to provide a service to the U.S. public.	The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
<b>46%</b>	of trainees represent departments, agencies, or organizations that secure or defend U.S. infrastructure, information, or people.	Federal Protective Services (FPS), DHS, and the Department of Defense (DOD).*

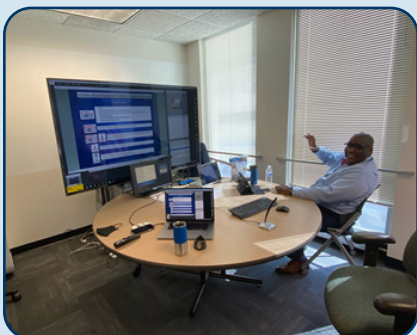
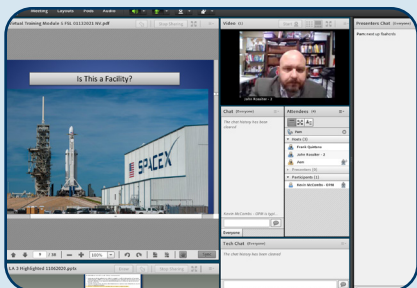
\*Agencies listed above represent a sampling of participating agencies.

## Federal Risk Management Process Training Program transitions to Virtual Classes

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) transitioned the Federal Risk Management Process Training Program (Fed RMPTP) in-person class to a virtual course as well. For the past 9 years, the Fed RMPTP has trained over 1,500 Federal security practitioners, representing greater than 78 federal agencies on the fundamental principles of the Risk Management Process. When the federal workforce became distributed this year, OPM converted the 3-Day Fed RMPTP course to a blended learning 8-Day self-guided and instructor-led virtual course to both facilitate the new social distance norms as well as the increased need for more trained security practitioners to protect federal facilities.

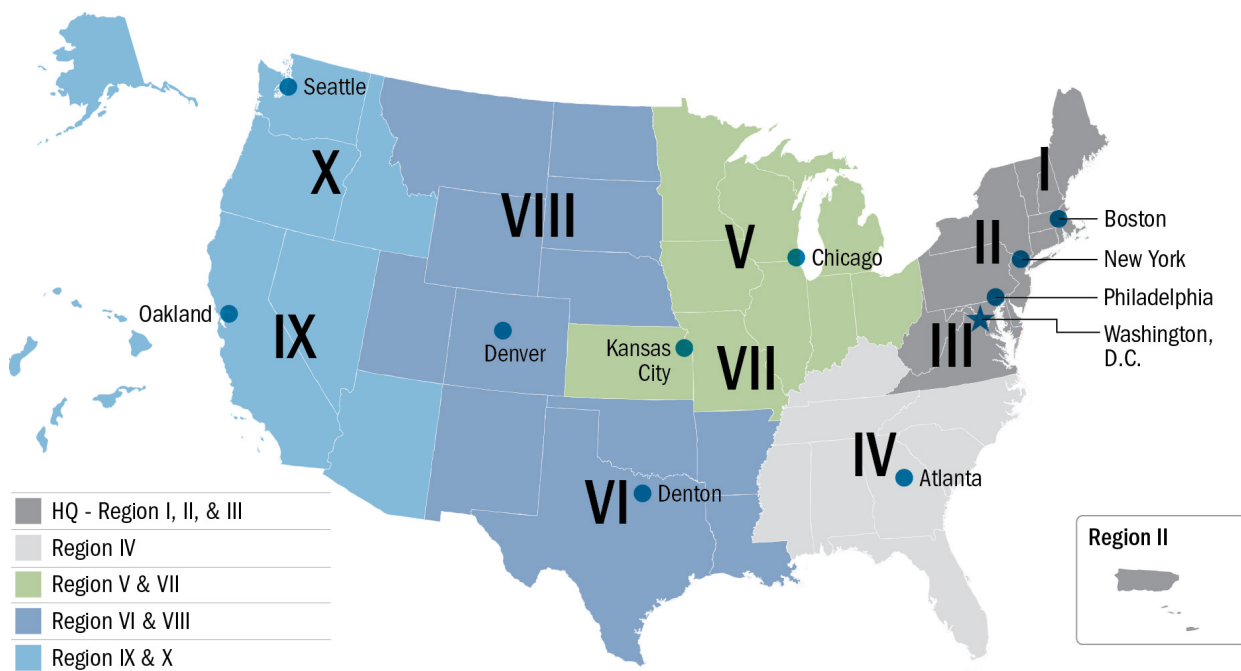
In December, the Fed RMPTP virtual course received the 2020 American Security Today (ASTORS) Platinum award for the “Best Federal Security Program.” The 13th award received by the OPM program.

The Fed RMPT Program Training team is a collaborative interagency effort comprised of subject-matter experts from several agencies that specialize in the protection of federal facilities.



# ISC Regional Advisors

In 2020, the ISC Regional Advisors (RAs) continued to serve as subject matter experts providing assistance and helping address site-specific concerns across the Nation. Their insights and outreach efforts served as the critical foundation for the introduction of the successful RMP & FSC – VILT. ISC RAs were able to establish greater lines of communication with organization regional leadership and offices. The RAs also provided support for standing up FSCs and maintained strong relationships with the Federal Executive Boards<sup>1</sup>.



\*Cities listed on map represent regional office locations

1. The [Federal Executive Boards](#) (FEBs), established by [Presidential Directive](#) in 1961, are a forum for communication and collaboration among Federal agencies outside of Washington, DC.

## Highlights of Significant Region-Specific Accomplishments

### REGIONS I - III

- Hosted a half-day ISC 25th Anniversary virtual ceremony.
- Provided regular and timely information and intelligence awareness leading up to and after the election.

### REGION IV

- Coordinated between federal, state, and private sector stakeholders for the new Centennial Yards development project in downtown Atlanta leading to a joint site survey to discuss various approaches to address potential risks and vulnerabilities.
- Convened monthly public-private partnership meetings to discuss common security concerns for the Centennial Yards Project.
- Recognized by the Critical Infrastructure community on HSIN (HSIN-CI) program office for nominating/vetting over 100 new users.

### REGIONS V, VII

- Participated in a virtual Court Security Committee (CSC) meeting with the Duluth Federal Courthouse in Minnesota to help it develop a plan to establish an FSC.
- Led the ISC's effort to update the *Planning and Response to an Active Shooter: An Interagency Security Committee Policy and Best Practices Guide*.

### REGIONS VI, VIII

- Provided technical assistance to five departments and agencies (D/As) regarding a major modernization effort at a federal facility in Dallas resulting in headquarters approval of the countermeasures.
- Supported a COVID-19 regional operations team and led efforts to produce federal guidance on reopening facilities.
- Provided subject matter expertise and guidance to regional stakeholders on mail handling, occupant emergency and facility security plans, and the localized National Threat Advisory checklist.

### REGIONS IX, X

- Worked in partnership with Protective Security Advisors (PSAs) to provide ISC resources to critical infrastructure partners.
- Advised DHS representatives from multiple components on a major facility feasibility study in Region X. This effort allowed DHS representatives to apply the ISC RMP, establish a preliminary facility security level, and identify mitigation measures.



# Outreach

## ISC 25th Anniversary



— 1995 TO 2020 —  
**INTERAGENCY  
SECURITY  
COMMITTEE**  
— 25 YEARS —

**The ISC commemorated its 25th Anniversary on October 19, 2020.** Over 120 representatives from the ISC member departments and agencies attended the ISC 25th Anniversary virtual commemoration. Followed by the CISA Director’s Opening Remarks, ISC members had an opportunity to look back on the milestones and progresses made since the Oklahoma City bombing through sessions led by the Executive Director of the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum and ISC founding members. The Federal Bureau of Investigation presented a case study of a recent bombing attempt that was disrupted, which led to an executive roundtable with senior leaders from the GSA, FPS, U.S. Marshals Service, and CISA discussing current approaches and remaining challenges in protecting federal facilities.

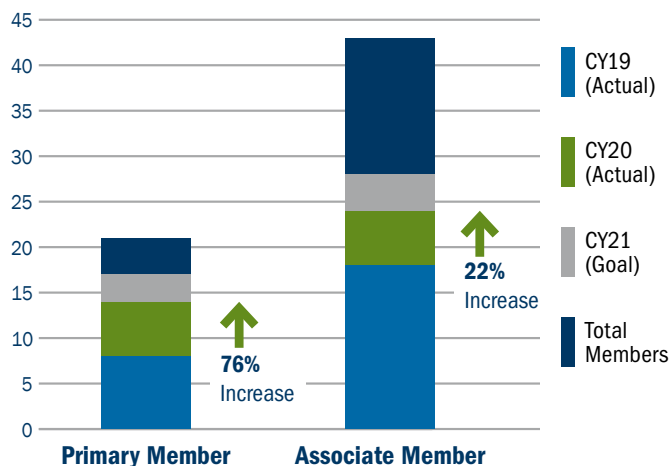
The ISC Anniversary video release was another highlight of the Anniversary ceremony. It is now available on the [CISA YouTube channel](#).

Leading up to the Anniversary, the ISC Staff also launched a monthly email Commemorative Series to observe significant moments in the history of the ISC. The series is available on the [ISC 25th Anniversary website](#).

## 2020 Annual Meetings

Conducting ISC Annual Meetings virtually was another example of the ISC’s agility and commitment to maintaining productive communications with our members. Annual Meetings provide an important one-on-one opportunity to dialogue with our members. In 2020, the ISC Staff met with about three quarters of the Primary Members and over half of the Associate Members. There were numerous successes that resulted from the discussions. This included an agency focused RMP & FSC – VILT training, providing requested resources and led to better collaboration with the ISC RAs.

## 2020 ISC Annual Meetings Attendance



## New Member

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services joined as an Associate Member in 2020.



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

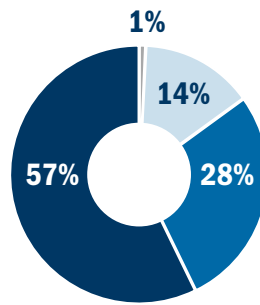


## 2020 ISC Member Survey Results

In late June, the ISC Staff conducted an all-member survey to better understand what members value from ISC products and services. In total, 128 respondents replied to the survey.

ISC members' assessment of ISC communications was positive with 85 percent rating their overall satisfaction as "Very Satisfied" or "Somewhat Satisfied." The majority of ISC members value the reliability, credibility, and trustworthiness of ISC communications the most and over half of respondents noted the swift response times when sending inquiries to [ISC.DHS.GOV@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ISC.DHS.GOV@hq.dhs.gov).

ISC Training information, security and protection related notifications, and ISC-CS information ranked as the top three ISC products providing the most value to members. 70 percent of the respondents also found ISC products and communications "Fully Inform" or "Fairly Well Inform" them on infrastructure security issues, trends and technologies.



### Overall, how satisfied are you with ISC communication?

- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Neither
- Somewhat Dissatisfied

### Top-Ranked ISC Products for Day-to-Day Work

<b>30%</b>	ISC Training Information
<b>27%</b>	Notifications and Information Sharing (i.e. COVID-19)
<b>22%</b>	ISC Compliance System Information



[Protecting Against the Threat of Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\): An Interagency Security Committee Best Practices](#) received complimentary reporting.

## ISC in the News

[ASIS International](#) hosted a [webinar](#) featuring ISC member representatives. This webinar provided both government and private sector security professionals with a better understanding of the contemporary federal security landscape and how they could contribute to enhancing the security and protection of federal facilities.

The ISC provided a Keynote Presentation at the [2020 Security Industry Association \(SIA\) Gov Summit](#) held virtually for the first time on June 2. The presentation highlighted how the ISC is working to meet the mandates of EO 12977 to enhance the security in and protection of federal facilities in an environment of both traditional and emerging threats. Complimentary reporting featured this Keynote Presentation.



The Senior Executives Association (SEA) highlighted the [25th Anniversary](#) of the creation of the ISC. On December 10, 2020, former and current members of the ISC served on a panel discussion on returning to workplace in this pandemic environment at a [SEA conference – the Future of Government Leadership is Now](#).

# The Way Forward

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## POLICIES, STANDARDS, & RECOMMENDATIONS

The **Convergence Subcommittee** will publish a best practices guide that promotes unity of effort between security functions of information technology, operational technology, and physical security.

The **Active Shooter Working Group** will update the *Planning and Response to an Active Shooter: An Interagency Security Committee Policy and Best Practice Guide*.

The **Standards Subcommittee** will publish an update to the *Risk Management Process (RMP) for Federal Facilities: An Interagency Security Committee Standard*.

The **Countermeasures and Design Basis Threat Subcommittees** will complete their annual updates to the *RMP Appendices A-C*.

Two additional Working Groups will be formed in CY21

- The **Mail Handling Working Group** will update the *Best Practices for Managing Mail Screening and Handling Processes: A Guide for the Public and Private Sectors* in coordination with GSA.
- The **Business Case for Security Working Group** will be formed to develop a resource that allows security and protection professionals to demonstrate return on investment and better align efforts with the organization's core deliverables/business model.



## COMPLIANCE

The **Compliance Subcommittee** will codify the compliance verification policy and implementation plan/Concept of Operations in preparation for a Compliance Verification Pilot.

The **ISC-CS** will complete its Authority to Operate (ATO) renewal and continue to evolve the user experience.



## TRAINING

**ISC RMP & FSC** training will continue to offer its virtual platform and return to in-person training as appropriate.

The ISC will develop a **Facility Security Committee Workshop Pilot** to help address an area in need of attention as identified through compliance reporting.



## OUTREACH

Throughout 2021, the ISC Staff will track both quantitative and qualitative measures to create **a dashboard for outcome-based outreach efforts**. The data analysis and visualization will support evidence-based decision making for targeted outreach.



Federal Trade Commission Building, Washington, DC  
Credit: U.S. General Services Administration Historic Building Photographs

Front Cover Credit: Frank M. Johnson Jr. Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, Montgomery, AL  
U.S. General Services Administration Historic Building Photographs

**More information:** visit [cisa.gov/isc](https://cisa.gov/isc)

**General inquiries:** [ISC.DHS.GOV@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ISC.DHS.GOV@hq.dhs.gov)

**Access FOUO ISC Publications:** [ISCAccess@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ISCAccess@hq.dhs.gov)

**ISC Compliance:** [ISCCS-Support@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ISCCS-Support@hq.dhs.gov)

**ISC Training:** [RMP\\_FSCtrng@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:RMP_FSCtrng@cisa.dhs.gov)



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