

LIS SOLUTIONS SECURITY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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NATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN INTEGRITY

What is a Supply Chain?

A Supply Chain is a system of organizations, people, activities, information, and resources that involves moving products and services from suppliers over to customers. Here, in the United States, we import majority of our goods from other nations. Supply chains require the transformation of natural resources, raw materials, and components that is then delivered to the end customer like you.

What are the threats to our Supply Chains?

Threats to the United States Supply Chains can be found all around us. Some are unpredictable such as weather, and other unfortunate tragedies. However, Supply Chains can be disrupted by adversaries who want to dismantle or steal our trade secrets. Other threats can come in the form of cyber intrusions on electronic systems.

It is crucial to protect our Supply Chains in order to ensure people are able to receive imported products or services like medication or fossil fuels. Another threat to watch out for is foreign-based companies manufacturing and assembling their products in the United States. U.S.-based companies also do the same thing overseas or domestically employ foreign workers to produce products.

Other Threats:

- ▶ **Fraudulent Products:** Counterfeit, non-genuine devices from a source other than the legally

authorized source including relabeled, recycled, cloned, defective, out of spec, etc.

- ▶ **Malicious Insertion:** The intentional insertion of malicious hard/soft coding, or defect to enable physical attacks or cause mission failure; includes logic bombs, Trojan 'kill witches' and backdoors for unauthorized control and access to logic and data.
- ▶ **Anti-Tamper:** Unauthorized extraction of sensitive intellectual property using reverse engineering, side channel scanning, runtime security analysis, embedded system security weakness, etc.

How can risk management protect our Supply Chains?

Risk Management is a systematic process that manages the United States Supply Chains by identifying our vulnerabilities and threats throughout the process from suppliers to customers. The United States Government analyses and develops mitigating strategies to combat the threats from adversaries or unfortunate or unpredictable circumstances.



4. **Develop/Apply Countermeasures:**

The Risk Management Team should implement protective measures and mitigation strategies to reduce its vulnerabilities to foreign intelligence Entity (FIE) threats.

5. **Monitor and Re-Evaluate:** Sharing information internally is key to integrating efforts to counter foreign intelligence Entity (FIE) threats across organizational functions. Engagement and effective information sharing with external partners can ensure that threat and vulnerability reporting, partner capabilities, and best practices are leveraged to support collective safeguarding efforts.

In conclusion, being fully aware of the threats to the United States Supply Chains ensures that a more efficient risk management process is in place.

Risk Management Process:

- 1. Identify Assets:** A Risk Management Team will create an inventory of sensitive information, assets, and activities that enables a department or agency to focus attention on its highest priorities and ensure all assets are assessed for potential vulnerabilities or foreign intelligence Entity (FIE) interest.
- 2. Assess Threats, Risks, Vulnerabilities:** The Risk Management Team will then focus attention on its highest priorities and ensure all are assessed for potential vulnerabilities, risks and threats from adversaries or foreign intelligence Entity (FIE) interest.
- 3. Determine the Impact or Loss:** The Risk Management Team will develop appropriate protective measures and mitigation strategies include an organizations or agencies decisions to make necessary actions that safeguard its sensitive information, assets, and activities from adversaries or foreign intelligence Entity (FIE) interest.

“Global supply chain integrity plays an important role in America’s national security interests and will become increasingly important as global tensions rise over economic disputes and trade imbalances.”

Rash Patel

AFPI Senior Fellow at the
Center for American Security

